

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Simpson R9596

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois }

Wayne County }        On this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Hon. William Wilson Judge of the Wayne Circuit Court now sitting William Simpson a resident in the county of Wayne State of Illinois aged 77 years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1833.

That in September 1777 he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the Militia under Captain Valentine Patton [possibly Valentine Peyton] 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Evans in the regiment commanded by Col. [Jesse] Ewell & James Ewell Major that he was a volunteer and resided in Prince William Co Virginia and marched from there and joined the army under the command of Washington near Germantown Pen. a short time after the battle [4 Oct 1777]. That he remained with the army three months and was discharged by Captain Patton who gave him a discharge signed by him. That he was discharged in December 1777. That he cannot now tell what became of his discharge but suppose it to have been lost soon after he left the army. That he cannot recollect the names of any regular officers nor any Continental or Militia regiments.

That in Jan 1781 residing in Prince William Co. Va. he again entered the service as a volunteer under the same Captain Lt. not recollected Colonel [blank] Major Armstrong and marched to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] remained there two weeks. thence to York, remained there two days, thence to the Halfway House between Hampton & York; and remained there a short time where he and four others were sent to Mulberry Island and remained there three weeks to keep guard and a look out for vessels of the enemy. At the end of three weeks returned to Williamsburgh remained but a few days when the enemy took the town [19 or 20 Apr 1781], and then marched to Richmond. That he was engaged in the battle when Williamsburgh was taken. eight or ten of our men killed. Gen Wiggins was said to be the commander when the troops were on their way to Williamsburgh from Prince William, but was not at anytime with the troops Major Armstrong was commander most of the time as he now thinks. That he was discharged in April 1781 and in service three months. did not receive a written discharge. and cannot recollect any of the regular officers nor any of the Continental or Militia Regiments.

That he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his services.

That he was born in Prince William Co. Virginia on the 14<sup>th</sup> of October 1755. That he resided there when called into service & remained there about four years after the close of the War then removed to Halifax Co lived there 8 years then to Henry Co lived there 10 years then to Ten resided there 11 years. then to this State where he has since resided. That Archibald Roberts a minister of the Gospel & Ephraim Meritt a Citizen of Wayne County are persons in his present neighbourhood to whom he is known and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State

[signed] Wm Simpson

NOTE: On 3 June 1844 in White County IL Toliver Simpson applied for any benefits that might have been due to himself and the other children of William and Elizabeth Simpson. He stated that William and Elizabeth Simpson were married about 1784, that William Simpson died on 21 Mar 1839, and his widow, Elizabeth, died on 7 June 1839, leaving the following children: Toliver Simpson, Eddy Nixon, William Simpson, Sucky Gray, Zachariah Simpson, Peggy Musgrave, Daniel Simpson, and Betsey Williams. The maiden name of Elizabeth Simpson was Cheshier, according to the deposition of a cousin, James Cheshier, who resided in Prince William County in his youth. Toliver Simpson presented as evidence an original family register from "a small book," transcribed as follows:

William Simpson His Book [one or two illegible words]

Polley Simpson Daughter of William Simpson and Elizabeth is wife was Born April 15 [1785]

Toliver Simpson was Born January 31<sup>st</sup> in the year 1787

John Baptist was Born August 16 1789 — Present [illegible word]

Eddy Simpson Daughter of william simpson and Elizabeth his wife was Born December 31<sup>st</sup> 1791

William Simpson Jr. Son of Wm. Simpson and Elizabeth his wife was born the 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1794

Elis Simpson son of Wm. Simpson & Elizabeth His Wife was Born March the 7<sup>th</sup> in the year 1797

Zakias Simpson son of Wm and Eliazebeth Simpson was Born June 6 1799

Susannah Simpson was born th 29 Sepr 1802

Peggy Simpson was Born January th 3 1805

Daniel Simpson was Born th 18 April 1807

Betsey Simpson born th 14 of Janu'y 1809