

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Willard Eddy S12851

f30RI [Navy]

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 4]

State of New York

Otsego County SS

On this fifteenth day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Willard Eddy a resident of the Town of Richfield in the County of Otsego and State of New York aged Seventy two 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 7th 1832

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein Stated.

That he enlisted on the first day of January 1776 in a company of Rhode Island State Troops commanded by Captain Nathaniel Blackmar, for one year and Served in said Company during said Time and was discharged on the last day of December 1776 when his time was out – That he was stationed at Newport in the State of Rhode Island from the first of January 1776 to the first of September of that year and was Attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Christopher Lippett – that he marched from Newport about the first of September 1776 with said Regiment to the State of New York and went on to York Island and remained there about one month – That he retreated from there to White Plains in the State of New York. While he was on York Island he was Attached to General Lee's [Charles Lee's] Brigade – That he was in the battle at White Plains in October 1776. – That he marched from White Plains Northward to a place called Philips Manor and From thence he crossed the river into the State of New Jersey where he remained until the last of December 1776 and was there verbally discharged.

The names of the Officers recollected during the above term of his engagement by this deponent in the Regiment and Company to which he belonged & in which he served our Colonel Christopher Lippett, Lieutenant Colonel Adam Comstock, – Captain Nathaniel Blackmar, Lieutenant Randall (whose Christian name is not recollected) Ensign Rawson, whose Christian name is not recollected, Orderly Sergeant, afterwards promoted to Ensign, Joseph Bowin.

That he does not recollected any Continental Regiment being at Newport at the time he was there – That at White Plains and while he lay at York Island, there was Continental Regiments and he recollects of seeing Generals Washington, Lee and Putnam there –

That on the first day of February 1777 he again entered into the Service of the United States and Gloucester Providence County and State of Rhode Island where this deponent remained in a company of militia as a Substitute for Lippett Eddy for one month and served out

said time at Providence in the State of Rhode Island in a company commanded by Captain John Eddy and was Attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Chad Brown

That on the first day of March 1777 he again entered the Service of the United States as a drafted Soldier for one month and performed said service in a company of militia at Providence in the State of Rhode Island. The company was commanded during said time by Lieutenant Steven Smith [?]¹ and Lieutenant Colonel [undeciphered name]² had the command of that part of the Regiment which was at Providence during the time last aforesaid – That he was verbally discharged on the first of April 1777 –

That he again entered the service of the United States for one month having been hired to perform the Service by the Authority of the Town of Gloucester, and Served said term in May 1777 at Providence in said State of Rhode Island in a company commanded by Lieutenant Thomas Collins, –

That he again entered the service of the United States on the first of July 1777 as a drafted Soldier for fifteen Days in a company commanded by Lieutenant Stephen Olney [?]³ and Served said tour in said Company at Providence Rhode Island.

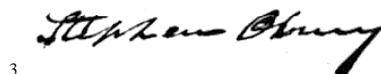
After he had served out said term last aforesaid, he continued in said Company for fifteen Days longer doing duty in said Company as a Substitute but for whom he cannot now remember. That he was verbally discharged about the first of August 1777 having done duty in said Olney's Company for one month –

That on the first of October 1777 he again entered into the Service of the United States as a Substitute for one month for Nathaniel Blackmar and performed Said Service at Twey Town or Tinston near Newport Rhode Island in a company commanded by Captain Stephen Whipple – there was Continental and State troops during the term last aforesaid near where he lay but he does not remember any of the Officers except General Spencer and Colonel Cornell –

And the said Willard Eddy further declares that in March 1778, I enlisted in the naval Service of the United States in the Town of Gloucester in the County of Providence & in the State of Rhode Island (what was the place of his residence during the Revolutionary war) and Shipped on Board the Continental Ship *Providence*,⁴ commanded by Commodore Whipple [Abraham Whipple]⁵ first Lieutenant Petcher [sic, Jonathan Pitcher], Sailing master Goodwin [George Goodwin], Midshipman [undeciphered].⁶ That on the 27th day of April 1778 he sailed on Board of said Ship from Providence and passed the British fleet then lying at Newport Harbor. As we passed the British fleet we gave them a Broadside which they returned. That he sailed secretly for France and arrived there at Benbeef Harbor⁷ on the 29th day of May 1778 and continued there and at Brest in France between three and four months, repaired our Ship and

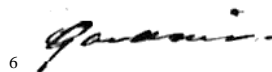
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⁴ https://three decks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=2421

⁵ <http://gaspee.org/AbrahamWhipple.html>

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⁷ Probably Benodete

Sailed for the United States in company with the Ships *Boston*,⁸ and *Ranger*⁹ and arrived at Portsmouth Harbor New Hampshire and lay about one week and from thence to Boston, where he was discharged verbally the last of October 1778 & returned home having served in said Ship a few days Short of Eight months –

And the said Willard Eddy further upon his oath declares that in September 1779 he again entered the Service of the United States on Board the Continental Ship *Boston* commanded by Captain Samuel Tucker¹⁰ Lieutenant Gardner and Silas Devol. That he sailed from Boston on board of Said Ship in company with Ships *Providence*, *Queen of France*¹¹ and *Ranger* and arrived in Charles Town [Charleston] Harbor South Carolina and remained there during the winter – That about the first of April 1780 the British Ships appeared off the bar. That we then drew our Ships up to the Wharf took off our Guns and manned out forts. That we were besieged until the 12th day of May when we Surrendered to the British Army as prisoners of war.¹² – That on the 12th day of June 1780 he sailed on Board the British cartel Ship for Philadelphia and were discharged on the 29th day of June 1780, which discharge or pass is hereto attached –

And the said Willard Eddy further says that he has no documentary evidence except the above discharge or pass, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Hopkins Burlingham whose affidavit is hereto attached.

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

That he was born in the Town of Gloucester County of Providence and State of Rhode Island January 21, 1760.¹³

That he has a record of his age in his Bible taken from his father's Bible –

That he lived in Gloucester County of Providence and State of Rhode Island when first called into Service and continued to reside in said town of Gloucester after the war until February 1796 when I moved to the town of Norwich County of Tioga and State of New York From thence in February 1797 Removed to Sherburne then County of [undeciphered word]¹⁴ and State aforesaid From thence removed on the 27th March 1803 to the Town of Richfield County of Otsego and State of New York where I now live and reside –

⁸ https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=2391

⁹ https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=2531

¹⁰ [Samuel Tucker S30173](https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_crewman&id=678) & https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_crewman&id=678

¹¹ https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=13720

¹² Battle of Charleston <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

& <https://allthingsliberty.com/2020/10/britains-last-throw-of-the-dice-begins-the-charlestown-campaign-of-1780/>

¹³ Here the veteran begins to answer the 7 interrogatories promulgated by the War Department to be put to each applicant for a pension. Those 7 interrogatories were as follows:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

That he was called [paper compromised and text rendered illegible] forth in the above declaration.

That the names of the officers who were with the troops when he served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as he can recollect and the general circumstances of his Service is Set forth in the above declaration as fully as he can now remember –

That the above discharge or pass is all he ever received and that was given him by 1 Bradford and ought have been signed by him but through misadventure or mistake neglected –

And he refers the court to the Rev. William B Curtis and George Round To whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his Service as a Soldier of the Revolution.



[William B Curtis and George Round gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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The bearer here of Willard Edy [sic] late a Prisoner of War to the British, at South Carolina, hath permission to Pass from hence to his Place of Residence, in the State of Rhode Island – he behaving as becometh. And all Commissaries of Issues will furnish him with Subsistence agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, of August 4, 1778, till the 12th day of July next being a reasonable Time for him to get Home, take a Receipt. [Paper damaged and text missing] the Quantity drawn on this Pass, and charge the [paper damaged and text missing] of America agreeable to the above [paper damaged and text missing]

Given at my office, in Philadelphia, this 29th day of June 1780

THE Bearer hereof *Willard Edy*
late a Prisoner of War to the British, at *South-Carolina*,
hath permission to Pass from hence to his Place of Residence, in
the State of *Rhode Island* he behaving as becometh.
And all Commissaries of Issues will furnish him with Subsistence
agreeable to a Resolve of Congress, of August 4, 1778, till the
twelfth day of July next being a reasonable Time for him to
get Home, take a Receipt. ~~ack~~ the Quantity drawn on this
Pass, and charge the same ~~to the~~ *to the*
agreeable to the above Resol.

Given at my Office, in Philadelphia, this 29th ~~th~~
Day of June 1780.

[p 12]

State of New York

Otsego County SS Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace of the Town of Richfield in the County of Otsego Willard Eddy who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his Service but According to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For one year and five months I

served as a private Soldier. For one year and five months I served as a private Sailor and for which service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and Subscribed before me this 19th day of February 1833 –

Loring Dow Justice of the Peace

Willard Eddy

[p 14: Hopkins Burlingham gave a supporting affidavit as to the veteran's service in the militia during the Revolutionary war.]

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$91.33 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a Seaman & private; 1 year 5 months as a Seaman in the Continental Navy and 7 months as a private in the Rhode Island militia.]