

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Edward G. Jacobs S1540

f10MD/NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/11/15

[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' 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.]

State of Tennessee Wilson County: SS

On this 26th day of September 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the worshipful ___ Quorum Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County of Wilson now sitting Edward G Jacobs a resident of said County of Wilson & State of Tennessee aged Seventy three years the 4th day of January last past, who being 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:

In the year 1777 & in the month of July or August but cannot state which month, he was drafted in the Militia of the State of Maryland in the Company commanded by Capt. ___ Brisco [Briscoe?] of Montgomery County – & recollects that Bazzel Gaither was an officer in the Company to which he belonged, but cannot state positively whether he was 1st or 2nd Lieut. And he remembers very distinctly that Col. John Mordock [John Murdoch?] & Major Deakins (or Deacons) were the commanding officers of the Regiment to which he was attached but cannot remember the number of the Regiment. And General Smallwood [William Smallwood] commanded the Maryland Troops – Major Deakins lived in the County of Montgomery not more than four miles distant from his father's residence where he lived when he was drafted & entered the service of the United States – He does not remember where Col. Mordock lived – the Regiment was rendezvoused at Bazzel Robert's in Montgomery County from thence we were marched to a small town called Elkridge landing on a small River, not now recollected, there we remained a few days; marched from thence to Baltimore remained there a few days, crossed over the Susquehanna River, where I first saw the commanding General – marched on towards Philadelphia. And on our march was fired upon one night by a party of the British as was supposed by some – whilst we were in pursuit of General Howe [William Howe] who was at or near Philadelphia – on the night we were first fired upon & surprised we were scattered, during the night the most of the militia were collected together & on the same night after the confusion was pretty well over General Smallwood [sic, Smallwood] requested 100 Volunteers to return again, where we were fired upon, to bring up a wagon load of flour, I was one of the 100 men who volunteered for that service & performed the duty that night. – From this place we still continued on our course towards Philadelphia until we came in contact with the British forces commanded by General Howe. There was a very considerable fight between American & British Forces, but the regulars he thinks did most of the fighting. The Maryland troops did not come

into close engagement, but were fired upon two or three times by the picket guards, or sentinels, while the main fighting was going on to our right. The American Army seemed at first to prevail, but he thinks the British were reinforced, and drove back the Americans, the Militia retreated and during the next day assembled at head Quarters where the baggage wagons were left not long after this, his term of three months expired – he was discharged and returned home.

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In the fall of the year 1779 he married and moved into the State of North Carolina; & As well as he can now remember in the fall of the year 1781 he again entered the service of the United States in the Militia of North Carolina as mounted Gun man in the Company raised in Iredell County¹ commanded by Capt. Nighton [perhaps Jesse Knighton of the Rowan County militia] – to take an excursion against the Tories who had assembled or embodied themselves at or near Wilmington North Carolina, at the time we were called into the service it was expected that our services would only be required about ten days & so we left home without much preparation, but instead of serving only ten days, we served on this occasion, not less than ten weeks – he is not certain, but his best recollection is that his captain was the commanding officer of the Whig party, he believes Moses Mitchell was the Lieut. of the Company; was not in any engagement during this trip.

In the Summer of the year 1782 as well as he can remember he was again called upon as a Militia man to serve another tour against the Tories who had embodied themselves at a place called "Colson's", near Pedee [River]². From Iredell County where he lived he was marched through Salisbury to the place where the Tories had collected, he belonged to the Company commanded by Capt. Caldwell [perhaps David Caldwell of the Rowan County militia], when they reached the place of destination our party attacked them and the Tories only fired about one round before they fled and we took possession of the houses they occupied – he served on this occasion six weeks – he served some short trips besides but he could not now undertake to say what length of time & will omit them. He has served not less than seven months in all as a private in the Militia of the United States during the Revolutionary War & for which he now claims a pension. He does not recollect, any of the Continental Regiments, or the names of any of the Regular officers – for he was not with them. –

He was born the 4th of January 1759 in Maryland, but cannot say whether it was in Montgomery or the adjoining County – but was raised in the County of Montgomery & lived there when he first entered the public service. He has a family Record at home, in which his age is recorded. He lived about twenty years in Iredell County (after the termination of the war) North Carolina, moved from there to Clinch River, East Tennessee, where he resided about five years – and he has been residing in Wilson County Tennessee for about thirty years past. He never received a written discharge at the termination of any of the periods for which he served, nor did he receive a commission in the public service, but was a private soldier all the time he served.

He has no documentary evidence whatever to establish his services and he knows of no person except his fellow soldiers George Summers and John Gibson (whose affidavits he has procured) whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service –

¹ Iredell County North Carolina was not formed until 1788 when it was created by a division of Rowan County North Carolina. Consequently the veteran's reference to Iredell County should probably be interpreted to mean Rowan County.

² The veteran appears to be describing the engagement at Colson's Mill on July 21, 1780, though the date he gives clearly does not match the date of this engagement.

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.

He has omitted to produce any of his neighbors to testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, as he has been advised that it is not necessary in positive testimony can be produced – nor has he for the same reason procured the testimony of any Clergyman.

Sworn to in open Court and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ George G Jacobs, X his mark

I John Gibson³ a citizen of Wilson County do hereby Certify that I am, and have been, well acquainted with Edward G Jacobs for about Sixty years – I lived within one mile of his father's residence when he was drafted to serve a tour of three months in the Militia of the State of Maryland. I well remember that he was drafted in the summer season & returned home in the fall of the year, having served a tour of three months, & his best recollection is that this service was in the year 1777. I have no personal knowledge of any further services rendered by said Edward G Jacobs during the Revolutionary war, they removed from Maryland to North Carolina & did not live more than two miles apart. I was myself in the service of the United [States] at the time the said Jacob states he served in the Militia service in the State of North Carolina & he not only heard Edward G Jacobs himself say that he had been in the public service but he also heard his neighbors and acquaintances who had an opportunity of knowing the fact he had served in the Militia in North Carolina in the war of the Revolution. I also certify that said Edward G Jacobs is generally reputed in the neighborhood where he lives to have been a soldier of the Revolution – and he stands high as a Christian and a man of truth & I fully concur in that opinion. I am 78 years of age.

S/ John Gibson, X his mark

State of Tennessee Rutherford County

This day personally appeared before me George Summers and made oath that Edward G Jacobs was in the Militia service in Maryland in the year 1777 under the command of Col. John Mordock, Mager [sic] Frances Deakins [Francis Deakins], Capt. Jarrett Brisco, 1st Lieut. Bazzel Gaither, Thomas or John Herrod was 2nd Lieut. we got a surprise between the sign of the white horse and Philadelphia when we was in pursuit of General Howe we got an order of a retreat and a wagon load of Flour was over set we retreated about two miles and General Smallwood requested 100 men to go back and load the flower and bring it to the Red Lien I was personally present and was one of the men that went back after the baggage wagon.

S/ George Summers⁴



N B Edward Jacobs served 8 or 12 weeks in the Maryland troops as for his services in North Carolina I can't certify only from his own words as I was not with him in the Carolina troops.

S/ George Summers

³ [John Gibson S38729](#)

⁴ I could not find any record in the federal pension files indicating that this man filed for a pension in right of his own services in the revolutionary war. Consequently, this may be the only public record of such service.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the Maryland and North Carolina militia.]