

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Eidson S17939

f26SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/10/08 rev'd 12/19/14 & 1/3/21

[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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.]

State of South Carolina Edgefield District

On this sixth day of November in the year of our Lord 1834 Personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas for said District James Eidson Senior of the State and District aforesaid aged from Seventy Three to Seventy Five 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed 7 June 1832.

That he entered the Service some time in the year 1777 as a volunteer under Captain Moses Fort said company was attached to the Brigade commanded by General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] and was marched under said command to the frontiers of Georgia in an expedition against the Indians that he was marched back under the said command and discharged near Augusta, after serving a tour of three months, that after his return he again volunteered under Captain Mike Watson [Michael Watson] and was marched by said officer near Stono, and served two months, sometime after he volunteered again under said Captain Watson, was marched to Beaufort in this State was engaged in several skirmishes with the British & Tories, that he was in active service in this expedition four months That sometime afterwards he again volunteered under the same officer, was marched to Charleston and remained there and in the neighborhood of that and served six months in active service that some short time after his return home, that he again volunteered under the same officer that he was employed with said company in and [sic] keeping the Tories in check in this District, Barnwell & Orangeburg, that at this time he volunteered for six months and served out his time That he afterwards volunteered under Captain Starlin Turner [Sterling Turner], and marched to Augusta, that he was at the taking of Brown's Fort in June 1781, that under said officer he served six months, that after his return home, he again volunteered under Captain Mike Watson for six months that during this period that he was in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]<sup>1</sup> that he was at the engagement at Dean Swamp,<sup>2</sup> where Captain Watson was killed, that, the Company was then taken command of by Captain William Butler that he was in Company when Cunningham and his party in November 1781 attack and murdered Captain Turner<sup>3</sup> and his company -- And that

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<sup>1</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_eutaw\\_springs.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html)

<sup>2</sup> Skirmish May 24, 1782; another skirmish in October 1782  
[https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_deans\\_swamp.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_deans_swamp.html)

<sup>3</sup> This engagement is usually referred to as the skirmish at Cloud's Creek and is thought to have occurred on November 17, 1781. The engagement was between Capt. Sterling Turner and Major William Cunningham.  
[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_deans\\_swamp.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_deans_swamp.html)

he afterwards volunteered under Captain William Butler for six months, and served the tour in active Service -- and continued afterwards under the command so long as it was necessary to keep up a military force. The deponent further states & declares that from the year 1777 to the close of the war, that he was nearly the whole of his time engaged in active service and defense of his Country either in camp or engaged or employed in scouting through the Country, keeping the Tories in check The deponent further states that he was twice taken prisoner by the Tories and made his escape from them and joined his own company again. That he had written discharges from all part of his officers that some years since he had his house burnt and all his papers. That he was born in the State of Virginia that his Parents removed to this State when he was five years old, and has resided here ever since. The deponent further states that in consequence of old age and loss of memory, and the loss of his papers that he is unable to state particularly as to dates -- This deponent further states that he has been on the route pension roll of the State of South Carolina for several years, And further states that he is not on the pension list of any agent of the United States, and hereby relinquishes all claims to any whatsoever except the one now applied for --

Sworn to before me in open Court sixth of November 1834.

S/ A. Boulware, C.C.P.

S/ James Eidson, X his mark

[William Watkins, a minister of the gospel, and Nathaniel Maynard gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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My father, the late General William Butler<sup>4</sup> commanded a company in the latter part of the Revolutionary war I find among his papers 3 muster rolls -- one of Captain Michael Watson, one of Sterling Turner and one of his own on his own is the name of James Edson. The caption of the Roll is thus "Captain Butler's company, volunteers, according to the pay bill, from September 6<sup>th</sup> to March 1782, including 182 days"

S/ A. P. Butler



[Note: The muster rolls referred to as "Captain Butler's company" and "Sterling Turner" have been transcribed and are posted in this database as [B194](#); and the muster roll of Captain Michael Watson has been transcribed and is posted in this database as [B196](#).]

[p 8]

Edgefield District State of South Carolina

Personally appeared before me James Eidson Senior, and made oath to the following statement

1<sup>st</sup> I have no written record of my age, but to the best of my recollection, I am about 80 years of age, or upwards.

2<sup>nd</sup> I enlisted as a Soldier of the revolutionary war when I was about 14 or 15 years of age,

3<sup>rd</sup> I served at different periods under Captains Solomon Polk, Sterling Turner, Mike Watson and William Butler,

4<sup>th</sup> I was a soldier of the Revolution and served at the Siege of Augusta at Liberty Hill, at the

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<sup>4</sup> [William Butler W20803](#)

Eutaw Springs, Charleston, and various other skirmishes with the Tories and the Indians,  
Sworn to before made this nineteenth day of August 1844  
S/ W. B. Addison, Magistrate

S/ James Eidson, Sr., X his mark

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Edgefield District State of South Carolina

Personally came before me Abner Corley<sup>5</sup> a Soldier of the Revolution who makes oath that he was with James Eidson also a Soldier of the Revolution at the Siege of Augusta at Liberty Hill in this District under Captain Solomon Pope then commanding at that Post -- the Period of time was from the first of January 1779 to the latter in of May following five months.

I was also with him the said James Eidson in the Service of his Country under Captain Sterling Turner in the District of Edgefield a Period of eleven months & also I was with him for about fifteen months in the same service under Captain Mike Watson. Captain Watson was shot - - when William Butler became our Captain & converted the Company into one of the mounted Troops in which Capacity we acted until the close of the war & Received our discharge at [one or more indecipherable words] Richard on [Richardson?] in this District from the Gov. of the State. Sworn to before me this tenth July 1844

S/ Abner Corley, A his mark

S/ A. B. Addison, Magistrate

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State of South Carolina Edgefield District

Personally came before me William Adams,<sup>6</sup> a soldier of the revolution & makes oath, that he was in the revolutionary war with James Eidson & from his personal knowledge can state that he served in Captain Michael Watson's company during the time that he served in said Company which was for at least six months. He saw the said James Eidson at the battle of Dean's Swamp where Captain Watson was killed; & was also with him and several other engagements, and he has just cause to believe, what he heard during the war, & from other circumstances, that he served for that length of time which he states. Sworn to before me this 5th June 1838.

S/ William Adams, X his mark

S/ W. Brunson, Q. U.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 for service as a private for 12 months in the South Carolina militia.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>7</sup> relating to James Eidson  
Audited Account No. 2175

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<sup>5</sup> [Abner Corley S21707](#)

<sup>6</sup> [William Adams S17812](#)

<sup>7</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AAs) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

[p 2]

No. 50

No. 329

Lib. [Book] U July 13<sup>th</sup> 1785

Mr. James Etson [sic] his Account of Duty in Ye Militia as Private since the reduction of Chs. Town [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] Amounting to

[old South Carolina] Currency £182

Stg. [Sterling] £26

Ex<sup>d</sup>. W.R. [Examined by W. R. [identity unknown]]

J. M<sup>c</sup>. A.G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

State South Carolina

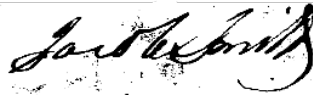
Dr. to James Etson

For Duty per Col. Anderson's [Robert Anderson's] return [not extant] £82

Stg. £26

Received 13<sup>th</sup> of July 1785 the full amount of the above Account in an Treasury Indent No. 329 Book X by virtue of an order

S/ Jacob Smith



[p 4]

South Carolina Ninety Six District} I Do hereby Empower Mr. Jacob Smith to Receive My Indents from the Treasurers Office in Charles Town. Given under My hand this 6<sup>th</sup> 1785

Certified by Me

S/ George Mee JP

S/ James Eidson, X his mark

[p 5]

The Petition of James Edson praying to be placed on the pension List

Rejected

Presented by E. Watson

[p 6]

South Carolina Edgefield District} To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives.

The Humble petition of James Eidson Senior Sheweth that he Enlisted in the time of the Revolutionary War in defense of his country as a minute man for 18 months under Michael Watson who was then Captain and served under him until he was killed, after his death William Butler took command and he served out the remainder of the time under him. He then enlisted under said William Butler who was then a Captain for 12 months longer and served out that time. William Butler was promoted & he the said James Eidson then served under Starling Turner & Tolls [sic, Oliver Towles] subaltern Officers of William Butler who was then a General & continued to serve to the end of the war. Your Humble Petitioner further Sheweth that he has

through misfortune become very poor & is very old and not able to work. He humbly prayeth your Honorable Body to place him on the pension list. Your humble Petitioner will ever pray &c this the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 1828

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South Carolina Ninety Six District} Personally came James Eidson Senior before me who after being duly sworn saith on his oath That the within Statement is correct according to the best of his recollection and belief.

Sworn to before me the 19<sup>th</sup> of November 1828

S/ Lewis Holmes, JQ

S/ James Eidson, X his mark

[p 8: Receipts showing payments to the veteran of \$60 per annum, one dated June 7, 1832 and the other dated 8 June, 1834]

[p 9]

The petition of James Eidson praying to be placed upon the pension list

On Parole

Pens.

[p 10]

To the Honorable the Senate & House of Representatives of South Carolina

The humble Petition of James Eidson Senior Sheweth that his name has been enrolled on the List of Pensioners under the "1<sup>st</sup> Section of an Act entitled an Act for the regulation of Pensioners of this State," which said act was repealed by an act passed at the December Session of 1835. The Petitioner therefore prays that your Honorable Bodies May restore him to the Pension list of the State under the provisions of the act passed in December 1834

And your petitioner will ever pray &c

December 1<sup>st</sup>, 1836

Witness S/ A. B. Addison

S/ James Eidson, Sr., X his mark

[Note: the balance of the documents in this page consist of correspondence trying to reconcile the fact that the veteran was receiving both a state and federal pension at the same time.]