

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Elkins S2535

f18SC

Transcribed 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' 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.]

State of Tennessee

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

On this 9th day of November in the year of our Lord 1832, Personally appeared in open Court before the worshipful Samuel Phillips, John L. Null, and John B. Armstrong -- Esquires gentlemen justices of the peace in and for said County appointed to hold the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Bedford County and State aforesaid, now sitting, Richard Elkins age Seventy years Eleven months and thirty days; 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 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. To wit -- That he entered the Service of the United States in the County of Marion and State of South Carolina as a volunteer in a company of volunteers under the command of Captain \_\_ Olliver [Peter Oliver] and was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Tate and Major M. Sabb [Morgan Sabb], sometime he thinks in the Spring or summer of the year 1780, and was mustered into Service that Orangeburg South Carolina, and was marched from that place with a detachment under the command of General M<sup>o</sup>utrey [William Moultrie?] to what was then called Purrysburg in the last mentioned State; And at that place he says the Americans was attacked [sic, attacked] by the British -- under the command (as he was informed) of General Provost [Augustine Prevost] And that the Americans were compelled to retreat from that place; to Charlestown, in the same State where he says he was kept until his term of three months Service Expired; when he was discharged he thinks in writing, but it is not certain; He further States that Shortly after he returned home, he was drafted in the same County (Marion) and was placed under the command of Captain Aaron Little a Captain in a Regiment under the command of Colonel Grissett and Major Oliver, who were attached to the troops under the command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] as Chief Commander in Generals Mutry, McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh], Sumpter [Thomas Sumter], and General Marion [Francis Marion] was there part of the time at Monks Corner [Moncks Corner] where he says he was marched to; and where he says he saw Generals Woodford [probably a reference to Gen. William Woodford of Virginia] & Scott [perhaps a reference to Gen. Charles Scott also of Virginia] of the Regular Army; and from that place was marched to what was called the Quarter house and remained there for some time, and was then marched into the City of Charlestown, and after Serving a tour of about four months, a month longer than his proper time, and his Captain having liberty to return home with his men if he could pass the British, which at that time had Surrounded the

Town, by land and water but he says his Captain passed the British in a small scift [skiff] up Ashley River in the night and was then discharged. Deponent further Says that in a short time after he returned home, he was in company with some of General Marion's men, who was then stationed in a Swamp near where he said deponent then lived, when he was taken prisoner together with two of General Marion's men and marched to Nelson's ferry on Santee River where the British were conveying prisoners across that they said were taken at General Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]; and at that place he made his escape from them, and went immediately and joined General Marion and continued with him until after the battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], he says that on that day he was in a detachment reserved as he was informed to prevent the Escape of the Enemy, he says he thinks he served with General Marion about Six months or upwards and was then discharged; making a tour of Service in the whole of thirteen months and more but he claims a pension for thirteen months only -- He says that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person who can testify as to his Service whose testimony he can procure; and that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in the United States.

Interrogatories by the Court

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in King George County in the State of Virginia on the 9th day of December in the year 1761, agreeable to my Father's family record.

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

Ans: I have no record of my age in my possession at this time

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

Ans: I was a Citizen of Marion County in the State of South Carolina when I entered the Service of the United States and remained there until the close of the Revolution and from there I moved into Franklin County State of North Carolina, and then I removed to Lancaster County in the State of South Carolina on hanging rock Creek, where I remained until the year 1812, when I removed to Bedford County in the State of Tennessee where I have lived ever since and where I now live.

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

Ans: I volunteered in the first place; and the next time I was drafted in the last time I was a volunteer under General Marion. --

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

Ans: I think I did receive a discharge for my first tour of duty, but what has become of it I cannot tell. --

6<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: I recollect Generals Woodford and Scott at Charlestown and General Lincoln, I also saw a great many other officers but do not recollect the names of any except General Pulaski of the light horse, I do not recollect the names or numbers of any regiments either among the Regular or militia at this time, and believe I have given the most prominent history of the circumstances of my Service that I can at this period of my age. -- in my declaration

7<sup>th</sup> 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.

Ans: William Cawdon, Hugh Davidson, Esquire Joseph Johnson, and several clergyman but have not been able to procure their attendance at court at this time.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid,

S/ Richard Elkins, X his mark

[William Cowdon and Joseph Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavits.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 13 months in the South Carolina militia.]