

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Ellis S26084

fn94SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/22/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Morgan County

On this the 10th day of November 1838 Personally appeared before me Jesse Triplett a Justice of the peace for the County of Morgan aforesaid, Robert Ellis a Resident citizen of the County of Morgan State of Tennessee aged seventy-Eight years being born in the State of Virginia in Buckingham County in the year 1760 as he believes from information having no Record of his age but from calculation he is certain it must have been in 1759 or 1760 but is most inclined to think that it was in 1760 and after being duly sworn for that purpose on his oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832.

He states that he volunteered and entered the service of the United States in Abbeville district in South Carolina under William Conaway with John Prater, William Prater, James Mucklewee, Thomas Lacy, Andrew Miller as privates and went after the Cherokee Indians, and marched to many places on the frontiers crossing Little River and going as they desired through the nation Started some time in the fall of 1780, the day nor month not Recollected during said tour never stayed long at one place Stayed a night or two at the house of John Fox a faithful soldier from character and was at many white peoples' Residence who had left their homes through fear of the Indians and was finally marched to a little Creek called Generostee [?], and has there a skirmish with the Indians and there was seven Indians killed and the declarant was shot in the heel, the only white man that was hurt, he was conveyed home to his residence being unable to serve for two or three months, after he applicant served about one month at the least this tour not being able to say he is certain how long but agreeable to his best recollection he served at least a month having been wounded in the heel and went home.

He again volunteered as a private soldier under Captain Joseph Pickens & Colonel McCall and entered service as well as he recollects about the first of January 1781, and joined General Pickens and was marched to the Cowpens and was in the Battle at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] and marched off from said place under General Pickens and went to a Camp ground in North Carolina stationed there about one week and thence crossing the Saluda and Broad rivers at different places and thence to Reid's Mill about 8 miles from home had a written discharge from Captain Joseph Pickens for two months service.

He again volunteered out of Captain John Wilson's company and entered service a short time before the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781] and served under Captain Joseph Pickens including the Siege, his said Captain Pickens was shot and killed in the Siege, after the Siege he had a written discharge from General Pickens having served this tour one month agreeable to his best recollection, and he returned home.

He volunteered and entered the Service and a short time thereafter under Captain Little he believes his first name was Moses though he is not certain and went on to the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781 wagon under General Greene and Pickens & Colonel Malbdee [sic, Malmedy?] was marched off from the battle under Captain Frost went with some of the wounded to Friday's ferry on the Congaree, having served nine weeks this tour we had a written discharge from

Captain Little.

He again volunteered in a short time after his said Discharge and was at the instance of Captain Wilson placed as a guard over Colonel Reid's Mill in Abbeville District and served with James C. Wright, John Dixon, William Dixon, James Hathhorn, John Prater, Nathaniel Bailey and guarded said mill nine weeks and received a written Discharge from Captain John Wilson for the same.

He again Volunteered under Captain Robert Maxwell in the fall of 178_[last digit omitted] to serve three months under Colonel Anderson and was marched to the Kittle Creek [sic, Kettle Creek] and little Brasstown under General Pickens and was in several skirmishes. Joe Chapman was wounded and several Indians killed was in no general engagements fired at the Indians when running on different occasions destroyed their corn and was discharged by said Captain Maxwell a written discharge near Seneca having served two months.

He again volunteered to Range the frontiers for 12 months entered this service about the first day of March or thereabout, and in the Spring of 1782 under Captain John Norwood, Hugh Reid Lieutenant and Sergeant Hunt, privates John Miller, Trius [Travis?] Harbison, James Thompson, Thomas Lacy, John Lindsay, James Hathhorn, Andrew Webb, Isaac Thatcher, Martin Miller, Andrew Watt, Samuel McMustre, Thomas Watt, John Casson, William Perry, John Fox Senior and his son John Fox, William Pratt, Samuel Lindsay, James Lindsay, Ephraim Lindsay and Nathaniel Bailey, stationed at John Miller's all the time except when ranging would march all through frontiers on Little River the head of Long Cane, Big Hog Skin, Diamond Hill and the Golden Grove, and would be gone many days and return to the station and go again the same routes or much so during the whole year killed none of the Indians, killed two Tories to wit John McMasterson, Thomas Neil, Andrew Neil, John McCamy's life we spared he being young and after serving out 12 months, had a written discharge from said Captain John Norwood early in the Spring of 1783.

The applicant continued to live [in] Abbeville district South Carolina a little upwards of one year after the last period of his service aforesaid and moved to the State of Georgia Elbert County lived at different places in Georgia about thirteen years, thence to Knox County Tennessee, staid there about six years thence to Campbell County Tennessee stayed there thirty years thence to Morgan County Tennessee stayed there five years thence to Greene County Indiana stayed there eleven years, thence to Morgan County Tennessee again and July last he prepared papers in Greene County Indiana, was done by lawyer Livingstone. Returned for amendment his Lawyer neglected the same applicant wrote to John W. Davis in Congress about the matter he does not know the true situation of his case at this time being only informed by a careless Lawyer he states he has no record nor Documentary Evidence of his service and knows no person by whom he can prove his Service Except James Blevens¹ of Greene County Indiana by whom he could prove part of his said Service if he could get the matter attended to, he believes he can prove by many of his intimate acquaintance in his neighborhood both in Campbell County and in Morgan County in Tennessee with whom he has been acquainted with between 30 and 40 years that he has always been reputed and called a Revolutionary Soldier by his intimate acquaintances generally he will name some of them Mrs. Esther Sexton with whom he has been acquainted about 51 years or some over, and Timothy Sexton and John Reid, Ezekiel Newport, Esq., Aaron Whitebottle, Thomas Chambers, Esq., Allen McDonnell, Esq., James Chesney and he really believes his acquaintance generally both in Morgan and Campbell Counties Tennessee he hereby Relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a Pension or annuity Except the present and Declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State, he states his discharges was burnt when his house was burned. He further states that owing to the great length of time since his said service he cannot state with further certainty that herein stated, as to the precise time of beginning and quitting each tour of Duty, nor can he state with positive certainty the Length of some of said Tours but he served the full length of the time set forth in the foregoing, at the least.

1 [James Blevens \(Blevins\) S32121](#)

Sworn & subscribed this 10th day of November 1838 before me.
S/ Jesse Triplett, JP

S/ Robert Ellis



[Esther Sexton and Timothy Sexton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 11]

1. Under whom did you serve in the 1st tour in the revolutionary war,
Answer William Conaway Lieutenant out of John Lindsay – company

2. Who did you serve under the next tour

Ans. Joseph Pickens Captain

3. Who was the Colonel at that time

Ans. McCall

4. What tour next

Ans. Ninety Six under Captain Joseph Pickens

5. Who was your Colonel at that time

Ans. [Indecipherable] I think

6. Who was the General at that time

Ans. Andrew Pickens

7. What tour next

* Ans. I was stationed under John Willson Captain at Long Cain [Long Cane]

8. What tour next.

Ans. I was under Captain John Willson at the Battle of Eutaw Springs

9. Was you a volunteer during all the tours

Ans. I was a volunteer.

10. Had you written discharges for all those tours

Ans. Yes

11 Question did you do any service but the one is just spoken of

Ans. I served 12 months in South Carolina at one time under Captain John Norward

12. Who was your Colonel at that time.

Ans. Anderson, I believe

13. What kind of service did you perform at that time

Ans. We operated against the Indians and Tories

14. What became of your written discharge

Ans. I lost them by fire in a house I had burnt

15. What County and state was you born

Ans. State of Virginia and perhaps Buckingham County, but not certain

16. How old are you at this time

Ans. I was either 79 or 80 years old the 1st of last February – I think

17. Have you any record of your age

Ans. That all the record I ever had was destroyed by fire when I got my house burnt

Sworn & subscribed before me this 8th day of April 1839

S/ Thomas Lea, JP Morgan County Tennessee

S/ Robert Ellis

[f p. 88: On July 10, 1839, veteran filed another application substantially identical to his first application. It is not clear to me why this second application was required.]

[f p. 79]

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled

Robert Ellis your humble petitioner would represent to your honorable Body that he is of the age of ninety-two years the first day of February next 1846 and that he now Draws a pension of \$30 per annum for services rendered to the United States during the Revolution War and that he entered the service at Ninety Six under Captain John Willson in the State of South Carolina and marched to the Battle of the Cowpens and followed that battle and was then under Captain Joseph Pickens after which time he the said Robert Ellis marched under said Captain Pickens to the Siege of Ninety Six and followed there until Captain Pickens was killed by the enemy thence he was attached to Captain Moses Little and marched to the Battle of the Eutaw Springs and followed that battle at which time and place he received a wound in his left foot which has caused affiant to petition to your honorable Body to raise his pension as you in your Benevolence and Charity may consider just and right Affiant further requests you to examine the Declaration that he first made under the acts of the 7th of June 1832 if you have doubts about his officers and affiant would further state that he was honorably discharged by his officers that he was under in said war and had his discharges for many years after but by the misfortune of getting his house burnt is deprived of showing your honorable Body the cause why he is not going more than \$30 pension affiant was always a volunteer in said war and never was drafted and therefore hopes that the American Congress will grant him relief in his last declining days affiant does not wish to become Burdensome to the Community but owing to his Disability occasioned by the wound he received and the infirmities of old age and being very helpless without Charity affiant must suffer therefore he prays you to take his cause into consideration with his proof and he will ever pray &c this 5th day of January 1846

S/ Robert Ellis

[f p. 68: On March 15, 1841 in Morgan County Tennessee, Robert Ellis filed a petition to have his pension application transferred from the Tennessee agency to the Indiana agency. The additional pension to commence March 4, 1846.]

[f p. 77: Bill enacted in Congress to grant Robert Ellis a pension of \$66 per annum in addition to his of \$30 per annum on account of the wound he suffered at Eutaw Springs.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the South Carolina service.]