

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elias Mairs (Moirs) S2719

f32NC/SC

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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Warren County

On this 4th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before John Graham, Dudley Harrison and Aaron Higgenbotham they being the presiding Justices of the Warren County Court which is now in session Elias Mairs or Elias Moirs a resident of the County aforesaid aged 71 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit, that in August 1776 as best he recollects he volunteered into the service of the United States in what was then called Mecklenburg County North Carolina now Cabarrus he volunteered for three months entered Capt. John Barringer's¹ Company of which Daniel Jarrot [sic, Jarratt or Jarrett?] was the Lieut. & was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. John Fifer [sic, John Phifer] & Major Caleb Fifer [Caleb Phifer] and was commanded by General Griffith Rutherford from Mecklenburg he was marched to Burke County and in that County & at the Pleasant Garden and on the Catawba River built Cathey's Fort, from there he was marched into the Cherokee Nation² and destroyed their houses grain &c and took from there a good many horses and cattle about that time the South Carolinians under Col. Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] fought the Indians near an Indian town called Bunson [?] Town he sent to General Rutherford for a reinforcement which he secured and obtained a complete victory over the Indians after this Battle he was marched back to Mecklenburg and was verbally discharged at the Pleasant Garden in Burke County after having served a tour of three months

This applicant further states that 2 or 3 years after the Cherokee expedition he cannot say with certainty how long he again volunteered into the service of the United States for five months he entered the service this time at Salisbury North Carolina he entered into Capt. Thomas Cook's Company he thinks Capt. Cook's given name was Thomas [more likely Captain John Cook], he may be mistaken does not recollect the Lieut.'s name, he was then attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. ___ Dobbins [Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Dobbins] from Salisbury he was marched to South Carolina to what was then called the Black Swamp, White House or White Bluff on the Savannah River here he remained stationed until his five months expired after he arrived at the White Bluff Col. Dobbins left them and Major Nelson assumed the command. He was discharged at the White Bluff by Major Nelson it was a written one in which [was] lost some 30 years ago.

¹ The War Department misread this name as John Banimer.

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html

This applicant further states that in a very short time after he was discharged by Major Nelson he again volunteered into the service of the United States for three months at Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina he entered Capt. James Reed's [James Read's] company the Lieut. of which was Leonard Garris a Dutchman the Ensign was Robert Russell he was attached to Regiment commanded by Col. Reed, Major not recollected General Thomas Davidson [sic, William Lee Davidson?] was the General they were stationed in Mecklenburg County on Six Mile Creek and there remained until his three months expired he was then and there discharged in writing which he has lost many years ago.

This applicant further states that about three weeks after he was discharged by Col. Reed he again volunteered into the service of the United States for three months in Mecklenburg County North Carolina he entered into Capt. ___ Martin's [probably Josiah Martin's] company, Lieut. and Ensign not recollected, he was attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. ___ Dudley [Guilford Dudley] from Mecklenburg they were marched to Ruchley's [sic, Rugeley's] Mill in South Carolina 14 miles from Camden, there he joined the Army commanded by General Greene [Nathanael Greene], and remained at said mill until his three months expired, he then received a written discharge from Col. Dudley at said Mill, which discharge he lost many years ago.

This applicant further states that in a day or two after Dudley discharged him he again volunteered into the service of the United States for ten months at Rugeley's Mill in South Carolina he entered Capt. William Hutchison's Company the Lieut. of which was Charles Polk, the Ensign was James Clark, he was attached to Regiment commanded by Col. William Polk & Major Thomas Snipes, from Rugeley's Mill he was marched to Friday's Ferry on the Congaree River in South Carolina there he joined General Thomas Sumter's Army. General Sumter then marched against Friday's Fort which was filled up by the Tories they took the Fort [May 1, 1781]³ without much resistance and took about 1000 prisoners, from there they went back to the ferry where they were stationed. They then marched against Thompson's Fort [Thompson's plantation, February 22, 1781]⁴ which they took together with about 300 prisoners they then returned to the ferry. From there they were marched against the British and Tories in the Town of Orangeburg where there was a Fort. When they arrived there they had a considerable battle with the Tories and British but succeeded in taking the Town and Fort [May 11, 1781]⁵ together with upwards of a thousand prisoners. From there they were marched back to Friday's Ferry, Major Snipes then obtained permission of Sumter to go for a visit to his family a distance of 150 miles he had to go through a Tory Country and got permission to take 17 soldiers with him, as guard, he took applicant for one. They went to Snipes' house they got there on Thursday. On Sunday morning 150 British Dragoons came upon them at Snipes' and killed 12 of them out of the 18, when they came applicant was standing sentinel he fired on them and then retreated to the gate the other 16 soldiers came out and fired on the British and killed 3 of them, when the British came Snipes was in bed, he jumped up ran out undressed with his sword and pistols and fired upon them [June 3, 1781].⁶ Then this applicant, Snipes and Adjutant Clark fled into a cornfield and by that means escaped and 3 others did the same. They then returned to headquarters at Friday's Ferry. Two or three weeks after this they were marched against 3000 of the British who were going to the relief of Ninety Six which was at that time besieged by General Greene. Their object was to employ and detain the British from affording any relief to

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_fridays_ferry.html

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thomsons_plantation.html

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_orangeburgh_2.html

⁶ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_snipes_plantation.html

those in Ninety Six. They fell in with them at a place called the Juniper Springs⁷ and skirmish with them from morning till about 12 o'clock there was only 1000 of the Americans and 3000 of the British by this time an express arrived that Greene had taken Ninety Six, Col. Polk who commanded this expedition then retreated back to the Ferry on the morning of this engagement Major Snipes Adjutant Clark and himself took 15 prisoners, after they went back to the Ferry, they were marched to Orangeburg where he staid one month over his Term of service and was then discharged by written discharge delivered to him by General Sumter which discharge has been lost many years ago. This ended his military service. He served in all twenty-two months for which he never received any compensation.

To the Interrogatory of where and in what year were you born he says he was born in the year 1762 in Mecklenburg County North Carolina to that of have you any record of your age and if so where is it, he says he has and it is at his house, and it is this that he was born the 17th March 1762, this record is in a Bible and was given to him by his father Adam Mairs. To that of where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolution and where have you lived where you now live, he says when called into the service he lived in Mecklenburg County North Carolina. Since the revolution he moved from Mecklenburg or Cabarrus County North Carolina to Rowan County North Carolina, he there lived 7 [?] years, he then moved to Burke County North Carolina and lived there 14 years, from there he moved to Warren County State of Tennessee where he now lives. To that of how were you called into the service were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute he says he always volunteered that the said 3 months Tour he was a substitute for one William Lippert also was drafted for 5 months Tour he was a substitute for one George Brown who was drafted. As to the regular officers Continental and Militia regiments he can say nothing more than is stated in the body of his Declaration nor can he say anything more about a discharge or discharges than is there stated. He does not know of any persons living by whom he can prove his services. He has no documentary evidence of them. There is no clergyman in his neighborhood. He is known to Major William Armstrong & William McGregor Esquire in his neighborhood and diverse others and that they will testify as to his character for veracity and their belief that he served as a soldier in the revolutionary war.

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.

S/ Elias Mairs, X his mark it is sometimes written Moirs

Sworn to and subscribed this the 4th day of October 1832

S/ Jos Colville, Clk

by S/ L. Colville, DC

[William McGregor and William Armstrong gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file, veteran moved to Carroll County Tennessee in 1838 using Sandy Bridge as he is post office address; there is no family data in the file]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina militia.]

⁷ June 18, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/junipersprings.htm>