

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Ellis S30400

f54NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/8/08 rev'd 12/28/14

[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 Kentucky, Russell County

On this third day of October 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace in and for the County & State aforesaid Samuel Ellis a resident of the County of Russell aforesaid State of Kentucky aged Seventy one years on the Ninth day of April last 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 June 7th, 1832.

That in the year 1778 he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer militiaman in Roan County [Rowan County] State of North Carolina under Captain Samuel Reed [Samuel Reid] his Lieutenant was by the name of Wilson his Ensign's name he does not now recollect as one Ensign did not serve the whole time he was immediately marched on to the Adkin [Yadkin] River where he was joined to Colonel Locks [Francis Locke's] Regiment the Army was stationed on the Yadkin River at a place called Mocks old field where they remained some time and that is that place was called head quarters but they were constantly kept scouting about up and down the Yadkin River and in the neighborhood suppressing & keeping the Tories down as far as they could; had many skirmishes with them in this way he served six months that being the length of time he volunteered for and was after the expiration of his tour Honorably discharged by his Captain and returned home.

Sometime thereafter he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer private militia man in a company commanded by Captain David Caldwell and Wilson Lieutenant he immediately Joined Colonel Irwin's [Robert Irwin's] Regiment again marched on to the Yadkin River where he was kept in constant service scouting about in North and South Carolina after the Tories & British, had several skirmishes with the enemy about the Yadkin & the neighborhood towns about in this way he served six months & was Honorably discharged by his Captain, he again volunteered under the same Captain and was Joined to the said Col. Irwin's Regiment and marched on in the North State that is Carolina there he served faithfully as a private militia man nine months and in this tour he was at the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] in which Battle he received a wound in the arm soon after this Battle he was again Honorably discharged and returned home and immediately volunteered again for six months under Captain Jacob Nichols, David Henry Lieutenant he does not recollect the name of the Ensign he again marched on to the Yadkin River remained scouting about through the Country on to the Catawba River where he was in some skirmishes as also on the Yadkin and in this way he continued in service the full time of his engagement being six months and was again Honorably discharged he positively states that he faithfully served the aforesaid tours in the War of the revolution in a Corps called into Service by Competent Authority, that he was in the field or in Garrison and for the time which the services was performed he was not employed in any Civil pursuit and for which services he claims a pension he further states that he is now so much afflicted with bodily infirmity that he cannot without great injury to himself attend Court for the purpose of making this declaration he further states that there is no Clergyman residing in the vicinity of this place and therefore cannot procure one to

certify for him he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in the County of Montgomery State of Maryland on the ninth day of April in the year 1762 agreeable to the information of my Parents and my father's register which I have often seen and all of which I believe to be true.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have one now in my testament taken from my father's record and it is of the date aforesaid.

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

Answer: I lived in Rowan County State of North Carolina when called into service and that was my home during the whole time of my service and for several years thereafter about three years after the close of the war I moved to Surry County after sometime we moved back to Rowan County where I remained a few years then moved to Burke County where I resided some years when I moved to the State of Tennessee Jefferson County where I lived until the year 1826 when I moved to Kentucky Cumberland County, where I lived until one year ago when I moved to Russell County where I now live.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer: I was a volunteer in all my Tours and Services. I never was drafted or a Substitute for any person I chose to fight as a volunteer for my Country.

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I have given the names of the Colonels under whom I served I recollect General Morgan [Daniel Morgan], Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], Colonel Washington [William Washington] and others but the greater part of our time of service, we were kept in our own Regiments and often scouting in small detachments and the general circumstances I have substantially given as far as I can recollect.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Answer: I received a written discharges for each of my tours signed by my respective captains, which discharges I have lost long since but how when or where I know not nor have I any Documentary Evidence and that I know of no person whose testimony I can procure who can testify to my service.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

[Answer] I am acquainted with Captain Thomas Graves, Smith Turner, Jeremiah Algar, Richard Perkins, James Duncan and Jonathan Sweeney and others all of whom if present would speak well of me and as to character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution. Of

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Higgenbottom, JP

S/ Samuel Ellis



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State of Kentucky Russell County: Sct.

On this fifth day of December 1833 personally came before the undersigned a Justice of the

peace in and for the County aforesaid Samuel Ellis a resident of the County aforesaid who being first duly sworn deposed and saith that on the 3rd day of October last he made his Declaration for a pension to which he offers this as an amendment he states that by way of explanation to his former declaration That he did faithfully serve in the war of the Revolution the time he has therein stated but states that upon Reflection he did not at the entering of the service volunteer for the whole time he did serve but that he served the full time stated in each of the Terms therein claimed; That is he served as volunteer under Capt. Samuel Reed six months, Col. Locks Regiment but he now reflects that he volunteered for three months and when his term had expired he again volunteered and continued in service for three months longer making in that tour six months at the time he made his former Declaration he did not think of stating it in that way he supposed as he had served as a volunteer six months without leaving or quitting the service that it was unimportant whether there was an explanation of the renewal of his engagement or not and I do now state that the same explanation is given as to all his other tours he does most positively state that he served faithfully as a private in the Army of the Revolution twenty-seven months in the tours as therein stated but instead of its being done and performed in four tours as he has before stated he supposes and so states that according to what he presumes would be the proper definition of tours it all to be stated nine tours of three months each for he does positively state that he did at every time when his term of three months had expired he again entered for three months longer, that is to say in the first & second tours he continued in service two tours of three months each and in the third tour he served three tours of three months each and in the fourth tour he served two terms of three months each under the officers as is stated in his original declaration making nine tours of three months each, all of which services he again repeats was done and performed by him as a volunteer private militia man in the Army of the revolution in a Corps called into service by Competent Authority and for which he claims a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ A. Chapman, JP RC

S/ Saml Ellis

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State of Kentucky, Cumberland County

On this 24 day of February 1834 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Scott¹ a resident of the County aforesaid aged 74 years who being first duly sworn deposed and saith that he is well acquainted with Samuel Ellis now a resident of the County of Russell State of Kentucky he states that he was well acquainted with said Ellis in the War of the Revolution he knows that said Ellis served as a private volunteer militiaman from the State of North Carolina in Captain Samuel Reed's Company Colonel Locke's Regiment aforesaid months and he states that said service was performed without said Ellis leaving the Army but whether it was in one engagement for six months or one for three and renewed he knows not but he knows he did serve six months in that tour this he thinks was in the year 1778. He further states that said Ellis again volunteered under Captain David Caldwell & in Colonel Irwin's Regiment six months but as before stated he does not know whether it was in one or two engagements but knows he served the term of six months without quitting the Army he further states that said Ellis again volunteered in the same Company and Regiment and served nine months in that service this affiant was with said Ellis at the Battle at the Cowpens in which Battle said Ellis was wounded in the arm and this affiant assisted in taking care of said Ellis and assisting him off the Ground.

He further states that said Ellis again volunteered in Captain Nichol's company and served six

1 He MAY be the applicant identified in [John Scott W3046](#) (this possibility arising largely because this John Scott was a resident of Cumberland County, Ky at the time he filed for a pension stating he served in the Virginia troops from 1779 to 1783 without giving many details of his service except to say he served under Capt. James Williams in Col. Parker's Regt. And was at Yorktown.

months he states that he was well acquainted with said Ellis and states without any hesitation that said Ellis did serve more than two years as a private volunteer in the Army of the revolution in a Corps called into Service by Competent authority he states that he was frequently with said Ellis and being so intimately acquainted with him cannot doubt that he served the time Before stated and longer although he was not always with said analysts yet from his long and intimate acquaintance with him both in the Army and before & since he has no doubt he served more than two years. Subscribed and sworn to the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Scott, X his mark

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State of Kentucky Adair County: SS

On this fifth day of March 1834 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Adair aforesaid Samuel Ellis now a Resident of the County aforesaid and made oath that he heretofore made his declaration before Robert Higginbotham Senior in the County of Russell State of Kentucky for a pension under the act of Congress of June 7th 1832 & afterwards he made an amendment thereto & to which original & amended declaration he offers this as a further amendment. He states that on the 3rd day of this month March 1834 he moved from the County of Russell to the County of Adair where he now lives and that previous thereto he was informed upon Inquiry that John Scott of Cumberland County Kentucky could prove his this declarant's services whose Deposition he has procured bearing date the 24th of February last and here with annexed as part of his claim, he again most solemnly declares he did serve faithfully as a soldier the time and in the manner stated in his former declarations and respectfully prays a pension commensurate with his services according to the provisions of the before recited act.

Subscribed and Sworn to the day and year aforesaid

S/ Saml Ellis

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State of Kentucky, Adair County

On this 2nd day of January 1835 Samuel Ellis a resident of said County personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County who being first duly sworn according to law makes the following Amended declaration in addition to those heretofore made for the purpose of obtaining a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, he states that he need not again Repeat that he served as he has alleged in his first Amended Declaration as herein stated and explained, though he does unhesitatingly state that he did serve the times and tours as is there stated in the Service of his Country in the war of the Revolution in an embodied Corps called into Service by Competent Authority, as he has there stated he again states that whether he volunteered for three or six months service as there stated, and although it might have been my practice to engage for a longer time than three months at or under one engagement as it is [indecipherable word] by the department yet as he served either six or three months under one engagement if such had been the case, without a re-engagement he does not believe that he ought to be deprived of the Benefit of the law for he hopes the case is properly explained in his said Declaration, and whatever the general practice or custom was in relation thereto in other places he knows not as to the objection made to the affidavit of John Scott it may be that he (Scott) then belonged to the Virginia line which he believes to be true yet this declarant was well acquainted with Scott before he entered the service & while there and after the close of the war up to the present time and the facts proved by him, all our as this Declarant believes all correctly stated he had many interviews with Scott while in service & he cannot believe that there should be any further doubt as to his Claim, he further states that he does not know of any further proof he can make he has delayed making his Amendment until the present time in hopes he could have procured other & further proof of his Services so as to render it altogether satisfactory and not only satisfactory but clear

of doubt or suspicion But in consequence of his helpless condition he has not been able to find a witness.

He therefore respectfully solicits another examination into his Claim relying on the proper authority to give such decision as may Comport with Justice & law and should the proof in the case not Justify an allowance for more than 15 months as intimated his infirmities & poverty would induce him to say allow it (though he conscientiously knows he is entitled to full pay but what may be done I shall not [indecipherable word].)

Subscribed and sworn the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Samuel Ellis

[p 25: In Sept. 1843, Ellis said he had moved from Adair County, Ky, to Ray County, Missouri.]

[p 35: On February 15, 1844 in Ray County Missouri, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefit to the Missouri agency giving as his reason for moving to from Kentucky to Missouri 1st his relatives live in Missouri and 2nd those with whom he has formerly lived have moved to Missouri and he wishes to still live with them.]

[p 17: On March 12th, 1845, Ellis applied for a transfer of his pension benefits to Hart County, Ky. he gave as his reasons for moving from Missouri to Kentucky the following: "that him and his family were taken sick shortly after he settled in Missouri. That his wife died there and him and his son & 2 Daughters who composed his family remained sick the greater part of one year and he concluded that he & his family could not enjoy their health in the State of Missouri and that for that cause alone he moved from Missouri to Kentucky again."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia.]

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Addendum to Samuel Ellis S30400

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 22 Oct 2019.

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Kentucky Cumberland County Sct.

This day Samuel Ellis Senior of said County aged sixty nine years, came before me the undersigned being a Justice of the peace in & for said County, and made oath that he enlisted and served as a private soldier in the war of the revolution against Great Britain from the State of North Carolina, that he served under Capt. David Caldwell & Colo. [blank] that he was at the Battle of the Cowpens in South Carolina & the battle or skirmage of the Shallow ford on the Yadkin in North Carolina and remained in the service till the close of the war and was discharged from services which is lost that he has recieved no pay for his services.

Sworn to, and subscribed before me this 17th day of September 1830

Attest/ Harold E. Laufley[?] JpCC

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Saml. Ellis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the attestation text.

1831 May 30 Rejected