

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Samuel Eakin S3317

Transcribed by Will Graves

fn17NC

rev'd 6/23/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Perry County: County Court October Term 1832

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court it being the October Term of the County Court held in and for the said County of Perry and now sitting the Reverend Samuel Eakin a resident of said County and State as aforesaid aged about sixty-nine years the twenty third day of next March who being 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 the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the month of March 1780 as a Drafted militia Private for a tour of nine months from the County of Caswell and the State of North Carolina in the Regiment of North Carolina Militia commanded by Colonel Stephen Moore in the Company commanded by Captain \_\_\_ Samuel whose given name is not now remembered by this Declarant, the name of his Lieutenant is not now recollected by him. This Regiment marched from Caswell County to Cross Creek and there joined the Army principally of militia composed of the nine months and three months Drafted Militia and which Army was then under the immediate command of General \_\_\_ Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. The Army marched from this place to Cape Fear and laid there for some time from thence we marched to the High Hills of Santee and there waited for the arrival of General Horatio Gates with the Main body of the Regular Army and which was joined at this place and from thence the whole Army marched to Rugeley's Mills – at which place there were six hundred men including the Regiment to which this Declarant belonged detailed off under the command of Colonel Isaacs to join General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] on the South side of Camden. This was on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of August and the battle of Camden was fought the Wednesday after being the 16<sup>th</sup> of August 1780-- under the command of Colonel Isaacs we joined General Sumpter who had on that very day previous to our joining him captured forty wagons loaded with provisions and a Guard of sixty men and who were going on to Camden to join the British Army there under the command of Lord Cornwallis. After joining General Sumter we marched up to Rocky Mount and from thence to the mouth of Fishing Creek which emptied into the Catawba River where we were surprised by the British and defeated and this Declarant taken Prisoner with many others when he was marched to Camden and joined the other Prisoners who had been taken at Gates' Defeat among whom was his old Commander General Rutherford who in the unfortunate Battle of Camden had been wounded in the head and taken Prisoner. This surprise and defeat was on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1780 and the Friday succeeding the defeat of General Gates. In order to give a minute detail of this surprise and Defeat this Declarant states that their arms were stacked, some of the soldiers had gone to gather Peaches in the Orchard hard by, some were in the Catawba River Bathing several of whom were killed in the River and in which River whilst bathing this Declarant was ordered by a Dragoon to surrender which he accordingly did. The wagons and provisions which a few days before had been captured by General Sumter again fell into the hands of the British together with all the arms and munitions of use belonging to the Americans. General Sumter in vain attempted to rally his men but finding it impossible made his escape after a close and hot pursuit the Enemy – Colonel Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] commanded the Dragoons and infantry in this Battle on the side of the British – the number of the killed and

wounded on the side of the Americans as well as the number of Prisoners taken is not now recollected by this Declarant. This Declarant now states that he remained a Prisoner in Camden for the spacing of two weeks and two days during which time he was appointed through the instrumentality of his old Commander General Rutherford then a Prisoner also to attend upon the Hospital in which the wounded Prisoners were. That at the end of this time he in conjunction with his Step Father who was also a Prisoner made their Escape and after suffering innumerable hardships on their Journey home arrived there in three weeks it being a Distance of three hundred miles from Camden – this Journey they performed mostly in the night being fearful of the Tories without a hat on his said or a shoe to his feet and not a penny in his pocket entirely Dependent upon the charity of the Whigs whenever he fell in with them – he was frequently in a State of Starvation – words cannot express the sufferings that this Declarant underwent in this Journey.

This Declarant further States that after remaining at home for four or five weeks and indeed when he had not perfectly recovered from the fatigues of the Journey which he hath heretofore stated he was again Drafted for a tour of three months and joined the Regiment of North Carolina Militia then under the command of Colonel William Moore from the County of Caswell in the Company commanded by Captain John Graves his Lieutenant's name not recollected – This Regiment marched to Hillsboro in Orange County in the said State. The Duty assigned to this Regiment was to watch and suppress the Tories who were investing the Country and who were very numerous. This Declarant now states that he did not long serve with this Regiment – being only in a convalescent state when he Joined the same his Constitution gave way to the fatigues of Duty and he sunk under the same in consequence of which he received a Furlough and returned home nor did he again during this tour join this Regiment.

After remaining about two months at home There was a call for men and a muster appointed to beat up for volunteers at which muster this Declarant attended and volunteered but for what period of time he does not now recollect but at any rate until the Tories who had embodied themselves to the amount of five hundred under the Command of Colonel Piles [sic, Dr. John Pyle] and his son Major Piles [sic] should be entirely suppressed – whilst in this tour he served in the Regiment of Volunteer Militia from Caswell County and which was commanded by his former Col. William Moore and the company commanded by Captain Arthur Loving or Lovel. This Regiment joined the Army at Butler's Mills in Orange County North Carolina then under the Command of General Pickens [Andrew Pickens], Colonel Henry Lee of the Cavalry was at this time attached to this Army – the Army was at this time in rapid march in pursuit of Colonel Piles and his Tories and came up with them about ten miles from Butler's Mills where a total rout and slaughter of the Enemy took place about four hundred out of the five hundred he thinks were killed on orders being to give them Blueford's play [sic, Buford's Play or Buford's Quarter]-- the residue being mostly wounded were taken Prisoners by us after this Battle the British Army under the command of Lord Cornwallis pursued us we retreated and crossed Haw River and encamped at one Dicky's it was at this place we met Major Micajah Lewis whilst in a state inebriety rushed over the British lines and was wounded and of which wound he shortly after died at his Uncle Obediah Martin's house – after the Battle [several words obliterated by ink blot] that is the Battle with Colonel Piles and his Tories the Regiment to which this Declarant belonged was discharged and he returned home, the battle of Guilford Court house came on immediately after this where Cornwallis was compelled to retreat before Greene in to Virginia consequently there was no further call for his Services. This Declarant states that he thinks as well as he can now recollect that the several tours in which he served would constitute a period of 15 months or thereabouts.

This Declarant now states that he has no Documentary Evidence and that he knows of no Person whose Testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Samuel Eakin



Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jesse Lewellen, Clk

[John Halbrook, a clergyman, and Jeremiah Moore gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions by the court

Question. Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born in Little York County in the State of Pennsylvania in March 1764

Question Have you any record and if so where is it –

Answer I have it transferred from my Grand Father's Bible into my own

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

Answer. In Caswell County North Carolina afterwards in Elbert County Georgia afterwards in Wilson Davidson Hickman and Maury and now in Perry in this State before preceding Counties being in this State

Question How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer the first two tours I was drafted the last tour I was a volunteer

Question 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 General Horatio Gates and the Baron DeKalb and Colonel Henry Lee of Virginia who commanded a Regiment of Cavalry and Colonel William Washington of South Carolina who also commanded a Regiment of Cavalry – the particular Regiments either Continental or Militia I have now no recollection of

A Declaration Supplementary to a declaration made by Samuel Eakin at the October term of the County Court for said County on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832 in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

This Declarant saith that he entered the service in the State and County & under the officers as a private in the Militia in the year 1780 in the month of March as stated in the above recited declaration to which this is a supplement that he served in this year on that tour that he has therefore described in his Declaration as aforesaid nine months on the first expedition and that he again went out in the latter end of the same year as a private in the Militia though he does not say he was all the time with the American Army the first tour as he was a part of that time a prisoner -- & a part he was lying out of the way till he could get to join the Whig troops but that he supposes he is equally entitled to the same – as if he had been in the Main Army – that on the last tour he went out this year which is 1780 he served three months which ended in 1781 that again he went out in the year 1781 as a private in a volunteer Company and served three months having in all fifteen months for particulars see the declaration to which this is a supplement as it appears that the time and grades in which he served seems to be the only objection to his Claim – he this declarant saith that he served as above for which he claims a pension and further saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833.

Test: S/ Jess Taylor, Clerk

S/ Samuel Eakin

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one-year service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]