

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Edwards S3320

f18NC

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, Carroll County

On this third day of December A.D. 1833, personally appeared before Henry Wright, a Justice of the Peace, in and for the County of Carroll and State aforesaid, Andrew Edwards, a resident of the County aforesaid aged Eighty years on the 20th day of October last past; who, being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the Benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

To the best of my impaired recollection, I was born in the County of Pitts [sic, Pitt], North Carolina (having no Record of my Birth, the one which I once said in my possession being long since lost) on the 20th day of October A.D. 1753. I entered the Service of the United States, under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated.

Sometime in the year 1777 (my memory will not now permit me to particularize the month) in the County of Onslow North Carolina, I Volunteered under Captain Charles Herrin, to go from thence down to Wilmington (same State) in the defense of my country against the British & Tories. I served at this place for the term of one month; as a volunteer. During this period, I was serving here, the British were lying down at the Flats; and in it, I, was once detached in a company consisting in all of forty men, under the command of a Major; in the Army, whose name, I cannot now recollect; and after we were out about 10 days we returned to Wilmington. After this term of service was expired, I was verbally discharged by Col. Henry Rhodes; and returned home.

Again in the same year, shortly after this, though in what month, I do not now recollect; I volunteered in Onslow County N. C. under a Captain Matthew Bosten [Matthew Boston] to go to the Protection of Wilmington from the British. Our Company was marched down to Wilmington by our before mentioned Captain; After our arrival here, I served out my term of one month, when I once more received a verbal discharge from our Colonel Henry Rhodes, and departed home. The object of this reinforcement, was for the protection of Wilmington, from the British and Tories.

A third time, I volunteered in the same year 1777, under a Captain Ephraim Battle, in Onslow County to serve a tour of three months, for the same object, as the two former. After we reached Wilmington, I went into the Army and served out my tour of three months and was verbally discharged by my commanding officer Captain Ephraim Battle, by the order of my Colonel Uriah Armstrong; and I returned home to Onslow County, N. C.

In the year 1780, I do not now recollect the month, a man by the name of Levin Campbell in Onslow County N. C. Being drafted to serve a tour of three months against the British and Tories, he engaged me, to go out as a substitute for him, under this engagement, I accordingly entered the service. The Captain who commanded the company to which I was attached was by the name of Miles Fox; we were marched to Elizabeth on Cape Fear River, where we lay for three weeks; and from thence we were marched to Cross Creek in North Carolina. But unfortunately, on our way to this place our Captain, Fox, died and the command was assumed by Basil Grant [sic, Basil Grant], who acted as our

Captain. At Cross Creek, we joined the Americans; and while lying here I happened to get disabled by a kick which I received from a horse whilst shoeing him; which lamed me: and I received a furlough, signed by my Captain Bazil Grant by order of the General Commanding Herrington [sic, probably Henry William Harrington], which is appended to this Declaration, and forwarded on. Soon after this my term of service expired and I was permitted to return home, by my Officers, receiving no written discharge.

Subsequently in this same year, 1780, month not now recollected, by me, one George Curtis of Onslow County being drafted to serve a tour of three months against the British, I contracted with him, to serve as a substitute for him, which I accordingly did. I was stationed at Cross Creek North Carolina in the Brigade under the command of General Lillington [John Alexander Lillington]. Shortly after my arrival here, I was taken from the line and attached to the Public Shop by order of the General, and served out my three months as an Artificer, to the Army. After my time was expired I received a written discharge from my Officer, Captain Matthew Ramsey, and which is hereto appended.

I have now stated my particular services, in the different periods at which they were performed, according to the best of my frail recollection, but by way of Recapitulation, will state, that, in my first tour in 1777, month not recollected I was a volunteer for one month each at Wilmington N. C. under Captain Charles Herrin and Colonel Henry Rhodes; and my second tour I was a volunteer at Wilmington in 1777 under the same Colonel & in the company of Captain Matthew Bosten, and served one month. In the same year 1777, I served as a volunteer, at Wilmington in said war for three months, under Captain Ephraim Battle and under Col. Uriah Armstrong, and verbally discharged by him; Fourthly, I served a tour of three months in 1780 as a substitute for Levin Campbell, under Captains Miles Fox, and Bazil Grant. In my last Tour in 1780, I served three months as a substitute for George Curtis, under General Lillington, making in the whole 11 months for which I claim a pension. I have not now a distinct recollection of the names of any other Field and company Officers than those which I have before stated, in this my Declaration; The reason of which is there has so long a lapse of time intervened since my services were rendered. I have no documentary evidence other than those enclosed hereto appended & forwarded on, with my Declaration, and do not know of any person living whose testimony I can procure to testify to my services. There is no clergyman residing in my neighborhood; and if there was, I am unfortunately debarred from the consolation of participating in Public in Divine Worship, I being afflicted with my loss of hearing, to the most painful degree, that I cannot even hear the voices of my children, or wife in ordinary conversation & can only in secret send up my humble petitions to Him, who protects the fatherless, & the widow, the Lame, & the blind; and whose mighty arm guides the destinies of all nations. I therefore cannot procure the certificate of an acting clergyman stating his belief of my services; being entirely unacquainted with any in my neighborhood.

I continued to reside in the State of North Carolina, after the Revolutionary War, a considerable length of time, When I removed from thence to Warren County State of Tennessee; from thence I removed to the State of Kentucky, after which I again removed to this State; and sometime in the year 1829 removed to this County, where I now reside. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this third day of December 1833

S/ H. Wright, JP

S/ Andrew Edwards, X his mark

[James Dawson and Redin Fields gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions by the Magistrate

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in the County of Pitt, North Carolina, A.D. 1753

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

Answer: I now have none, the copy of the Record of my birth as long since been lost.

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 have answered these questions in my Declaration already made.

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

Answer: In my first three tours, I was always a volunteer, and in my two last, I was a substitute for Levin Campbell and George Curtis.

5th 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.

Answer: General Lillington, Herrington, Colonels Rhodes & Armstrong & Captain Herrin, Bosten, Battle & Ramsey & Grant & others not recollected; I don't Recollect any of the Continental Regiments; and my services all fully stated in my Declaration.

[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 to the sixth: I never received any written discharges, other than those, which I have appended to my Declaration, signed by Captain Bazil Grant, and Captain Matthew Ramsey.

[7th 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.]

Answer to the seventh: I can state the names of my friend James Dawson and Redin Fields, and others who are acquainted with me, in this neighborhood.

“The Bearer, Andrew Edwards, a Substitute for Geo. Curtis of Onslow County having Served a Tour of Duty as an artificer at this Place he is hereby discharged.

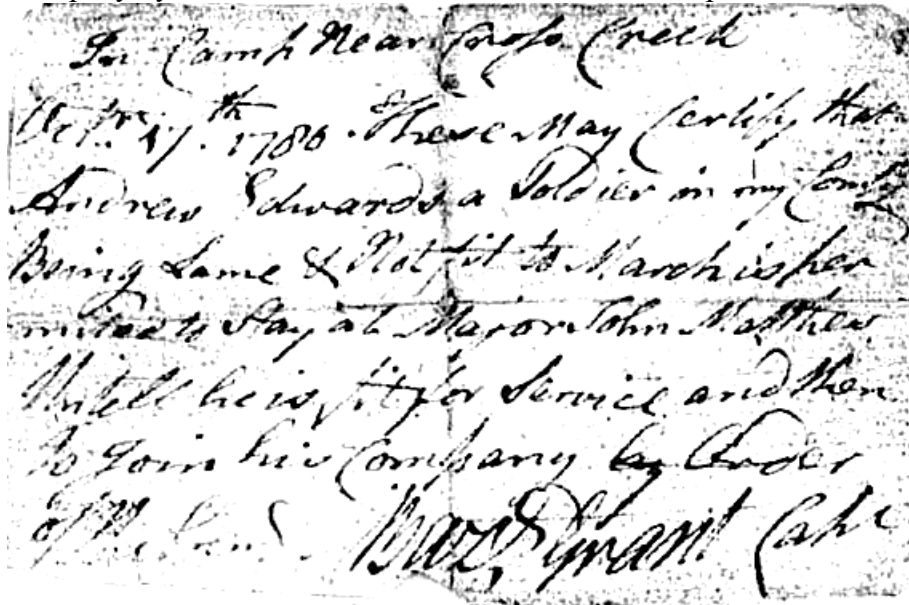
Given under My hand at Cross Creek this 10th March '81

S/ Matthew Ramsey [indecipherable letters]”

The Bearer: Andrew. Edwards. a Substitute
for Geo: Curtis of Onslow County having
Served a Tour of Duty as an artificer
at this Place he is hereby discharged
Given under My hand
at Cross Creek this 10th March '81
Matthew Ramsey

"Camp Near Cross Creek

Oct. 17th 1780. These May Certify that Andrew Edwards a Soldier in my Compy. Being lame & Not fit to March is permitted to Stay at Major John Matthew until he is fit for Service and then to Join his Company by Order of S/ Bazil Grant Capt."



The image shows a handwritten military certificate on aged, slightly stained paper. The text is written in a cursive script from the late 18th century. It reads: "In Camp Near Cross Creek Oct. 17th 1780. These May Certify that Andrew Edwards a Soldier in my Compy Being lame & Not fit to March is permitted to Stay at Major John Matthew until he is fit for Service and then to Join his Company by Order of S/ Bazil Grant Capt." The signature "S/ Bazil Grant" is written in a larger, more prominent hand at the bottom right of the document.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the North Carolina militia.]