

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Edward Abbey S34621

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Record of the pleas and proceedings of the circuit court of the county of Simpson, before the Hon Edward Turner one of the Judges of the Supreme court of the state of Mississippi and presiding Judge of the second Judicial Circuit of the state aforesaid, at the October Term thereof begun and held at the Courthouse of the county afores'd on the nineteenth day of October in the year of Our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and twenty nine, and in the fifty fourth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

The State of Mississippi } Circuit Court
Simpson County } October Term 1829

On this nineteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine; be it remembered that Edward Abbey personally appeared in open court; to wit; The Circuit Court of the county of Simpson in the state aforesaid before the Hon' Edward Turner a Judge of the Supreme Court of the State aforesaid and presiding Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit of the State aforesaid at the Term of the court aforesaid holden at the Court house at the county aforesaid, the said court being a court of record because it is expressly made so by the law of the state which created it, the said Edward Abbey being a resident of said county of Simpson; and made the following declaration in addition to declaration made by him the said Edward Abbey in The County court of the county of Simpson on the twenty fifth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine, in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 & the first of May 1820 which said declaration made in the county court aforesaid on the said 25th day of May aforesaid is herewith presented to the court, made a part of this declaration & is in the following words & figures, to wit;

The State of Mississippi } County Court
Simpson County } May Term 1829

On the twenty fifth day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty nine personally appeared in open court Viz, a county court of the state aforesaid holden in the Town of Westville in and for the county and state aforesaid being a court of record because it is expressly made so by the law of the state which created it, Edward Abbey resident in said county aged seventy nine years who first being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain a pension under the provision made by the acts of Congress of the eighteenth of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and the first of May one thousand eight hundred and twenty that he the said Edward Abbey enlisted for the term of eighteen months (the day and year in which he enlisted he cannot now recollect being illiterate) in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Fitzjarel [sic: John Fitzgerald, recruited in Fairfax County VA, Feb 1776] in the regiment commanded by Colonel Weden or Widen [sic: George Weedon] in the line of the State of Virginia in the corps of the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps until the expiration of eighteen months from the time of enlistment, when he was discharged from the service in the state of Pennsylvania and that he obtained a discharge in writing which he has since lost; that he also enlisted again for the term of three years in the state of Pennsylvania in the company commanded Capt Frant Laroy [probably Griffin Fauntleroy or Hugh Fauntleroy] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Mylen in the line of the state of Pennsylvania in the corps of the continental establishment, that he continued to serve in said corps until the expiration of three years from the time of enlistment when he was honorably discharged from the service in the state of Pennsylvania which discharge he has since lost, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present; that his name has not been placed on the pension list as he knows of, that he never before exhibited a schedule of his property because he did not know until about the year 1824 that Congress had made any provisions by law of which he could avail himself; and

that he did not know how to proceed to procure the benefit of said provisions; that since which time he had employed two different attorneys to direct him and proceed for him but for want of a form of a declaration or some other cause unknown to him they did not proceed to do any thing in the case untill the September Term 1827 of Lawrence County court; at which time one Anthony Butler drew up a declaration for him, which he proved in said court according to law and authorized the said Butler to send on to the proper place for further proceedings, which declaration he has not heard of since and therefore supposes that through the neglect of said Butler or some other cause unknown to him it is lost or mislaid and has never reached the proper place for further proceeding; and in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed Viz three cows and calves one two year old heifer and one pig say six months old; I am by occupation a farmer but altogether unable to pursue it or to make my support by it through old age and infirmity. I have no family but myself and wife whose name is Rebecca and whose age about sixty years, she is also very infirm and scarcely able to do anything towards procuring a support. That since the 18th of March 1818 the only changes made in my property is that at that time I had but lately arrived in this state from Georgia and had neither property nor money except three dollars in cash and now I have the property that is mentioned in the above schedule

Edward hisXmark Abbey

[Certifications omitted.]

I Edward Abbey in addition to the foregoing declaration do hereby declare that, being an illiterate man together with the length of time which has elapsed and my mind & memory being somewhat impaired by hardship & old age I cannot particularly recollect the date but I will state such circumstances as I do particularly recollect, to wit; I enlisted for the term of 18 months in the spring of the year in the service of the United States in Alexandria Fairfax county & state of Virginia in a company commanded by Capt Fitzjarel of which David Earl was Lieutenant, as well as I can recollect, belonging to the third Regiment commanded by Colonel Weden and Lieutenant Colonel Marshal [sic: Thomas Marshall]; By having my memory refreshed by some circumstances I think it was in the year 1776. The regiment marched to New York where we fortified York island [Long Island]. In the fall of the same year as near as I can recollect the regiment to which I belonged under command of General Washington retreated to the White Plains, where an action took place [28 Oct 1776] in which the American Army was overpowered and was forced to retreat. We marched through New Jersey and crossed the Delaware river & remained there untill about christmas; we then recrossed the Delaware to the Jersey side and attacked & took a body of the Hessian troops in Trenton [26 Dec 1776] and crossed with the prisoners to the Pennsylvania side of the river and then soon after crossed back again to the Jersey side to keep possession of Trenton. There we were met in the evening by a reinforcement of the enemy under command of Lord Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] from Princetown [Princeton]; only a few rounds were fired & hostilities ceased for the night. The American army of which I was one mooved before day next morning for Princetown & had an engagement with a detachment of the British army near Princetown [3 Jan 1777] just about sunrise and entered Princetown victoriously with two or three hundred prisoners; in this last engagement I recollect that General [Hugh] Mercer was mortally wounded. We then marched to Morristown where we remained the balance of the winter. The next battle that I was in was at Brandy-wine, the ensuing fall [Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777]; a short time afterwards [4 Oct] I was at the battle of Germantown. In a few weeks after the af Germantown our army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. My term of service for which I had enlisted having expired; a few days after I enlisted again for three years in the company of Capt Frant Laroy under Major

Washington [William Washington, Major 27 Jan 1777 – 20 Nov 1778] in the fourth Regiment of Pennsylvania dragoons commanded Col Mayland and Lieutenat Col [Anthony Walton] White. As near as I can recollect Major Washington was an officer in the 3rd Virginia regiment & was promoted about the time of the battle of Germantown, he acted as recruiting officer at the Valley Forge & enlisted, I think about fifty Virginians at the same time that I enlisted. Capt Laroy I understand was commandant of the company but I never saw him. I received a furlow for three months & according to orders joined Major Washington at Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] Virginia & marched under his command to New Jersey where we joined the 4th regiment of Pennsylvania dragoons & were delivered up to Col White who had the immediate command, Col Mayland who was occasionally with us I understood was his superior in command. I have not a distinct recollection of the time I enlisted at Valley Forge, but by having my memory refreshed I think that I can with safety say that it was some time in December 1777. The next engagement, I was in, was an attack made on us by the British Dragoons at a place called Newrochell [sic: New Rochelle NY]. I was at a place called as near as I can recollect Tapham [probably Tappan NY] when General [Benedict] Arnold deserted West point [25 Sep 1780] & Major Andre was taken [23 Sep; hanged at Tappan on 25 Sep]. We then returned to Lancaster Pennsylvania where I was discharged; my term of service having expired; I was discharged without receiving pay for the last thirteen months of my time which I have not yet received or any part thereof. I afterwards went in the militia to the seige of Lord Cornwallace [Yorktown VA, 28 Sep – 19 Oct 1781] & was on the Gloucester side of the river when Col Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] delivered up the fort

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