

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elisha Wilkins S42078

fn10NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/12/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

### Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the pension list under the Act of Congress of the 18th March 1818 --

County of Cumberland, State of North Carolina --

On this the 4th day of March 1830, personally appeared before Colonel John Thomas a Justice of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the said County, being a Court of record and having [power] to fine & Imprison, Elisha Wilkins resident in said County aged seventy years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the pension made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820, that he the said Elisha Wilkins enlisted for the term of nine months about the latter part of May or the first of June as well is he recollects, in the year 1778 in the town of Halifax in the State of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain Cary Whitaker a militia officer, and was soon after transferred to the regular service and placed under the command of Captain G F Bradley [Gee or George Bradley?] then transferred to the command of Captain Montford [probably Joseph Montfort or Montford]. In the Regiment commanded by Colonel Hogun [James Hogun] in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said corps until about the 14th May 1779 -- the term of nine months would have expired as well as he can recollect on the 18th or 20th of April but he the said deponent was left sick in the hospital in Philadelphia and did not received his discharge until sometime in May, the length of service being fully nine months when he was discharged from the service in the City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, which discharge he has long since lost. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the List or Roll of any State except the State of North Carolina, and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for pension Viz., --

Some after the Act of Congress passed allowing pensions, he applied to a friend in his County to make up the papers necessary to obtain a pension for him but his friend made a mistake in drawing up the papers and he has made no effort since to obtain a pension, deponent also felt unwilling to make application for a pension because he was able until recently by his bodily labor to maintain himself and wife, but for the last 12 or 18 months he has been so infirm as to

the unable to support himself and family which consists of himself and wife who is about 65 years of age and almost blind, that he has no one to help him in supporting his family, that he is now & has been for many years cultivating a small farm the property of a friend, from which he has made out to support his family, but has now become so weak & feeble that he can scarcely walk about the house, and that therefore he is unable any longer to till the ground for his support --

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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 that since the 18th of March 1818, no material changes have been made in my property no other than a gradual diminution of my stock of cattle and hogs necessary for the support of my family -

And this deponent doth further [indecipherable word] -- that he is unable to attend the said Court from disease as well as bodily infirmity

Schedule of Elisha Wilkins property

One horse that you'd at	\$35
Two cows, 2 yearlings and one half	30
Seven head of sheep	7
Eleven head of hogs	10
Two pine tables	1.50
one walnut table	2
one half dozen sitting chairs	1.50
Two pots & one oven	3
one half dozen knives & forks	.50
Six Plates	.30
one half dozen cups & saucers	.30
Two Dishes	.80
Two Club axes	1.50
One chopping or hand axe	1
One Hand saw & drawing knife	1
One Cast	15
One plow & traces	1.75
Thirty Bushels of Corn	16
Two Hundred Weight of fodder	<u>2.50</u>
Total	\$133.65

Sworn to & declared on the 4th day of March 1830

[John Thomas, JP, testifies that the applicant has suffered from the dropsy for at least 9 months and is unable to attend court.]

State of North Carolina Cumberland County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions March Term 1830

Captain William Lord<sup>1</sup> of the County of Cumberland maketh oath and saith that he has been well acquainted with Elisha Wilkins an applicant for a pension ever since the year 1781: that said Elisha served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War in the Continental line as the deponent is informed & believes: and in the militia service as he knows for that deponent, served with him a short time in the latter service under the command of Captain William McDonald, a militia officer, and that he was in a small battle with him at Elizabeth Town in Bladen County, this affiant, believes that the said Elisha served alternately in the regular service and militia during a considerable part of the Revolutionary War, and that he sustains the character of a brave and useful soldier --

March Term 1830

S/ W. Lord

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

Test: S/ D. McDearmid, Clk

State of North Carolina Cumberland County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions March Term 1830

Original claim of Elijah Wilkins to be placed on the pension list,

This affiant Sherwood Fort<sup>2</sup> maketh oath and saith that he is well acquainted with Elisha Wilkins the applicant to be placed upon the pension list, that he has known him ever since the year 1775: that the said Wilkins was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. That he served under the command of GF Bradley 9 months or thereabouts as the affiant [indecipherable word, illegibly faint] and that the said Elisha afterwards served in the militia under Captain Cofield near Camden in the State of South Carolina, and afterward under Captain Whitaker in the battle fought at Guilford Court house in the State of North Carolina and that the said Elisha afterwards served a considerable length of time in or own a tour to Charleston in the State of South Carolina, but how long this affiant does not know, that the said Elisha always sustained the character of a brave and faithful Soldier. And this affiant further states that the said Elisha now is, and always has been ever since he left the service of his country an honest industrious man, that he has cultivated the soil for many years, that he has wrought in mills at different times or periods of his life when he could get employment, that he has also pursued the trade of a hatter [?] That he has in short tried various ways to support his family which consists of himself and wife and that he has done so until within the last twelve or eighteen months, during which time he has been prevented from doing so by debility and the infirmity of old age -- that he is now very deaf and entirely unable to labor and confined as this affiant believes and is informed to his house, That this affiant is well acquainted with Mrs. Wilkins the wife of the said Elisha, that she is nearly blind and must be upwards of sixty years of age.

S/ Sherwood Fort

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing March 30, 1830, for 9 months service in the North Carolina Continental line.]

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<sup>1</sup> I did not find any federal pension application filed by this veteran.

<sup>2</sup> [Sherwood Fort S8499](#)