

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Edward Sims S6104

f24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/22/12

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

State of Virginia Chesterfield County: SS

On this fourteenth day of August in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Chesterfield County, Edward Simms [sic] a resident of the County of Powhatan and State aforesaid, aged seventy years, 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, entitled "An Act supplementary to the Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution."

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein after stated, viz.:

In the year 1777, he was drafted and entered the service in the company of militia commanded by Captain Henry Cheatham, John Farmer, Richard Elam and Branch Elam, subalterns, in Colonel Ro. Goode's [Robert Goode's] Regiment, marched down to Williamsburg, then to York, where he was put under the command of General Nelson: went then to Hampton and having served 4 or 5 weeks was discharged at Williamsburg.

In the winter of 1780-81, at the time of Arnold's [Benedict Arnold's] first invasion he was again called out in the same company & Regiment under the same Company & regimental officers, and was stationed at Manchester at the time Arnold first came to Richmond; went down the River to watch the movements of the British Army was discharged and soon called out again, and went down below Petersburg to Cabin Point, & Mackey's Mills, under the command of Captain Baron Steuben and was in the neighborhood at the time of the affair at Hood's [this may be a reference to either an action at Hood's Mills on January 10, 1781 or to a skirmish at Hood's Landing April 1781], was brought back to Chesterfield and discharged at Ware bottom. Was soon after called out again in the same company and under the same officers, and was stationed at Ware bottom Church; was pursued by the British under General Philips [William Phillips] up to Manchester, returned to Ware bottom and was there discharged about the first of May.

He was afterwards called out and started to the South, in the Campaign when the battle of Guilford was fought [March 15, 1781], in Captain David Patterson's Company of militia, Stephen Pankey was Lieutenant and Colonel Robert Goode's Regiment, but on getting to Dinwiddie Court House was countermanded and returned and was discharged at Petersburg.

That during the year 1781 he was, together with all the militia of Chesterfield, frequently called out and kept in service, sometimes very short periods; and sometimes as soon as he could get home from one tour he was called out again, and always was under the command of the same company officers viz. Captain Henry Cheatham, Lieutenants John Farmer, Richard Elam, and sometimes Ensign Bartlett Elam and Colonel Robert Goode's Regiment but it is impossible for him to recollect the dates and duration of the several tours: that he was employed chiefly in the

County of Chesterfield, that County being nearly all that year and a state of invasion.

In the summer of 1781 he entered the militia at Manchester in the company of militia commanded, as he thinks, by Captain David Patterson, the subaltern officers not recollected in Major Francis Goode's Battalion, crossed James River at Ware bottom, marched up by Richmond through Hanover, down into New Kent and joined General Lafayette at New Castle on the Pamunkey [River]; went to Park's Spring and there enlisted in the state Legion with Captain George Michie for three years: but going home on furlough for three months, and before the expiration thereof, Cornwallis' Army having surrendered at York [October 19, 1781], he was never called out again – was on service in the last tour about four weeks.

That, in all, he is absolutely certain that he served upwards of six months during the Revolution – never served with or under any Regular Officers except those mentioned except that Colonel Innes and Major Lucas were with him at Smithfield not more than one day & except also that he was on another tour under General Lawson down at Smithfield having separated from Baron Steuben at Cabin Point. That he was never in any battle.

That he was born in the County of Chesterfield in the State of Virginia the 2nd day of September 1761, as he has always been informed, and that his age was recorded corresponding there with in a Prayer book by his father, that he resided in this County until about 30 years ago, when he moved across the Powhatan line and has lived in that County ever since, but still in the same neighborhood in which he was born, that he never received any written discharge and has no documentary evidence of his service, but believes there are witnesses who are now living that can testify to some tours of his service.

He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Edward Sims

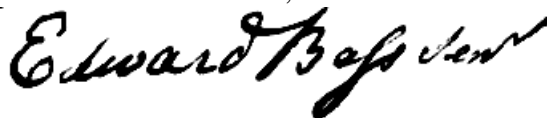


[Charles Forsee, a clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Edward Bass¹ a resident of the County of Chesterfield and State of Virginia do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Edward Simms who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing declaration, and remember that he the said Simms served at the same time with him and in the same company in a tour down to Williamsburg and York in the year 1777 – and that he also served another tour with him down below Petersburg and about Mackey's Mills &c that he has also understood and has no doubt that the said Simms served other tours in the militia during the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Edward Bass, Senior



¹ [Edward Bass S6595](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia militia for 6 months.]