

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Ellison S6820 f14VA
Transcribed by Fred Weyler 3/18/13
Ellison John VA S6820

(p2) A certificate North Carolina 16.153
John Ellison of Rutherford County 7 ½ months as pvt in Captain Newell's Company VA militia.
Issued 12Jul1833 \$25/annum

(p3) State of North Carolina On the 26th day of April 1833
Rutherford County personally appeared in open
Court before the judges of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions of said County now setting
(sic) John Ellison who made and swore to the annexed declaration dated the 28th of October 1832
who being first duly sworn according to law saith as follows:

That all the military services done as stated by him was as a private soldier – though he cannot to a day specify the time of his service he can safely state the length of his three terms of service to be seven months and a half and he thinks a few days over – the deponent further states that he know no person now living by whom he could prove his military services more fully to clearly than is done in the affidavits appended to his declaration above referred to – the deponent farther saith that he lived about a hundred miles from where he performed his six month tour of service, and that his understanding is that the time his actual service was short of six months was supposed to be not longer than it would take him to travel home. = Sworn and subscribed in open court the 26th day of April 133 (sic)

Test/ T.F.Burchett Clk s/ John Ellison x his mark
[Ed. Note: Theodorick F Burchett]

(p4) State of North Carolina Court of Pleas &c
Rutherford County April Session 1833
I Theo.F. Burchett do certify as clerk of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of Rutherford County, that on this day of April 1833 John Ellison appeared in open court and was duly sworn to the declaration within written & subscribed by him. Given under my hand and the seal of the court the day and date above written. s/ Theo. F. Burchett Clk

(p5-6) a deposition of infirmed Mary Collins from her home in Rutherford County taken by G Griffin J.P. 9th Oct 1832 with county certifications:
“She recollects that in the year 1779 or 1780 or about the time of Ferguson's Defeat she lived in Washington County Virginia. That she was well acquainted with John Ellison who he understands is an applicant for a pension- and that she knew from report and her own knowledge of the absence the said Ellison being for several months absence from home during which time he was as she has always understood and believed he was in the militia service as she _____ at the _____ honor with him part of the time – the precise time he served she cannot undertake to state.”

(p7) In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress dated June 7th 1832
State of North Carolina On this 25th day of October 1832

County of Rutherford

personally appeared in open court before

The judges of the court of pleas and quarter sessions of said county now setting (sic) John Ellison a resident of White Oak in said county aged seventy years or thereabout 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

That he entered the service in March ~~17xx~~ 1780 but cannot state the day of the month in Washington County Virginia in a Company of Militia infantry commanded by Capⁿ Sam^l Newell and Lieutenant John Jameison (does not recollect the name of the Ensign of any) and served one month in the same as a substitute in the place of John Funkhouser after the expiration of the month he enlisted for six months a volunteer with the above named Capⁿ Sam^l Newell- this was in the early part of the summer or late in the Spring of ~~17xx~~ 1780 but he cannot safely state a day but thinks it was in May - In the Fall following on hearing the news of Ferguson's Defeat the Company was discharged and as he thinks a few days before the expiration of the six months. In the Spring of 1781 he served one month in a Company commanded by Capⁿ Cone as a substitute for Lewis Fitts [Witts? No Washington County record of either]. He cannot conscientiously state the day or even the month in which he performed this last service, he is an illiterate man and never received any discharge and had no written or printed document to help his memory out – the whole of ↑his service was↓ done in and near Powell's Valley in Washington County Virginia near the big Spring and a part of the time in a fort called Hicks or Chrisman's Fort and in scouting in the country for thirty or forty miles round the fort to guard against inroads of the Indians who were then committing depredations on the frontiers. But in the time he served we never fell in with or had an

(p8) engagement with them – He never received a discharge from the service nor any pay for the six months service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and believes that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Interrogatories propounded by the court to the applicant:

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born

Answer – I was born in Pennsylvania I think in Lancaster County. I do not know the year.

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

Answer – I have no record of my age

3rd Where were you living when called into service – Where have you lived sine the Revolution and where do you now live?

Answer – I lived when called into service in Washington County Virginia – I now live in Rutherford County and have lived here for forty eight years.

4th How were you called into service- were you drafted – did you enter a volunteer or were you a substitute and if so for whom

Answer – This is as fully stated in my declaration as I could do it here

5th 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 – No other troops were associated with the company I belonged to during my term of service – I do not know that I can add anything to the account I have given of my service except that some parties of Indians were at times within sight of the fort we were in, and some shots exchanged but they kept at too great a distance for execution to be done

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from service- by whom was it given and what has become of it –

Answer – I never received any discharge from the service

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood and who can testify as to your character as a man

(p9) of veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution

Answer – I gave the names of the Reverend Joel Blackwell and of John Moore Postmaster at White Oak.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

John Ellison x his mark

We Joel Blackwell a minister of the Baptist Church and John Moore both living on White Oak Creek in the neighborhood of John Ellison who was sworn to and subscribed the above declaration do hereby certify that we believe him to be seventy years of age- that one of us has known him for over forty years and the other for above thirty – as to his military services are said to have been some many miles from here and before we were acquainted with him we have of course no knowledge thereof – but from his general character as a man of truth and integrity and our own personal knowledge of him we are injured (?) to believe that he performed the services stated in his declaration Sworn ↑to by Jno Mills & approved to by Joel Blackwell↓ and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

s/ Joel Blackwell

_____ T.F.Burchett clk

s/ John Moore

{routine county certification and seal by Jno Mills}

[p10] On the day and year aforesaid personally appeared William Henderson who being first duly sworn deposed and saith that when a boy about eleven or twelve years of age he lived in Washington County Virginia in the same house with John Ellison who has made and sworn to the forgoing declaration – that in the same year of Ferguson’s Defeat he thinks in the spring he knows of said Ellison being a month or more from home and that he understood he was at that time serving in a company of troops against the Indians- That about the same time he the said Ellison again entered as his deponent was told and believes for several months in the same service – and that he well remembers that he was about as the deponent thinks and believes for or about six months and the deponent farther saith that the said Ellison was again in the spring of the year following absent from home for some time and as the deponent understood in the same service and thought that the deponent never was at the fort where the said Ellison states he served or saw him in actual service as a soldier – yet he has never had any doubt but that the said Ellison _____ the services as stated in his declaration ____

Sworn and subscribed in open court

The 26th October 1832

Will Henderson x his mark

T.F. Burchett

Theodorick F. Burchett routine county certification

[Ed. Notes:

-Samuel Newell R7617 was at New River lead mines in 1780

-was not yet a captain, but was Lt under Col Arthur Campbell and deputy under Sheriff James Dysart patrolling the Kentucky Road and stationing militia between Black’s Fort (Abingdon) and Cuttaw (Cumberland Gap) during 1778 thru 1781.

-Newell did issue discharges

-tillable infantry were more difficult to track than tithable cavalry

- some of Newell's troops came from west of Blacks Fort to muster for Kings Mountain
- Col Arthur Campbell kept some few troops stationed at forts during Kings Mountain expedition
- the 30 to 40 mile range is consistent with Newell's forays into Kentucky County from Powell Valley.
- Captain Cone? William and Andrew Cowan were Washington County militia leaders after BKM.
- John Jameson was a militia Lieutenant (later thru the ranks to Lt Col) under Newell. He made no claim of muster for Kings Mountain.
- Washington County had two John Funkhowser's, Jr. and Sr., spelled in a variety of ways with -zer,- auser, and -ouser, apparently German of limited English understanding, did not do jury duty, failed to maintain road, did not join militia.
- There were Ellison's in old Botetourt County, but no land records in old Washington County. Homesteads in the West Virginia counties and remote (100 miles from home) mountainous SW VA were sold and traded without county records, especially by those with limited use of horses.
- Details are apparently distorted, but consistent with fact.]