

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Essig (Essick, Essix or Essex?) S8434 f16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/4/08 rev'd 1/2/15

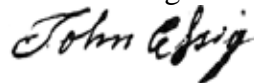
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Stokes County

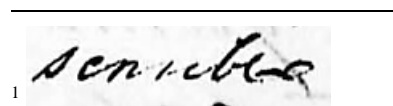
This 3 day of May A.D. 1833 came before me John C. Blum one of the Acting Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid John Essig and maketh oath that he is now about sixty-one years of age, that he is the son of Joseph Essig, aged about ninety-one years, -- That he always understood and believes that his Father was born in some part of Germany -- and came to this country and landed in Philadelphia in the year 1752 where he resided some years; he further understands and believes -- that his Father came to North Carolina when affiant was about two years, and after remaining some two or three years, his Father with his family moved to the State of Kentucky or to that part of the country now called Kentucky -- Affiant states that he was then very young not over five or six years of age but he recollects the circumstances of starting from home (Rowan County) -- He recollects that the County where they went to was a wild County -- and that while in that County he recollects there was war -- and that his Father done service in a Fort on Licking River as a militia man for at least nine months -- he recollects that a Captain Redde [? could be Reddl, Riddle?] commanded in the Fort [possibly a reference to Ruddle's Station] -- he recollects that his Father was frequently engaged out of the Fort on scouting parties -- although affiant was then young; he recollects he served in the Fort well -- as the family lived in the Fort with him -- and the service is particularly fresh in his memory for the circumstance that dead bodies were frequently brought in the Fort -- and is entirely [indecipherable word]<sup>1</sup> that these services was during the revolutionary war -- and that he is informed and believes that his Father's service was that of a spy -- six months -- of the tour at the least -- affiant further states that his Father finding times too troublesome in the back woods moved back with his family to Rowan County North Carolina -- that he served there during the revolutionary war some short time before the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] -- having remained in Kentucky not two years -- where affiant has lived ever since the greater part of the time in the County of Stokes -- Affiant further states that his father is very aged and infirm, poor & unable to work -- that affiant is poor as well as the other Brothers & Sisters.

Sworn to & subscribed before me.

S/ John Essig



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S/ John C. Blum, JP

State of North Carolina Davidson County

On this 14 day of August A.D. 1833 virtually appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of the County of Davidson Joseph Essig alias Essick or Essix a resident of said County of Davidson & State aforesaid aged ninety-one 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832, -- He states that he was born in Germany in the year 1742 -- that he has no record of his age -- that he landed in Philadelphia when very young -- as such as well as he can recollect in the year 1752 that he continued in Philadelphia or neighborhood until he got married: shortly after which he moved to North Carolina Davidson County then Rowan County, where he continued to reside until the Revolutionary War was commenced, that in the year 1777 or 1778 in the scout of a better country & better town [?] he removed to the part of the Western country now the State of Kentucky -- with his family -- and the family of his Brother in law Casper Brown, where he continued to reside two years -- that during his stay there, chiefly to protect the Country against the aggressions of the Indians, the militia was called out, or embodied, -- by order of the proper authority -- that he first volunteered in a Company commanded by Captain May under whom he served at least three months in excursions against the Indians -- That he afterwards volunteered under a Captain Reddle [?] for six months -- and assisted in building a Fort on Licking River where his company lay together with many of the neighbors who sought protection from the Indians -- that his company frequently spent [?] from the Fort in quest of the enemy, besides which he was sent frequently from the Fort on scouting parties a considerable time his service was that of spy -- that he served out his term and served in all nine months at least as a private -- first three months under Captain May and six months under Captain Redde, that the service was of the most dangerous & bloody character, that attacks were frequently made on the Fort by the Indians -- in an expedition his comrades frequently scalped before his eyes as it were -- from old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot precisely recollect the year in which this service was performed -- but thinks it was in the year 1778 or 1779 -- that he has no recollection of whether his company was attached to any Regiment -- nor does he recollect that he served with any regular troops he states that he was discharged by his Captain in writing which discharge he has lost, that he never received a Commission -- He states that finding times too troublesome in Kentucky after having resided there two years he moved back with his family to North Carolina to the County of Rowan where he has resided ever since -- that he returned to North Carolina some short time before the battle of Guilford -- much poorer than he went -- his little property having been chiefly plundered by the Indians, that he has continued to reside in the County of Rowan ever since -- Affiant further states that he left his brother in law Casper Brown & his sister in law in Kentucky to act [?] in the Fort afterward they being too poor, having been plundered of everything, to return -- that shortly after he left Kentucky he understood and believes said Fort was taken by the British & Indians and his relations and perhaps others carried as prisoners to Fort Detroit, where they have continued to reside ever since --

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except the appended affidavit of his son John to which affiant begs leave to refer.

He relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

He states that in his neighborhood he is known to John Delapp [?] & John Beck who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 14 day 1833

S/ David Mock, CCC

S/ Joseph Essig, X his mark

[John Delapp & John Beck gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as an Indian spy in the North Carolina militia for 9 months.]