Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Isham Bobbitt (Bobbett) W24709 Elizabeth fn70NC Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 9/16/10

[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.]

State of Illinois, County of Morgan

On this third day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before James Green, William Gillham, and William Woods, the Court of Commissioners of said County now sitting Isham Bobbet, a resident of the County of Morgan and State of Illinois aged 78 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.

That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the County of Warren, North Carolina about the first of February 1780. He then being a resident of that county that he was mustered into service at that time under the command of Captain Christmus [sic, probably Richard Christmas] and marched to Halifax where we were met by Colonel Allen who took the command of the Regiment to which our Company was attached and he marched us to Tarborough [Tarboro] and thence to Cross Creek and Camden thence to Nelson's Ferry near Moncks Corner thirty miles from Charleston. In a few days, the British Troops took Charleston and then we were marched back to Camden in Company with Colonel Bluford [sic, probably Abraham Buford of the Virginia line] of the Regular Army at which place we parted from him and marched under the command of General Caswell to Fayetteville and continued stationed there until the last of June or first of July at which time we were discharged by order of General Caswell. I was first Sergeant during the whole of this campaign.

I then went and worked a three month tour with Colonel Long, a Quarter Master General as a Saddler making and repairing wagon gearing for the Army wagons. Some time in January 1781 Cornwallis was pursuing General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], he then turned out a volunteer under Captain George Nasworthy, Colonel Williams commanded our Regiment and General Eaton commanded the Brigade. We joined the Army under the command of General Greene near Hillsborough [Hillsboro] and marched to Guilford Courthouse where an engagement was had with Cornwallis Army; after a few days rest we pursued him to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River where some more fighting took place after which our Captain was taken sick and returned home. General Greene

then turned his course to South Carolina and called for volunteers and I turned out under Captain Harris and Colonel Reed about the first of April 1781 and served three months under those officers from the first day of April until the first of July when I was discharged and returned home.

About the middle of September I volunteered as a Forage Master under Captain Twitty and served in the Light Horse Company and found my own horse. I continued in that service three months having been discharged about the middle of December of the same year under Captain Twitty, I marched from Warrenton into the State of Virginia and pursued Cornwallis to Little York and after the surrender of his army we returned to North Carolina and marched down near to Wilmington as a life guard to General Governor Martin and then we returned to Harrisburg where we were discharged by order of Governor Martin and returned home to Warren County, North Carolina.

My time of service in the first trip was 5 months. The second tour as saddler three months, the third under Nasworthy two months, the fourth under Harris and Colonel Reed was three months, and the last under Captain Twitty three months, working in all sixteen months that I was engaged in the service of the United States. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Isham Bobbitt

[William McCord, a clergyman, Dudley Brannon and William Bobbitt all residents of Morgan County gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Than Boblist

[fn p. 29]

State of Illinois Morgan County: SS

Isham Bobbitt a resident of said County being sworn before the undersigned a Justice of the peace within and for the County aforesaid, deposeth and saith, that on the 3rd day of September 1832 he made a declaration before the County Commissioners Court of Morgan County, for the purpose of obtaining a pension from the United States under the provisions of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, and he now states in addition to the statement then made, that he was born on the 3rd day of May 1754 in what was then called Granville County North Carolina, the County was subsequently divided and a new County organized called Warren which included the residence of the deponent. He has a record of his age in his possession, which was made by his father in the family Bible, and the same Bible is now owned & possessed by the deponent.

This deponent resided in Warren County North Carolina until the year 1782 and served as a resident of that County on every expedition in which he was engaged.

In 1782 he removed to Guilford County North Carolina, resided there about 7 years, then removed to Spartanburg County South Carolina, resided there 14 years, then removed to Christian County Kentucky and resided there in 1803, resided there until the spring of the year 1827 when he removed to Morgan County Illinois, where he now resides, He received written discharges for every Tour of duty which he performed, signed by the captains under whom he served, respectively, except for the service

rendered under Captain Twitty, the discharges are lost; when he removed to Spartanburg, he left his discharges with a number of other papers in a box at the House of William Jain in Guilford, when he returned 5 years afterwards to obtain his box of papers, he found that the papers had been destroyed, and he had not only lost his discharges but lost about \$2000 of Continental money.

He states that he was appointed forage master and served as stated in his declaration, the appointment was made by General Thomas Eaton of the North Carolina militia, but the appointment was lost with the discharges. He is now unable to prove that he was appointed or served as such.

He is personally known to Joseph M Fairfield, Dudley Brannon, John Chrisman, Samuel P Jones and Moses Carelock, and John P Wilkinson, all of whom reside in the neighborhood of the deponent and can testify as to his character. He is also known to William McCord, a clergyman who has already testified upon this subject, and William Bobbitt.

This deponent has stated the circumstances of his service according to the best of his recollections, and he believes truly.

Subscribed and sworn to before made this 2nd day of February 1833 S/ Geo. Rearick, JP S/ Isham Bobbitt

[fn p. 16: on July 10, 1840 in Morgan County Illinois, Elizabeth Bobbitt, 84, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Isham Bobbitt late of Morgan County Illinois, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married her husband on or about the 13th day of October 1774 about 25 miles from Halifax in the State of North Carolina; that her husband departed this life in Morgan County Illinois in March 1836.]

[fn p. 8: On November 27, 1840, in Pike County Illinois, Stephen Bobbitt gave testimony that he is the son of Elizabeth Bobbitt of Morgan County Illinois, the widow of Isham Bobbitt, his father; that he, Stephen, was born November 21, 1779 and that he had 2 brothers and one sister older than himself whose names were William, Winney and Allen; that William and Allen are now dead; Winney is supposed to be living in the State of Alabama; that the names of all of children of Isham and Elizabeth Bobbitt were entered in the family Bible and those names were as follows: William, Allen, Winney, Stephen (the deponent), John, Amos, Fanny, Betsey, Isham, Salley and Nancy; that from information from one of his brothers in law, the Bible has been entirely destroyed and there is no record or register of the names and birth of the children of his parents.]

[Facts in file: John Chrisman, a son-in-law of the veteran, was living in Morgan County Illinois in 1841; the name of his wife is not given; the veteran is said to have died on March 25, 1836; enlisting the children of the veteran and his wife, the list is the same as set forth in the affidavit of Stephen Bobbitt above except that there is no Amos listed but another daughter by the name of Anny (or Anna) is identified by the person who abstracted the information in the file for the war Department.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$47.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 3 months service as a private in the Infantry; 3 months service as a private in the Cavalry; and 5 months service as a Sergeant in the North Carolina militia.]