

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elijah Taylor <sup>1</sup> W25471

Martha Taylor

f47NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 2/19/17

[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.]

[p 5]

The State of Alabama, Limestone County

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of the County of aforesaid, now sitting, Elijah Taylor, a resident of the said County of Limestone, aged Eighty-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 Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832-- That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – That in the latter part of the year 1779 (he cannot now specify the month) he Joined the militia of the State of North Carolina as a Volunteer for the Term of three months, that he Joined the Company commanded by Captain Richard Graham, that he was marched by said Captain from Rowan County State of North Carolina (the place of his residence when he Joined said troops) to Charlotte, in Mecklenburg County in said State where he Joined the Regiment under the command of Colonel Hammright [sic, Lt. Col. Frederick Hambright], under whom he was marched to Camden State of South Carolina & from thence marched to Charleston, where he was stationed & served under the Command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] in erecting the fortifications at that place then expecting an attack from the enemy, That he served in this campaign, as a private militia man in the infantry four months being detained in Charleston to work on the fortifications one month longer than the Term for which he volunteered as aforesaid. That he was discharged from said service, as well as he recollects, about the 1<sup>st</sup> April 1780, but received no written discharge. That he cannot now recollect the name of any of the regular officers whom he saw & knew while on this service but that of General Lincoln. That a very short time after his return from said campaign, he again Joined said militia as a Volunteer & Joined the Company commanded by Captain William Nash in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaacs & was under the immediate command of General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], that before he Joined the troops under Rutherford he was engaged in a skirmish under Captain Gaby Falls [sic, Galbraith Falls], with the Tories at Ramsour's Mills [June 20, 1780] in Lincoln County North Carolina from whence he was marched to South Carolina & Joined the Army under General Gates [Horatio Gates] under whom he was marched & fought at the battle & was taken prisoner at Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780] – that he remained a prisoner with the British 29 days & then effected his escape. That he served on this campaign as a private in the infantry including the time he was prisoner, something more than three months the Term for which he volunteered. That in the campaign he saw & knew the Baron DeKalb & General Gates of the regular Army. Then again, in the year 1781, he cannot recollect the month, he Joined said militia as a Volunteer for the term of three months & Joined the company commanded by Captain Simmons [Richard Simmons] in

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt35688-160-55

the Regiment commanded by Colonel Smith [Robert Smith] & in the Battalion commanded by Major Graham [probably Joseph Graham] in said Regiment & in the Brigade under General Rutherford, that they rendezvoused at Salisbury, & were marched under General Rutherford to Wilmington North Carolina & from thence back to Salisbury, where he was stationed until he had served out his said term of three months as a private footmen -- & received a discharge signed by said Major Graham which was the only one he ever received which he has long since lost. That he was born near New Bern in North Carolina as he believes on the 8<sup>th</sup> May 1754 as he has often heard his father say, but has no record of his age. That after the revolutionary war he removed to Lincoln County North Carolina & from thence moved to Madison County State of Alabama in 1809 & from thence to Limestone County aforesaid in 1818 where he has resided ever since & still resides. That he has no documentary proof of his said service & knows of no person but William Bodenhammer whose affidavit he has procured by whom he can prove his said services. That he made a Declaration in open Court, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of October 1832 in order to obtain a pension & had the same transmitted to the War Department, but that the same was returned rejected as he supposes for want of evidence or some informality. He has since found that the said William Bodenhamer was alive & procured his testimony. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He can prove his character by John Faver, Jr. & Jeffrey Murrell.

Test S/ Robert Austin, Jr., Clk

S/ Elijah Taylor, M his mark

[John Faver, Jr., a clergyman, and Jeffrey Murrell, a neighbor, or give the standard certificate of reputation for veracity, age and believed in the neighborhood of service as a revolutionary soldier.]

[p 22]

State of Tennessee, Giles County

This day being the 20<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year of our Lord 1834, personally appeared before me Nathaniel G. Nye an acting Justice of the peace for said County, William Bodenhamer<sup>2</sup> a citizen of said County, aged 74 years since October last, who being first duly sworn according to law, upon his oath made the following statement.

That he was himself a soldier of the revolution – a Militia man in the Service of the United States of America in said war. That he entered the said service in Rowan County in the State of North Carolina as a volunteer under the immediate command of Captain William Bell in Colonel Hamwright's [sic, Frederick Hambright's] Regiment under the command of General Lincoln. He and the troops to which he belonged rendezvoused at Charlotte, Mecklenburg County in said State of North Carolina. He was then marched out of the State of North Carolina and into the State of South Carolina, as far as Camden, where he was appointed Corporal and was very shortly afterwards promoted to the office of Orderly Sergeant in the above company. From Camden he was marched to Charleston where he was engaged for some two or three months in fortifying the town against the enemy. This service lasted four months he having been in said service one month before he left North Carolina and three months in South Carolina. And he further states on his oath as aforesaid that Elijah Taylor, now a citizen of Limestone County State of Alabama was at the same time engaged with affiant in the said service as a volunteer private militia man, and in the same Regiment with him, but under the immediate command of Captain Graham; and that the said Taylor entered the said service at the same time that affiant did and in the aforesaid County of Rowan and completed the said term of four months service above alluded to. Affiant further states that he and the said Elijah Taylor again entered the Militia

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<sup>2</sup> I could find no federal pension application for this veteran.

Service of the United States in the said County of Rowan in the Regiment of Colonel Isaacks [sic, Elijah Isaacs? of Wilkes County]. This affiant was under the immediate command of John Johnson [John Johnston? of Rowan County], who acted both as Major and Captain during this term of service; and that said Taylor was also engaged in this service under the immediate command of Captain William Nash, General Rutherford commanded the troops to which they were attached. This service lasted three months, during which the said Taylor as affiant is informed and believes was in the battle at Ramsour's [Mill] and also at Gates defeat, at which latter engagement said Taylor was taken prisoner and detained some time as such by the British. In the year 1781 affiant again volunteered and entered the militia service of the United States, under the command of Captain Lops [probably Capt. John Lopp] in whose company he served as Lieutenant in this service, in Major Joseph Graham's Battalion, Colonel Smith's Regiment and General Rutherford's Brigade. This term of service lasted three months. Affiant further states that the said Taylor was actively engaged in this Service as a private militia man, during the whole of said last mentioned term in the company of Captain Simmons – during all of which said several terms of service, this affiant was well acquainted with the said Taylor and knows that the said Taylor performed the same as above set forth; and that he believes the said Taylor to be at this time about the age of 80 or 81 years, and further he is unable to State.

S/ W. Bodenhamer<sup>3</sup>

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'W. Bodenhamer', written over a horizontal line. The signature is somewhat stylized and cursive.

[p 20: Finding of the court of Limestone County Alabama on May 4, 1836 that satisfactory evidence had been produced in court that Martha Taylor was the wife of Elijah Taylor at the time of his death (exact date not stated) and is now his widow; that Elijah Taylor is the identical person who was receiving a pension as a revolutionary war soldier at the rate of \$33.33 per annum.]

[p 18: On November 19, 1853 in Madison County Alabama, Martha Taylor aged about 75 filed for a widow's pension as the widow of Elijah Taylor, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Burke County North Carolina about the year 1806 (she having no record of her marriage); that they were married by a Mr. Martin; that her name prior to her marriage was Martha Jones; that her husband died in Limestone County Alabama December 19, 1836 and that she remains his widow. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 12: On June 18, 1855 in Jackson County Alabama, Martha Taylor, aged about 77 years a resident of said Jackson County filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Elijah Taylor; that she married him in Burke County North Carolina about the year 1809; that her name prior to her marriage was Martha Jones; that they were married by one \_\_ Martin, JP; that her husband died in Limestone County Alabama about December 19<sup>th</sup>, 1837 or 1838; and that she remains a widow. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 10 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

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<sup>3</sup> This man's name is surname is spelled "Bodenheimer" in a number of federal pension applications.