

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Jacobs W2805 Eliza Jacobs PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Fold3.com has the first two items below under the supposed name "Null Jacobs."]

To the Hon the Senate & House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Penna in General Assembly met

The Petition of Eliza Jacobs widow of John Jacobs late of Hanover Luzerne County dec'd Respectfully sheweth that she was married to her said Husband in the year AD 1771 and that he was wounded in the breast in the Wyoming Massacre [near present Wilkes-Barre PA, 3-4 Jul 1778], that she is now ninety three years of age, and is poor & stands in need of the assistance of her country for support she therefore prays your Honorable Bodies to grant her such releif as is usually granted to widows of Revolutionary Soldiers & as in duty will ever pray
Nov 1834/ Witness present Eliza herXmark Jacobs

Personally appeared before the Subscriber one of the Justices of the peace in and for the County of Luzerne Nicholas Davis [pension application R2704] who on his Solem Oath Says that he was well acquainted with John Jacobs and that the said Jacobs served four months in the Pennsylvania troops in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty in the regular service that the year wallowing [sic] in 1781 he served in the New Jersey troops Nine months the deponant further states that he the said Jacobs was a Marrid man at the above stated time that he continued to live with the same wife untill his death which was in March 1831 that his widow is still living and her first or given name is Eliza and further sath not [19 Jan 1835] Nicholas ND [his mark] Davis

State of Pennsylvania
Luzerne County Ss

On this twenty ninth day of June AD 1842 personally appeared in open Court John Jacobs, a resident of Exeter township Luzerne County, & state aforesaid, aged Sixty Eight years or thereabouts, & who was appointed by this Court among others to make a Declaration for Mrs Eliza Jacobs, 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 July 7 [1838], entitled "An Act granting half pay & pensions to certain widdows for his mother Mrs Eliza Jacobs – That she is the widdow of John Jacobs declarants Father and that he has heard his father say that he was in the Revolutionary Army during the whole war as a malitia man [see endnote], but does not know what state line he served in, that he was drafted. That he served in the Army & was in the battle of Sullivans island, that Genl Lee, Genl Moultrie & Govnur Rutledge Commanded [Sullivans Island SC, 28 Jun 1776; Gen. Charles Lee, Col. (later Gen.) William Moultrie, Gov. John Rutledge; see endnote], that he has very often heard his deceased father speak of his being in this engagement; that he has no recollection of hearing his father speak particularly of any other engagement but he has heard him say that he was in many skirmishes with the enemy That he does not remember the names of the officers under whom his Father served, nor the time of his entering the service – but he uniformly stated the tour of his service to have been during the whole war. That he was in the massacre of Wyoming, & that his mother escaped to Fort Allen, where his Father joined them after the battle, and this declarant who was then about four years old well remembers to have seen a ball extracted from his fathers breast by a Surgeon, & which his father kept for many years; his father stated to him that he received it in the battle, that it struck his musket while he was in the act of priming it, & shivered the musket & glancing lodged in his breast; that he was with Sullivan when he marched into the valley of Wyoming with his Army [Gen. John Sullivan, 23 Jun 1779]. that he remembers that many years since his father prepared & took evidence of his seVICES for the purpose of getting a pension, & that

Solomon Dorten was one of his witnesses; but that his father gave it up as he understood because of his having some property which would debar him; that he has searched his fathers papers but cannot find them; That he has conversed with said Doten since that time, who told him that in the said application he had proved his services in the Revolutionary Army of this declarants Father, and that the said Dorten he thinks died before his Mother made application to the Pennsylvania Legislature for her pension. That he remembers to have heard his Father say that he performed services in the Army, in New Jersey, on the Delaware river & on the Minisink [upper Delaware River], And that he was in the lines during the whole war. And that this deponent does not know of any documentary evidence in the possession of his Mother or the family in support of the claim, That his Father died on the 15 of March 1831 leaving no property real or personal after the payment of his funeral expenses. And that his Mother has never been married to any person since. That his father has told him often he was a private Soldier. That the said Eliza Jacobs his mother now resides in Newport, in said County, that previous thereto she resided in Hanover in said County.

That he has known his Mothers age for a long number of years, and that as near as he can ascertain the day of month it was the 15th of June, and that on the 15 of the present month she was one hundred and four years old. And that she is unable to make the Declaration required, owing to Deafness and an entire prostration of her mental faculties, and loss of memory.

That declarants, & Solomon Duten have both told him that at one time they were in the same camp together when in the revolutionary army.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court 29 June 1842

[signed] John Jacobs

Luzerne County
Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania

 Daniel Turner a resident of Exeter in said County Aged fifty eight years or thereabouts, being first duly sworn, saith that he knew John Jacobs & his wife Eliza for a great many years, that they lived together as man & wife until the time of his death. That he has had a great many conversations with Mr Jacobs in his life time when this deponent was a young man & resided near them and that he has heard him frequently state that he was in the Army during the whole revolutionary war, has heard him state many times of the times he was in engagements & battles, but it is impossible for him to state what battles he was in; That he has frequently conversed with Col. Nathan Denison who acted as Col in the battle of Wyoming at the time of the Wyoming Massacer, (and whose daughter this deponent married) and that Col Denison told this deponent that after the battle and defeat of the Wyoming troops he was on horseback and retreating from the field of battle, that the applicants husband John Jacobs came out of the brush wounded and worn down & seized his horse by the main or tail, that he could not get rid off Jacobs and at last determine to save him – and he carried him down to the fort, and by that means saved his life – this statement he has heard Col Denison often make. That the said Jacobs always had the name of being a revolutionary soldier among those who knew him and this deponent very beleives that he was & that he was a man of truth and veracity and his statements entitled to credit.

That he died some 9 or 10 years since. That he has frequently seen his widow since and that she has not been since married to any person; that she is a woman of great age, her mind very much decayed and memory gone so much as to unfit her for any connected statement – that she is very deaf & nearly sightless

Sworn & subscribed in open Court June 29 1842

[signed] Daniel Turner

Luzerne County
Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania

 James Dilley a resident of Hanover in said County aged fifty years & upwards being duly sworn according to Law doth depose & say that he was well acquainted with John Jacobs who died about Eleven years ago last March that he lived with the applicant Mrs Eliza Jacobs, and they

lived & cohabited together as man & wife, & were so reputed & taken to be among the citizens of said Hanover – and that the said Eliza Jacobs lived in his family from sometime in September last untill about 2 weeks since – and he has known for near twenty years something near what her reputed age is, and he beleives her to be one hundred and three years or there abouts that she is very aged indeed – that her mind is greatly impaired. She has no connected recollection, can remember some disconnected circumstances. She is very deaf, and has but one eye, the sight of which is allmost gone – her mind is so far gone as to unfit her for giving any connected history of her life at all – and so deaf that it would be impossible to make her understand any subject that a person might wish to attract her attention.

The deponent cannot speak of the services of the said applicants husband, has heard him speak of haing been in the Wyoming Battle and also of being employed at one time in the Army to drive baggage waggons from somewhere on the North River toward Philadelphia. That he has known Mrs Eliza Jacobs ever since the death of her husband that she has visited in his family ever since and that she has not since been married to any person.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court this 29 of June 1842 [signed] James Dilley

NOTE: John Jacobs is said to have been a militiaman, in which case he would have served tours of only a few months each, but elsewhere it is stated that he served throughout the war. At the Battle of Sullivans Island the troops were Continentals and Militiamen from North and South Carolina and Continentals from Virginia.