

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Elliott W3404                      Elizabeth Elliott                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 8 Jan 2014.

Virginia

At a Superior court of law continued and held for Montgomery county on the 10th day of April 1827

On this 10th day of April 1827 personally appeared in open court, being a court of record for the county of Montgomery aforesaid, Robert Elliott a resident in said county aged about eighty nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820. That he the said Robert Elliott was in the year 1777, (probably early in that year) commissioned as Lieutenant in the twelfth Virginia regiment commanded by Colo James Wood, on continental establishment and served in the company commanded by Capt. Rowland Madison that he continued to serve as Lieutenant in the said 12th regiment until sometime in the latter part of the year 1780, at which last mentioned period, the term of three years for which he had engaged to serve in the capacity aforesaid expired, and he stood regularly discharged from the service (he further stated for explanation that he understood that the whole of the above mentioned regiment, officers as well as privates had engaged to serve only for the term of three years) he further declared that he was in the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], and many skirmishes of minor character, that he has no other evidence of his said service, having incautiously given up his commission as Lieutenant to a certain James Taylor to whom, he had sold his claim to his bounty lands, and who resides as he is informed in the state of Kentucky at a great distance from the residence of him the said Elliott. And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not by gift sale or in any manner since that time, disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or security contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. Schedule of the whole estate both real and personal of Robert Elliott. A tract of mountain land supposed to contain 150 acres worth Two hundred & fifty dollars. – One horse beast (very old & inferior) worth Ten dollars. five head of neat cattle worth twenty five dollars, some household furniture corresponding in quality with my humble circumstances, and some farming utensils worth very little say about Twenty dollars. My family at home consists of myself and an aged wife  
Robert Elliott

Virginia                      At a Court held for the County of Montgomery the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June 1827

It is ordered to be certified to the war department of the united states that Robert Elliott who made his declaration before the Superior Court of law for this (Montgomery) County on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of April 1827 in order to obtain from the united states a pension for his servises rendered in the war of the revolution as a Lieutenant, appeared in open Court the same being a Court of record, and upon his oath stated, that the reasons why he did not make an earlier application for his pension was, because a sense of pride forbid him until his necessities became too urgent to be resisted, he felt that the pride of having been a soldier was in some measure debased by stooping to ask such a favour, and for a long time he cherished the hope that he would be able to rub along without beging this bounty, his wants now compel him to ask this assistance, he further stated under oath that on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of march 1818 he was in possession of the following property which now is not in his possession, towit, one hundred acres of land sold to one David Willis for one hundred dollars fifteen head of horned cattle, and two head of horses

sold by the Sheriff under execution for less than fifty dollars, the hundred acres of land above mentioned as well as the cattle were sold in order to raise money to satisfy an execution in favour of a certain William B. Charlton against this affiant issuing from a Judgment of the County Court of Montgomery for the sum of one hundred and seventy seven dollars and eighty eight cents with interest from the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 1820 and costs \$8.36 cents rendered on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 1820, the claim of the said Charlton, on which said Judgment was rendered, originated thus, this affiant sold a bond to the said Charlton in which a certain Andrew Lewis was obliged on which this affiant thought there was a balance due of about \$— he having forgotten a receipt said Lewis held against it, this bond was afterwards sold by said Charlton to a certain George Backus who instituted suit thereon against the said Lewis and the receipt above referred to being produced in the trial he said Backus was nonsuited afterwards the said Backus brought his suit against the said Charlton as the assignor of the said bond and recovered judgment against him, after this the said Charlton brought suit in like manner against this affiant and recovered Judgment for the sum of one hundred and seventy seven dollars & eighty eight cents Interest from the 12<sup>th</sup> day September 1820 and costs \$8.36 to satisfy the execution issuing from this Judgment the proceeds of the sale of the one hundred acres of land and the fifteen head of Cattle two horses & saddle were applied. Had it not been for this affair it is probable this affiant would have scuffled on, though in want, without ever making this application. This affiant stated that the foregoing statement contained a fair account of all the material changes in the property of this affiant which have taken place since the 18<sup>th</sup> march 1818 there may have been and probably were some casual & unimportant alterations which he does not now remember, he has from time to time as well as he could lived upon his property and such changes have taken place in it, as are naturally incident to such things. It is further ordered to be certified by the court as their opinion that the property exhibited in the schedule of Robert Elliott is not worth more at any fair sale than three hundred dollars, and they doubt its sufficiency to avail that amount. [The remainder of the court order not transcribed here.]

State of Virginia,

County of Montgomery, Sc.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress entitled “An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the army of the revolution,” approved on the 15th of May 1828.

I, Robert Elliott aged ninety two years of the Post Office of Christiansburg in the County of Montgomery in the State of Virginia do hereby declare,

That, in the year seventeen hundred and seventy five, late in the year, I began to recruit in the commission of Lieutenant, and recruited more than my quota of men and was in command under Captain Roland Madison and was marched to join the main army in N. Jersey and was attached to the 12th Virginia Regiment Commanded by Colonel James Wood.

That I continued in service under the same Captain until he resigned. That I was out on a recruiting commission when this resignation occurred about the year 1778 or 1779, and when I rejoined my Company, and found the Captain had left it, the Command devolved upon me and I continued to exercise it, though without a commission, until I was by the shattered condition of our regiment left without command in the character of supernumerary.

That my Commission and the papers showing my arrangement as supernumerary were put into the hands of James Taylor, with a declaration from him upon his honour, that he would return them to me after he had secured my bounty land which I sold to him and gave him these papers to enable him to obtain it, which he did do, and for which he paid me; but neglected to return my commission and papers.

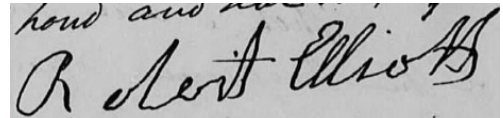
That they these vouchers cannot be obtained to support my claim. But that in lieu of them, the enclosed Certificate from the Register of the land office that I have been returned as an officer for the war, and that my warrant did issue to the said James Taylor and that no other land warrant has ever issued for the services of any other officer of my name, will doubly satisfy the Secretary of war that I am entitled to the provisions of the act of Congress of the 15th of May 1828.

That I am now on the Pension Roll of the Virginia agency and have received twenty dollars per

month under the acts of March 1818 and May 1820, but for how long past I misremember. But that I have been a resident of this county about sixty years last past, and of my own little premises on a creek called after me, Elliott's creek [Elliott Creek], which was a wilderness, and which removed me so far from the scenes of busy life that I never remember of receiving or of learning from the Commutation Certificates said to be promised by Congress.

That my memory is imperfect and I do not remember of drawing more than three drafts, drawing my pension yearly instead of half yearly, from the Richmond agent. But of this the disbursing officer can satisfy himself and remit to me the balance after deducting the money I have drawn on the other score.

Given under my hand and seal this 24th of September 1832

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Elliott". Above the signature, there is some faint, partially legible text that includes the words "how and".

[The following are from [bounty warrant records in the Library of Virginia](#).]

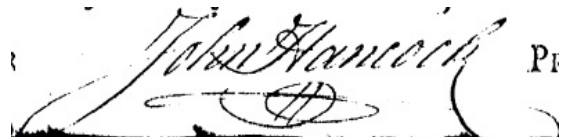
IN CONGRESS.

The DELEGATES of the UNITED STATES of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia, TO Robert Elliot Gentleman

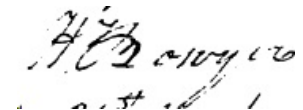
WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be a Second Lieutenant in the 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment from the State of Virginia in the Army of the United States raised for the Defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of Second Lieutenant by doing and performing all manner of Things thereto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as Second Lieutenant

And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed, or Commander in Chief, for the Time being, of the Army of the United States, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Dicipline of War, in Pursuance of the Trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in Force until revoked by this or a future Congress. DATED at The Twentieth day of March 1777 seventy seven. By Order of the CONGRESS,

Attest. Chas Thomson Sec'y  
John Hancock PRESIDENT

A large, ornate handwritten signature in cursive script, clearly identifying "John Hancock". To the right of the signature, the letters "P" and "I" are visible, likely part of the word "President".

I Henry Bowyer [pension application W5859] formerly a Lieutenant in the 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment do hereby certify that Robert Elliott was appointed in 1776 a 2<sup>d</sup> Lieutenant in the s<sup>d</sup>. Regiment, and continued therein until he was deranged, or became a supernumery officer I believe in the year 1778 21<sup>st</sup> March 1805

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "H. Bowyer".

I do Certify that Robert Elliott was appointed an Officer in the Virginia Continental line early in the year 1777 and became a supernumerary before the close of the War but was considered in service till the close of the War. Given under my hand & seal as a Major of the 7<sup>th</sup> Reg't. Virg'a. Cont line this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July 1805      Joseph Crockett  
[Certified copy]

Colo. Henry Bowyer Genl Wood Colo Joseph Crockett [S46377] all know my services. I was deranged a Supernumary in Jersey I think at a Town called New Brunswick and recev'd. recruiting orders. I never resigned my commission I always considered my self in service til the close of the being always ready to join my Reg't at a moments Warning. Any of the above Gentlement will particularly oblige an old officer by giving Major Taylor the necessary certificate to enable him to draw my land having [illegible word] obtained it Montgomery county 20<sup>th</sup> aut 1805

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robt. Elliott". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

Warrant issued for 2666 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres/ Wm. Price Reg'r

NOTES:

A document dated 26 June 1827 indicates that on 20 Jan 1821 the Sheriff sold the following property of Robert Elliott to satisfy a debt: 15 head of cattle, two horses, a small quantity of corn, and a saddle.

On 1 April 1839 in Montgomery County Elizabeth Elliott, about 66 years old, stated that on 20 June 1790 in (she thought) Botetourt County VA she married Robert Elliott, who died 3 Jan 1838. Her bounty land claim dated 10 July 1855 gives her maiden name as Elizabeth Childers.