

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Abednego Earp: W3529 by Mary Lou Arp Hamilton 5/1/2006.

State of North Carolina , County of Wilkes

On the 13th day of October, 1834 personally appeared before me, the subscriber, an acting justice of the peace in and for the county, aforesaid, Abednego Earp, a resident of the county and state aforesaid, aged seventy one years, who first being duly sworn according to law, wherein on oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress dated June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officer, and served as wherein stated about the month of January or February 1780 then, declarant volunteered his services for twelve months and joined the company of militia commanded by Captain Thomas Smith at Alexandria in the District of Columbia (the name of the company officer not recollected) after remaining at Alexandria for some months performing duty at that station, the troops that were there were ordered to the South, when this declarant marched under Captain Smith aforesaid in conjunction with several other companies, the names of the commanders are not recollected. When they had preceded as far as Richmond in Virginia they were joined by some other troops and the whole took up the line of march southwardly- having advanced to Hillsborough in North Carolina, they there joined the main Army under General Gates which had rendezvoused at that place after the battle of Camden where General Gates was defeated. After remaining at Hillsborough for a few days reorganizing the army they set out upon their march to South Carolina, When having reached Charlotte at Hundred Mile Creek was near that place in the southern border of North Carolina the command of the Army was transferred to General Greene- soon after the command was transferred to General Green the army was divided- a portion of it was placed under Col Daniel Morgan and dispatched toward the North western or upper parts of South Carolina while the main body under General Green marched toward the eastern part of the state and was stationed some time on the Pedee River near Cheraw Hill - During the time that the army remained near Charlotte this declarant with others was detailed and placed under the command of Capt John Lee and posted at the old trading ford on the Catawba River to guard against the passage of detachments of the British army which at that time lay at Winnsboro only 40 miles distant and also to give notice to General Green of any attempt which might be made to cross the river- After the army under General Green had marched toward the Pedee there being no further necessity for the out post to which the declarant was attached. Capt Lee who took up the line of march in pursuit of the main army and regiment near the Pedee as aforesaid-- when the main army took up the line of march from the Pedee they proceeded toward Guilford Courthouse, but before reaching that place the declarant was taken sick and his term of service (... twelve months) having then already expired near a month he received his discharge from Capt Smith near Guilford School house and as soon as he was able to travel proceeded for home which place he reached some time in April 1781- This declarant further states that he performed several short tours of duty at Alexandria, before he entered for twelve months as above detailed but not being able to recollect the length of time occupied in each nor the aggregate of the whole, he forbears to set up any claim

on that account- He has no documentary evidence to prove his service nor does he know any person living whose testimony he could procure who can testify to it- This declarant was born in the county of Fairfax in the state of Virginia, and according to the best information he can procure in the year 1763, but has no record of his age, nor never had- he lived in the county of Fairfax, Va. when he entered the service of the United States- Since the close of the Revolutionary War he has lived partly at the same place, partly in Pittsylvania county, Va. and + Wilkes county, North Carolina where he now lives- this declarant performed his twelve month tour as aforementioned, as a volunteer, but the other small tours spoken of were performed under the requisition of a draft- the entire interrogatory is contained in the body of the declaration as near as this declarant can now recollect, his faculties being somewhat impaired this declarant further states that he received a discharge from the service near Guilford courthouse as before stated, which he believes was signed by Capt Thomas Smith, but cannot tell what has become of it, as he gave it to his mother immediately after his return from the army. He refers to the Rev John Matuey and Col Benjamin H. Breun as persons to whom he is well known in his personal neighborhood, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution - 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 of any state.

Sworn to, and subscribed the day + year aforesaid

John A Scott

AbednegoX Earp

*Transcribed by Mary Lou Arp-Hamilton
May 1, 2006*

Addenda to Abednego Earp W3529

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 25 Jan 2014.

State of North Carolina }

Wilkes County }

Abednego Earp in this amended Declaration solemnly swears That the Troops he served with as stated in his original Declaration were State troops of Virginia and not militias, as erroneously stated in his Declaration and that the mistake was accidentally made by the Gentleman who drew his original Declaration – and that the facts set forth in the original Declaration upon reviewing them are just and true to the best of his knowledge – he prays that this be taken as an amendment to his original Declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 5th day of May 1835

Abednego hisXmark Earp

NOTES:

Command of the Southern Army transferred from Gen. Horatio Gates to Gen. Nathanael Green on 3 Dec 1780.

On 21 Feb 1853 Susanah Earp, 69, applied for a pension stating that she married Abednego Earp on 3 Sep 1828, and he died 17 Dec 1844. The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 3 Sep 1828 by Abednego Earp and William S. Kilby for the marriage of Earp to Susanah Montgomery. On 1 Aug 1853 Susanah Earp stated that the date of her husband's death was 16 Dec 1844.