

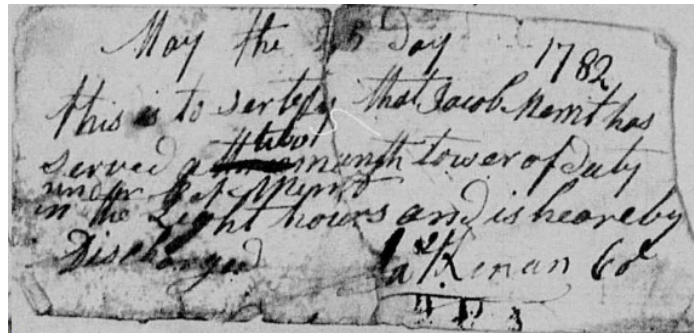
inconvenience and danger to her health. She further maketh oath that the family Record of her children's ages hereunto annexed has been in the possession of her husband and herself for many years previous to his death and in her possession ever since, that the same is genuine except that Elizabeth's age ought to have been in December 1783 instead of 1784 and in the hand writing of her deceased husband That she has not intermarried since the death of her said husband Jacob Merritt but continues his widow.

A In explanation of the time of their marriage and as to its not being prior to his leaving the service she declares on her oath that her husband the said Jacob Merritt after their marriage served short tours of duty for a week, a fortnight or three weeks at a time from the fall of their marriage until the next Spring that is the spring of 1783 with his horse in excursions against the Tories before peace was perfectly restored and the excitement had subsided, whether military service or not she cannot say. She further declares on oath that she believes her husband served considerably more than is stated in this her declaration and the affidavits hereunto sent – amounting to as much as two years at least but is unable to make any further proofs within her knowledge
Jane herXmark Merritt

May the 25 day 1782

this is to sertefy that Jacob Merrit has served a two month tower of duty under Cap Merrit in the Light hours and is hereby Discharged

Jas. Kenan Col



May the 25 Day 1782
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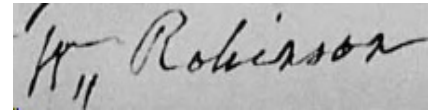
State of North Carolina }
Sampson County }

On this the 10th day of September A.D. 1840, before me Patrick Murphy Clerk and Master of the Court of Equity for said County personally appeared Arthur Matthis a resident of Duplin County in said State aged seventy eight years the 14th of next month who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath that he was well acquainted with Jacob Merritt the husband of Jane Merritt who contemplates applying for a pension under the act of Congress of July 4th 1838 and served with him in the war of the Revolution, that we both entered a company of Duplin cavalry under Captain John Moulton, attached to a Regiment commanded by col. James Kenan in the fall of the year and he believes in the year 1779 marched from Duplin to Cross Creek now Fayetteville and remained in the vicinity thereof a week or fortnight and marched thence by Drowning Creek (where we had a small skirmish with the Tories), to Cheraw, South Carolina and stationed and guarded the hospital there awhile, thence on towards Camden [SC] and joined Gen'l Arrington's army and continued our march with them to near Camden – that said Jacob Merritt exchanged places with some person, left Captain Moulton's Company of Cavalry and entered the Infantry service under Captain Thomas Page while we were in South Carolina, that said Jacob Merritt was a private, that he was a volunteer and entered for three months and served under Captain Moulton two months at least before the exchange and he believe he finished the three months for which he volunteered in the Infantry under Captain Page whose company he entered to be with his brother Daniel Merritt who was serving in Captain Page's company. This Affiant does not recollect that he served any more with said Jacob Merritt, but believes he served afterwards in this section in the cavalry service, and has always understood that he served before in an expedition to Briar Creek.

Arthur hisXmark Matthis

State of North Carolina }
Sampson County }

On this the 12th day of July 1841 before me Patrick Murphy Clerk & Master of the Court of Equity for said County of Sampson personally appeared William Robinson a resident of said County aged seventy six years the 9th of last December who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath, that he served a two month tour of duty in the war of the Revolution with Jacob Merritt the husband of Jane Merritt, (a Pensioner under the act of Congress of July 7, 1838 and intends applying for a small increase thereof) under Captain Robert Merritt in the light horse or cavalry commencing about the 1st of August 1781 – King Vann Lieutenant, William Goff Ensign under the command of Col. James Kenan marched mostly in Duplin County which then included what is now Sampson some in New Hanover and some in Bladen, were fired on by the Tories at Bennet [Bennett] Smith's on South River and David Tucker [W6318] wounded while we were at dinner, that just before the commencement of this service, the militia of Duplin were ordered out and marched to Rockfish to guard there and prevent the British then in possession of Wilmington from crossing, but they crossed above and below in detached parties and coming upon the Americans in the rear, routed them [skirmish at Rockfish Creek, 2 Aug 1781], the militia again collected and a Company formed under Capt Robert Merritt and undertook to serve and did serve two months under him in the lighthorse and furnished horses in lieu of the three months which they were called out to serve in the Infantry – and that said Jacob Merritt was in said Company of lighthorse and a private

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "W. Robinson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: The affidavit of Daniel Merritt supports the claim of Jane Merritt in words similar to those in her declaration, and it agrees with his own pension application. The family record, on blank pages of *The Psalms of David in Metre* published in Scotland in 1767, is difficult to read, but an attempt at transcription is below.

Stephen Merrit the sun of Jacobines and Jane his Wife was Bourn the 7 day of december in the year 1786
Elizebeth merrit the Daughter of Jacob merrit and Jinne his wife was Bourn the thireth of desember in the year of our Lord God 1784

ELleck Cheesnut the sun of ginne cheesnut was Bourn the twenty six day of february in the year of our Lord [illegible]

Crese merrit the daughter of phlip merrit and Mournin his wife

Miles Merrit the sun of Jacob merrit and Jene his wife was Bourn the 7th day of August in the year of our Lord god 1785