

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elias Massey [Macy] ¹ W5328

Elizabeth Massey f127NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/15/09: rev'd 7/5/16

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of North Carolina Anson County

On this 25th day of December 1845 personally appeared before me Nealy M. Hubbard one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County Elizabeth Massey a resident of North Carolina in the County aforesaid aged 85 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of July 7th 1838 and act 25th of August 1842, Granting half pay and pensions to certain widows, that she is the widow of Elias Massey who was a private in the North Carolina Militia in the Revolutionary War and from his narrative of his services rendered to the United States during the War of the Revolution, he served five tours of duty of three months each. I have heard him speak oft times of his ups & downs in the War and of the great sufference [sic] he endured, that he was in the Battle of Guilford Court house [March 15, 1781]² under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and of the circumstance of the little soldier in the time of the Battle who was in the rear & singed my husband's hare [hair] and that he looked around and told the little soldier not to shoot him, that I have heard him speak of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and other officers but the lapse of time and loss of memory deprives me of making any further statement relative to Battles names of officers &c. That Robert Webb Esquire of Richmond County took five of my husband's discharges in his possession many years ago in order to procure a pension for him in his lifetime but Mr. Webb shortly afterwards died and we moved from Richmond and Mr. Massey not long afterwards died and I never knew what went with the discharges, nothing more was done until about three years ago a man undertook to procure a pension for me and I have never seen him since, that she is not on the pension roll and is willing to except of such pension as the Government will allow. She further declares that she was married to the said Elias Massey in the month of August after peace was made in Halifax or Northampton by Col. Gee a Magistrate at Thomas Glover's. That her husband the Elias Massey died October the 12th 1827. That she was married to him before January 1st 1794 to wit at the time above stated. She begs leave here to say that my first name was Elisabeth Gatewood and that I was born in Northampton or Halifax County at the age of 2 years my father moved to Anson County in this State when I became to be grown I went on a visit back to Northampton or Halifax County where Mr. Massey lived, he had not long returned out of the Service before we were married, and 2 or 3 years we moved back to Anson where my father then lived in a short

¹ BLWt53752-160-55

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

time Mr. Massey moved over Pedee River in Richmond County, then to Anson County again, after many years we moved to Mecklenburg County in this state. I now reside in Anson County. I have had fifteen children by Mr. Massey oldest if was living would be I think 60 years of age & my younger has been grown & married twice many years ago the first family Bible kept by us of our children's ages has long been destroyed having our house burned and everything we had except the clothes we had on and cannot by reason of bodily infirmity attend to the Court house. Sworn to and subscribed before me.

S/ N. M. Hubbard, JP

S/ Elizabeth Massey, X her mark

[Facts in file: The veteran and his wife are said to have had 15 children of home the last 9 are the only ones whose names and birth dates appear in the file as follows:

[p 21]

| | |
|--|--|
| Charlotte Massey was Born January 27, 1793 | <i>Charlotte Massey was Born January 27-1793</i> |
| John Massey was Born January 12, 1795 | <i>John Massey was Born January 12-1795</i> |
| Delilah was Born June 9, 1797 | <i>Delilah Massey was Born June 9-1797</i> |
| Elias was Born August 19, 1799 | <i>Elias Massey was Born August 19-1799</i> |
| Prudence Massey was Born April 27, 1800 | <i>Prudence Massey was Born April 27-1800</i> |
| Serah Massey was Born April 19, 1801 | <i>Serah Massey was Born April 19-1801</i> |
| Temperance Massey was Born September 2, 1803 | <i>Temperance Massey was Born September 2-1803</i> |
| Bery Massey was Born April 18, 1805 | <i>Bery Massey was Born April 18-1805</i> |
| James was Born April 18, 1807 | <i>James Massey was Born April 18-1807</i> |

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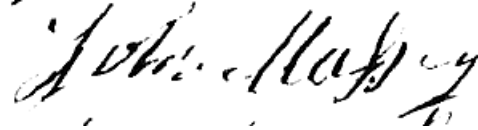
State of North Carolina Anson County

This may certify that I am the son of Elias Macy and Elizabeth his wife and am the fifth child as my parents have told me and that the Bible or leaf thereof annexed is the family Register kept by my parents of their children's ages as [sic, and] is in the handwriting of John McCall, the first Bible having long since been destroyed, that this is a true transcript done in father's lifetime except six of the first children that I have heard father talk of his services rendered to the United States during the War of the Revolution, that he was in the battle of Guilford Courthouse in General Greene's Army that he was in hearing of the Guns when Charlestown was taken by the

British [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] on his way there and other circumstances & places as well as other battles he was in but his officers' names places & dates I do not recollect. I have heard my father speak of his discharges from the service & I believe from his narrative he must have served fifteen months at least & that he died on the 12 day of October 1827

Sworn and subscribed this 16 day of January 1846

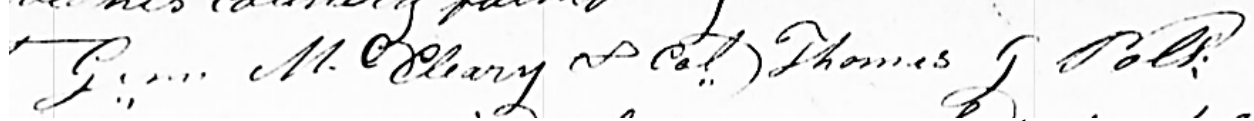
S/ John Massey



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State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County

We the undersigned do hereby certify that we were personally acquainted with Elias Masey [sic] for many years before his Death that we have often heard him speak of his services during the war of the revolution under General Greene & General Lincoln in Captain Sharpe's or Eaves or Reeves Company and was in the Battles of Guilford Court house and at the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] and Camden [probably the 2nd Battle of Camden also known as the Battle of Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781] under these officers. We have no doubt but he served 12 months in actual service in said war he has mentioned other officers names but we have forgotten them we understood him to say he was a militia man & served in different towers [tours] of 3 months each and the names [one or more words overwritten and illegible] are among those he served under Mister Massey was a man of fine character in Church and State his widow is yet living and is an old lady of good character for truth we have no doubt but that they were lawfully married and if their oldest children were now living they would be above 60 years of age of those facts we have no doubt. Not long before Mister Massey Death at a dinner on the 4th of July he was cheered & spoken of in praise as an old soldier by men who knew him and we believe he served his country faithfully in the Revolution War to wit General McCleary & Colonel Thomas G. Polk

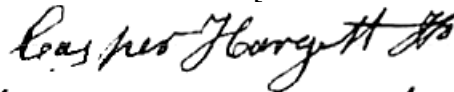


Sworn to and subscribed before me the subscribing Justice of the peace this 18th day of November A.D. 1851

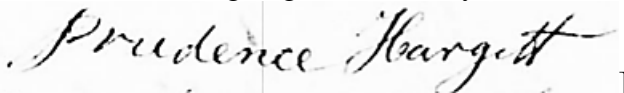
S/ James Hall, JP

S/ Casper Hargett, JP

S/ Samuel Yandel [could be "Lemuel Yandel"]



[p 49: Prudence Hargett gave testimony consistent with that quoted above.



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State of North Carolina Comptroller's Office

I Geo. W Brooks Comptroller of the Public Accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of Record in my office among the payments made by said State to Sundry persons for Military Service in the Revolutionary War as follows –

Elias Macy

Indent No. 5972 £9.6 Halifax District, February 13th 1782

Indent No. 5950 9.6 Ditto Ditto

£18.12

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribe my name and affixed the seal of my Office this 27th day of June 1855

S/ Geo W. Brooks

Comptroller

[p 9: On July 11, 1856 in Anson County North Carolina, the widow, aged about 95, applied for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. In this document she states that she married Elias Massey in Halifax County North Carolina. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 52: In an affidavit dated December 26, 1856 given by Joseph White in Anson County North Carolina, the affiant refers to the widow as Elizabeth Macy widow of Elias Macy, alias Massey.]

[p 86: Plura Gorden, 86, on April 21, 1857 testified that she is the sister of Elisabeth Gatewood; that her sister married Elias Macy [sic] a soldier in the North Carolina forces. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 13: On January 10, 1867 in Union County North Carolina, Sarah Farmer gave testimony that she is the daughter and only heir of Elizabeth Massey a revolutionary war pensioner as a widow; that her mother died intestate in Lancaster County South Carolina October 11 or 12, 1864 where she had resided some 8 years prior to her death; that her mother never bore arms against the government of the United States or in any manner encouraged the rebels. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Note: Veteran is described in this various documents in the file as having served under Captains Sharp and Eaves (or Reeves) and being in the battles of Guilford, Camden, Ninety Six and Eutaw Springs.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$23.25 per annum commencing March 4th, 1861 and ending October 10th, 1864. The pension was based on the service of her husband as a private in the North Carolina service.]