

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Eli Overton W5458

Milla

fn56NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: SS

On this third day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Hawkins County now sitting Eli Overton a resident of the County of Hawkins and State of Tennessee aged seventy-two years, who, being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That in the spring of the year 1779 he thinks sometime in March 1779 – (the day not now recollected) in the County of Camden in the State of North Carolina he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Captain Jacob Taylor for three months, and marched with his said company to the North West landing, and was stationed there and at Edmunds Hill alternately on the Seaboard in the State of Virginia and was left guarding the coast against the Enemy for three months with his said company, which was attached to Colonel Dozier's Regiment and this declarant was discharged sometime in the month of June 1779, but received no written discharge that he recollects of. Again in the fall of 1779 in the month of September he volunteered under the same Captain Taylor in the same County of Camden and was marched into the State of Virginia to the North West landing and continued there and at Edmunds Hill, under the command of Colonel Dozier another three months guarding the coast, and was discharged sometime in the month of December 1779 – but he believes he did not receive any written discharge.

Again in the spring of 1780 the declarant understanding that the Enemy were expected to invade the State of Virginia he again volunteered about the middle of April 1780 under his said Captain Taylor and marched with his company into the State of Virginia from Camden North Carolina to the North West landing and was kept stationed there and at Edmunds Hill alternately until about the middle of July 1780 when he was again discharged having served other [sic, another] three months but received no written discharge and returned home to Camden.

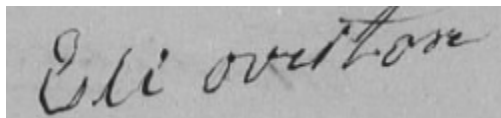
This declarant further states that about the first of January 1781 there was another call for volunteers, when he entered the service as a volunteer under Captain John Jones in the said County of Camden and was marched to **the Virginia Seaboard** to the headquarters of General Gregory, and his company was attached to Colonel Dozier's Regiment and continued doing duty

under the command of General Gregory at the North West landing and at Edmunds Hill until the ninth day of April 1781 when his company under the command of Captain Jones was discharged, at the North West landing, and this declarant received a written discharge from General James Gregory which was dated the ninth day of April 1781 – at his said camp – that said discharge was burned up in this declarant's House in Camden County some years after he received it – & having served the different periods twelve months. This declarant further states that while he was during one of his tours, Captain Payne commanding a company of Horse under General Gregory fell in with some British Infantry at the widow Wilkins's lane about six or seven miles from the North West landing, at which latter place the militia were encamped – and said Payne after skirmishing a short time the enemy was obliged to retreat back to camps having been wounded in the wrist by a ball but his memory is so much impaired he cannot state the time. & He further states that he was born in the County of Camden North Carolina. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ WB Mitchell, Clerk

S/ Eli Overton

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eli Overton".

At the same time appeared in open Court Mrs. Ruthy Bradley a citizen of Rogersville in the County of Hawkins in the State of Tennessee and being first duly sworn according to law states that during the war of the revolution her father resided in the neighborhood of the father of the declarant Eli Overton in the County of Camden North Carolina about two miles or a little further apart – that she well remembers of being at the House of Benjamin Overton, the father of Eli Overton, when the said Eli Overton his son, was absent leaving home with the troops to March into Virginia against the Enemy, that she distinctly recollects of seeing the said applicant for a pension Eli Overton having on his knapsack, cartridge boxes and the habitsments of a Soldier, and saw him start off with other volunteers to fight against the British and Tories, and also recollects of seeing the mother & the sisters of said Eli crying on account of his going off into the Service of his country, as they expected or feared that he would be killed before he returned. The said deponent cannot state the time, but she believes it was at one of the periods stated in his declaration, as she furthermore states that she believes from what she heard the neighbor soldiers say, that the said Eli Overton served as he states in the foregoing declaration.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year above mentioned.

S/ Ruthy Bradley, X her mark

[George Rogers and William Wilder gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Francis Winstead, a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County:

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Eli Overton who being duly sworn deposeth & saith that he has no record of his age the same having been burnt when his House was burnt up.

That he is well acquainted with George Rogers Esquire and William Wilder to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, and also Ruthy Bradley who have already testified to his character etc. & also he is well acquainted with the Reverend Frances Winstead of his

neighborhood.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this third day of May 1833

S/ J. Mitchell, JP

S/ Eli Overton

[fn p. 22: on July 16, 1853 in Hawkins County Tennessee, Milla Overton, aged about 81 years, filed for her pension as a widow under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Eli Overton, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$40 per annum; that she married him in Hawkins County December 1, 1809; that they were married by Gabriel McCraw, JP; that her husband died in Hawkins County August 11th, 1834; that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 18: on April 28, 1855 in Hawkins County Tennessee, Milla Overton, aged about 82 years, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Eli Overton, a pensioner at the rate of \$40 per annum for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Hawkins County state of Tennessee December 1, 1809; that they were married by Gabriel McCraw, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Milla Grantum [sic, Milla Grantham?]; That her husband died in Hawkins County August 11th, 1834 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 47: in a very faint document dated June 14, 1856 filed in Hawkins County Tennessee by Milly Overton, she describes herself as then being about 87 years of age.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March fourth, 1831, for one year service in the North Carolina militia.]