

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elijah Walker <sup>1</sup> W6404

Rebecca Walker

f39NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/5/10: rev'd 7/17/16

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 10]

State of Georgia Gilmer County:

On this the 15th day of August 1851 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Inferior Court in said County Rebecca Walker a resident of said County and State aged 93 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the law of Congress passed July 4th 1836. That she is the widow of Elijah Walker who was a private in the militia of North Carolina that her husband lived in Burke County North Carolina on Silver Creek about 3 miles from Burke Court House when he was drafted to go to Wilmington in said State that he employed a man by the name of James Thompson to go in his place as he Elijah Walker was engaged at the time to be married to deponent, that her husband gave said Thompson \$100 in Continental money foregoing in his place, that about two years after her and her husband was married her husband was drafted to go into the Army that was forted at Gilbert Town under she thinks a Captain Yancy<sup>2</sup> Major McDowell & General Joseph McDowell [sic, at the time mentioned by this applicant Joseph McDowell was a major in the NC militia and his brother Charles McDowell was a Col.] that her husband served 2 or more tours in said war, but does not recollect the length of time but would refer the Commissioner of Pensions to the Records in North Carolina. She further declares that she was married to the said Elijah Walker on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ in the year 1778 by Ephraim McLane Esquire, that her husband the said Elijah Walker died in 1818 or 1819 in Habersham County State of Georgia and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof herein to annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year before written.

Test S/ W. M. Varnum,

S/ Rebecca Walker, X her mark

S/ Henry Pettit, JIC

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State of North Carolina Comptroller's Office

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt35680-160-55

<sup>2</sup> The only known NC captains with the surname "Yancy" or "Yancey" were Bartlett Yancey, Charles Yancey and Philip Yancey, all of whom served in the Granville County militia as captains under the command of Col. Joseph Taylor. It seems unlikely that this veteran would have served under any of these men since the veteran's widow says she and her husband were living in Burke County at the time of his service.

I William J Clark, Comptroller of 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 services in the Revolutionary War, as follows, to wit:

Elijah Walker

Book G No. 16 page 9	£6 S15—specie
" No. 24 " 86	£1 S8 "
" A acct. 7732	£6 "
" No. 23 page 123	£11 S12 "

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribe my name and affix my seal of Office this 24<sup>th</sup> December 1851

S/ Wm J. Clarke, Comptr.

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State of Georgia Gilmer County:

On this the 19th of March 1852 before me Henry Pettit a Justice of the Inferior Court of said County personally appeared to Rebecca Walker and after being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of Elijah Walker deceased who was a private soldier in the State of North Carolina in the Revolutionary War, that her husband served several tours in said war, under the McDowells<sup>3</sup> at Gilbert Town, that he was in the service at the time the Battle was fought at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780],<sup>4</sup> that about that time while in the Army he was taken with the smallpox and lay very sick for several weeks, then after recovering he did not go into the Army anymore, this she well recollects from the age & size of their oldest and only child West Walker who was about two years old at the time his father lay sick as above stated. She further states that her maiden name was Rebecca Carrell [sic, Carroll?],<sup>5</sup> that about two years before the service of her husband as described above, up to the time he the said Elijah Walker and this deponent were engaged to be married, he was drafted to go to Wilmington, and that on account of said engagement, he the said Walker hired a man by the name of James Thompson to go in his place, for which he paid the said Thompson \$100 the receipt for which she now sends with this Supplemental declaration,<sup>6</sup> and she further states, that about the year 1788 she and her husband moved from North Carolina to Georgia, Habersham County where he the said Elijah Walker died in 1818 or 1819, and that she has never since married, she further states, that she knows of no person living by whom she can prove her marriage, nor does she know of any record of said event, nor does she know of any person by whom she can prove the services of her husband in said war.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written before me

S/ A. Randolph

S/ Rebecca Walker, X her mark

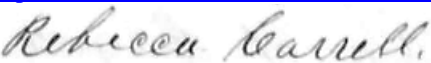
S/ Henry Pettit, JIC

[p 4]

State of Georgia Gilmer County: SS

<sup>3</sup> Col (later General) Charles McDowell and his brother Major (later Lt. Col.) Joseph McDowell were prominent Whig militia officers in the Piedmont and western regions of NC during the Revolution.

<sup>4</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

<sup>5</sup> 

<sup>6</sup> The receipt is not among the documents included in this file.

On this 24 day of May 1852 before me a Justice of the Peace within and for said County and the State aforesaid personally appeared Sally King aged sixty-nine years past a resident of the County and State aforesaid, known to me as entitled to full credit, who after being duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following statements. That her maiden name was Sally Cherry, that in the spring of 1790 she removed with her parents from the State of Pennsylvania in Franklin County Georgia, that during this year 1790 she became acquainted with Elijah Walker and his wife Rebecca Walker as they lived near her father's, that they were then living peacefully together as husband and wife and had a son West Walker who was considerably older than this deponent. She further states that she often heard said Elijah Walker speak of having been engaged for a considerable length of time, as a Revolutionary soldier in the State of North Carolina. She further states that said Elijah and Rebecca Walker were much respected, were members of the Baptist Church and deponent always understood that they were respectable members of said church for several years before they moved from North Carolina to Georgia. And she further states that said Walker family lived in Franklin County but a few years then moved to what has since been called Habersham County State of Georgia where said Elijah Walker died about the year 1819. And she states that he always bore the character and reputation of a faithful soldier of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina, and that his honorable marriage with said Rebecca was never questioned or doubted by any one as this deponent verily believes, that Rebecca Walker now living in Gilmer County State of Georgia, who has applied for a pension is the widow of the identical Elijah Walker above described, and that she this deponent is entirely disinterested in any money that said widow may recover for the services of her deceased husband.

Attest S/ C. A. Ellington, JP

S/ Sally King, X her mark

[p 34: Affidavit dated April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1852 given by the clerk of court of Burke County North Carolina in which he states that he has made diligent search in his office for evidence of the marriage of Elijah Walker to Rebecca Carrol [sic] and found no such record. He indicates that his office contains no marriage bonds between the years 1774 and 1780 and that "a great many of the old marriage bonds" were destroyed in removing the old Court house to the present one.]

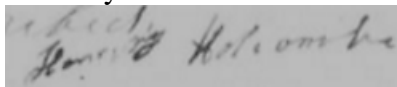
[p 38]

State of Georgia Cherokee County: SS

On this second day of June A.D. 1852 before me a justice of the peace within and for said County and the State aforesaid, personally appeared Henry Holcombe, aged eighty-four years, a resident of said County and State, known to me as entitled to full credit, who after being duly sworn according to law, doth upon his oath make the following statements. That he moved from the State of South Carolina to Georgia Franklin County in the year 1788 or 1789, that one or 2 years after this, Elijah Walker and his wife Rebecca moved from the State of North Carolina to Franklin County Georgia and settled within 3 or 4 miles of where this deponent then lived. That said Elijah and Rebecca Walker were at that time living peacefully together as husband and wife, were respected by all who knew them, were members of the Baptist Church and deponent then understood had been respectable members of said Church for several years before they came to Georgia. And deponent further states, that he was with said Elijah Walker in the Indian War of 1794 and 1795, that he was forted with him at Fort Morris in Franklin County Georgia under the command of Captain Stoneypher [sic, Stonecypher?] that their families were with them a portion of the time at said Fort, that West Walker son of said Elijah & Rebecca, was also with them in

said Fort, that he was then nearly a grown man and acted as a soldier in said war. And deponent further states that he often heard said Elijah Walker speak of having been engaged in the Revolutionary War in the State of North Carolina. And he further states that he was intimately acquainted with said Elijah and Rebecca Walker that they always lived peacefully together, that a doubt of their having been lawfully married was never entertained by any one as this deponent verily believes. He further states that soon after the Treaty with the Cherokee Indians, which terminated the aforementioned war, said Walkers removed from Franklin County into the Cherokee Country, where said Elijah Walker died in what is now called Habersham County Georgia about the year 1819, and that Rebecca Walker, now living in Gilmer County, Georgia, who has applied for a pension, is the widow of the identical Elijah Walker above described.

S/ Henry Holcombe



[p 28]

State of Georgia Lumpkin County:

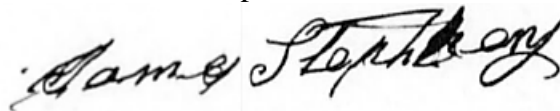
On this the fifth day of August A.D. 1852 before me Alfred Harris a Justice of the Peace within and for said County personally appeared James Stephens<sup>7</sup> aged eighty-seven years past, a resident of Gilmer County in said State and known to me as entitled to full credit who after being duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following statements:

That in the State of North Carolina in time of the Revolutionary war, he became acquainted with Elijah Walker now deceased, the identical man whose widow, Rebecca Walker now lives in Gilmer County Georgia and has applied for a pension for the Revolutionary services of the said Elijah.

That he this deponent had two half brothers, namely Joseph and William Winchester, who acted as soldiers in said war: that towards the latter part of the war in 1779 and 1780, this deponent was in the Army to assist in taking charge and guarding the baggage wagons etc., that while thus engaged he often saw the said Elijah Walker in the service, that he does not know how long said Walker served, and cannot now remember the officers names under whose command he served, but he knows said Walker was a faithful soldier in the Revolutionary struggle for liberty for a considerable length of time, and that he often heard his said brothers speak of him as such.

And deponent further states, that he has no knowledge of said Walker previous to his acquaintance with him in the Army as above stated but that during the whole of said acquaintance he always understood that said Walker was a married man, and he often heard him speak of his family and his anxiety to see them, that he never had but one wife and deponent verily believes that Rebecca Walker above described, was at the time of the service above mentioned his lawful wife, that they were both very moral and respectable persons, and he that he is a disinterested witnesses.

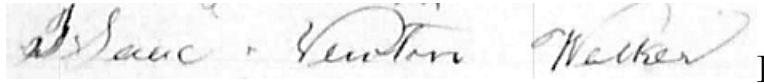
S/ James Stephens



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<sup>7</sup> No one by this name was granted a pension by the Federal Government for service rendered in the Revolutionary War. This may be the only evidence of this affiant's service as well as that of his two half brothers, Joseph Winchester and William Winchester.

[p 13: On July 16, 1855 in Lumpkin County Georgia, the widow filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. In this application she states her age as about 94 years and says she is a resident of Gilmer County Georgia. She states that he married Elijah Walker in Burke County North Carolina about the year 1780 as well as she recollects. That her name before her marriage was Rebecca Carroll. That Ephraim McClain Esquire performed the marriage ceremony. She signed this document with her mark. Isaac Newton Walker was a witness for the widow. His relationship, if any, to the widow and/or her husband is not stated.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaac Newton Walker". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name "Isaac" is on the left, "Newton" is in the middle, and "Walker" is on the right. The signature is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

[Widow was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836.]