

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elias Wellborn W6465

Mary

fn65¹NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/23/10

[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.]

Georgia Columbia County: On this 3rd day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before Nathaniel Bailey, James Luke and Ebenezer T. Williams justices of the Inferior Court now sitting as a court of Ordinary Elias Wellborn a resident of the County and State aforesaid of the age of seventy-three 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 is to say: In the year 1778 I volunteered my service under the command of Captain times in Randolph County North Carolina (I think about the first of the year) cannot recollect at this late time exactly, served with Captain Hines ten or twelve months, part of the time as a substitute for one Mr. Cheeks perhaps three months mostly after the Tories of home there were a great many and that in the adjoining Counties, a large portion of our [force] was engaged in hunting a celebrated Tory sometimes called by the name of Colonel Fanning [sic, David Fanning] and his men, had a great many skirmishes with the Tories in one of which some of us were detached and surrounded by thirty-five in number as I think was stated four of our party was taken prisoner and shot, two wounded very badly myself and two others escaped unhurt. After I had served my time out as a substitute with Captain Hines I again volunteered under the same officers for several months longer, afterwards, I volunteered under the command of Captain York continued after the Tories until the latter part of the year 1779 principally engaged in putting down the Tories in Randolph and the adjoining Counties. Sometime in the first of the year 1780 my father was drafted in Wilkes County North Carolina. I went in his place, do not distinctly recollect the name of the officers but believe it was Captain John Cleveland [sic, John Cleveland] who marched from Wilkes County towards Camden in South Carolina through Roan [Rowan] County near Salisbury, & through Charlotte on the way we attacked a number of Tories collected in a house and routed and killed several of them; several of our company was wounded and among them was Major Davie, the routed Tories left their horses and we took twenty-five or thirty of them, about twenty-five of us was mounted and placed in the Cavalry company under the command of Colonel Armnig or Armand [Charles Armand] we continued to march to the town on Santee River where we met the Virginia & Maryland troops

¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical.

and proceeded on to Rugeley's Mills or Clermont [?]. I was here taken sick and lost my horse -- another being procured continued in the Cavalry, though unwell. In the night of the 14th of August we were ordered to advance on the British and Tories and met the Main body of them at daybreak, the militia retreated and the cavalry company that I was attached to was ordered to the bridge at the mills to stop the militia from retreating, we succeeded in stopping many after containing [containing or contending] some time. General Gates came up in full speed and told us to retreat, he was defeated, we did so, the enemy in close pursuit. Afterwards I went back to Wilkes County and volunteered under the command of Major Gordon in a cavalry company and joined General Greene's Army in the lower part of the State could not recollect when or where we joined General Greene's Army they were on the retreat and closely pursued by Cornwallis and Tarlton [sic, Banastre Tarleton] to the Yadkin River, and lost some of our baggage having to leave before we could get it over the River, it being in the night and the enemy arriving and camping on one side and we on the opposite bank, the River raised and prevented the enemy crossing near us. They were compelled to go up the River & crossed at the Shallow Ford some distance above us, we crossed the Broad, Catawba, Deep & Dan Rivers in the retreat closely pursued all the way to Virginia. The company to which I was attached returned to Wilkes County again. Some time before the Eutaw battle I joined General Greene's Army again in a horse company, commanded by Captain Willson and Major Gordon, at the battle of the Eutaw Springs Captain Wilson was killed. Shortly after the company I was attached to went back to Wilkes County. Soon after my arrival home I volunteered my service & joined a large company of Cavalry supposed to be seven hundred in number commanded by Colonel Harrendeson [?]. I was attached to a company commanded by Captain Beverly, was elected & served as a first Lieutenant -- we marched to the Cherokee nation of Indians to suppress lawless invasions committed by the Indians on the white inhabitants on the frontiers, was out on the expedition from three to six weeks & returned I continued in the same company until the close of the war, a part of the time this company was commanded by Captain Barton -- During the great and arduous conflict for our independence I have no doubt I was in actual service of the United States three years & amp impressed with the belief that it was not less than four and a half years, but cannot say certainly to this or many other immaterial [?] incidents detailed from memory alone, for all of which I never received any compensation except the gratitude of my countrymen with the exception of one horse which the Tories afterwards took from me.

The above declaration was made in open court where the following interrogatories were propounded to the deponent

1 Interrogatory, where & in what year were you born

He answers -- I was born in Randolph County North Carolina the 9th of September 1759

To the second Interrogatory He answers I have a record of my age registered by my father in a Bible now belonging to my brother Abner Wellborn

To the third Interrogatory He answers I was living in Wilkes County but entered the service in Randolph County. I lived a short time after the war in North Carolina and ever since in the State of Georgia Columbia County where I now live.

To the fourth Interrogatory He answers I first entered the service as a volunteer. I never was drafted and was also a substitute for one Mr. Cheeks and my father.

To the fifth Interrogatory He answers -- General Greene, Major Gordon Colonel Lee, Colonel Malmedy who took command of the Regiment which I belonged [to] at the battle of the Eutaw to the best of my belief and Captain Willson.

To the sixth interrogatory He answers I never did receive a written discharge as I know of & if I

did not say by whom it was given or what has become of it.

To the seventh Interrogatory He answers I was elected first Lieutenant and Captain Beverly's Company of Cavalry. I have no recollection of ever receiving any commission but presume I did and if I did cannot say by whom it was signed and what has become of it. I am known in my neighborhood by Doctor Nathan Crawford, Reverend Juriah Harriss, Reverend James Blanchard, Basel Neal & Thomas N. Hamilton Esquires and Colonel Horatio Gartrell there is no person in my neighborhood who knew me in the time of the revolutionary war, that is a man that was with me by the name of Absalom Cleveland who is now and arranged and lives in Franklin County in this State as I am informed. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State as I know of.

Sworn to & subscribed before us the day & date above written.

S/ Elias Wellborn

S/ Nath. Baily, JIC

S/ James Luke, JIC

S/ E. T. Williams, JIC

[Juriah Harriss, a clergyman, and Nathan Crawford gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 399]

Georgia Columbia County: Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Inferior Court for said County Nathan Crawford [?] -- Elias Wellborn who is believed to be a revolutionary Soldier, that being duly sworn deposed & saith that by reason of old age & the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grade. I entered the Militia Service, which was called out by the proper authorities of the United States, under the Command of Captain Hines in the year 1778 = and served nine months in the military Service of the United States, three as a Substitute and six as a volunteer -- & attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Dewgan [Dugan?] -- which service was performed in the County of Randolph North Carolina -- after these two Tours of service was out - - I volunteered under the same patriotic officer Captain Hines, for three months, which was with an embodied Corps called into service by the Competent authority of the United States, and performed in like manner and in the aforesaid County (Randolph NC) as above stated -- afterwards I volunteered under the command of Captain York = for three months which was in the year 1779 -- I cannot resist the belief but that it was six months which was called out by the regular constituted authority of the United States, which services was performed as militia and in the County of Randolph North Carolina -- Sometime in the early part of the year 1780 -- I served one tour as a Substitute, in the place of my father for three months, under the command of Captain John Cleveland, called into service by the competent authority of the United States, which Services was performed as military and as follows in Wilkes and Roann [Rowan] Counties North Carolina and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaacs during which time I marched through South Carolina perhaps it was in the months of July or August -- and did suffer great distress with my fellow Soldiers for the want of food &c. -- Shortly after the Army arrived at Clearmount & before the battle of that place known as Gates defeat, which I was in, I was transferred from the Infantry to the Cavalry commanded by Colonel Armand -- after this tour of service was out I went home to Wilkes County North Carolina and entered the military service of the United States as a volunteer for three months under the command of Captain Wilson & Major

Gordon, which was in the year 1781 = I was in the battle at Eutaw commanded at that place by Colonel Malmedy, on this hard fought battle I saw the brave Colonel Washington when he made the bold charge upon the British line & was made a prisoner during the same action I also saw the brave intrepid Colonel Lee -- make three charges upon the British & at the last charged it was believed that he brought out upwards of three hundred prisoners. Shortly after General Greene withdrew the infantry from the galling fire, from the brick building myself & four or five other soldiers, was sent out as spies to view the situation of the British Army. This Tour [of] service was performed in Wilkes & Rowan counties North Carolina -- and part in South Carolina near Eutaw & Camden which was under the proper authorities of the United States -- after this tour I volunteered under the command of Captain Beverly for three months believe to be in the year 1783 = commanded by Colonel Isaacs, which tour of Service was performed as military and at the instance of the United States, in Wilkes, Randolph & Surry Counties North Carolina -- I served one other Tour of 6 months and guarding as military end Wilkes County North Carolina which was also at the instance of the authority of the United States & commanded by Captain Barton and Colonel Isaacs -- It is with no little regret that I find my memory so fast declining and impaired by old age that it is almost impossible to give a full detail of my revolutionary Services with precision & clearness that I desire -- I however have no doubt in saying that from the time I entered the service of the United States, all of which Tours as above stated was performed under the regularly constituted authorities of the United States, I served with an embodied Corps under some one of the officers, and marched through the several Counties and places, named in my original & this amended declaration -- until the end of the war with Great Britain which established our independence. I performed other services in the revolutionary war as a soldier which I do here undertake to detail -- all of which statement is made and declared, to the best of my knowledge and belief for all which service is justly consider myself entitled to a pension and verily believe it to be my right and privilege to claim yet at the end of my Government and for the time during which the above Services herein stated was performed I was not employed in any civil pursuit --

Sworn to, and subscribed before me the 4th day of November 1833

S/ Nathan Crawford, JIC

S/ Elias Wellborn

[fn p. 207: On June 3, 1844, in Columbia County Georgia, Mary Wellborn, 72, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Elias Wellborn; that she married him March 5, 1789 in Richmond County Georgia; that her husband died in the year 1836.]

[fn p. 466: copy of the marriage bond issued to Elias Wilborn and Moses Marshall in Richmond County Georgia Marched to, 1789 to secure the marriage of Elias Wilborn to Mary Marshall.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 18 months service in the North Carolina militia.]