

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Eccles ¹ W7072

Jane W. Eccles

f52NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/23/08 rev'd 12/12/14

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

[Note: The images of this application are more legible as posted on HeritageQuest.com then they are as posted on Fold3.com.]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the ___ day of May in the year of our Lord 1844 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Courts of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the aforesaid County, Jane Eccles aged ___ 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 Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to Certain Widows:"

The Declarant the aforesaid Jane Eccles stateth upon her said oath that she has reason to believe and does believe that in the war of the Revolution, her deceased husband John Eccles as a private of Infantry in the Militia did serve the United States as follows:

1. Some time in the fall of the year 1778, as this affiant learns [?] there was a Draft for Militia men to serve the United States a tour of five months when her deceased husband, the aforesaid John Eccles was drafted for said period -- That the Company to which he was attached was Commanded by Captain Thompson [Thomas Thompson] -- one Lewis [Exum Lewis] was Colonel that said Company did rendezvous in the town of Hillsboro in the County aforesaid on or about the 15th of October 1778, were marched from Hillsboro to Salisbury, thence to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County, thence to Rutherford's Camp on Black Swamp, thence to Cheraw Hills, where said John Eccles was duly discharged and returned home. -- as to his discharge, the Declarant is unable to say what has become of it.

This tour the Declarant proves by John Dolley² an United States Pensioner whose affidavit is hereto annexed and marked "A" which Declarant believes to be genuine & true.

2. This Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that she has reason to believe and does believe that in the fall of the year 1781 there was draft for Militia Men to Recruit the Army of General Butler [John Butler], to enable him to rescue the Governor [Thomas Burke] and the troops that Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] had taken when he captured [September 12, 1781] the town of Hillsboro some time previous to 15 September 1781 -- that in said tour the Declarant believes that her Deceased husband did Volunteer, and was in Captain Hodge's [George Hodge's] Company of militia Infantry, Rendezvoused in the town of Hillsboro about the 15th day of

¹ BLWt9423-160-55

² [John Dolley S6802](#)

September of the said year 1781. Colonel Tinnin [Hugh Tinnen] and General Butler were the Superior officers -- was marched to Raft Swamp near Wilmington -- two North East Bridge & to Monroe's Served a tour of three months and a half, under said officers, and was discharged at the place of Rendezvous and returned home.

This Declarant is under the impression that her husband had a discharge also for this as well as the first tour, but does not know what has become of said discharges.

The said Jane Eccles, further sets forth that, she has reason to believe and does believe that the aforesaid John Eccles did serve the United States in the War of the Revolution as a private of Infantry in the militia and other tours, but knows of none now living that were in the Army with him.

She therefore can procure evidence of Service for only eight months and two weeks: In both of which tours the declarant believes that the Deceased husband the aforesaid John Eccles was in duly organized Corps and called into Service by Competent Authority.

The Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that from old age and infirmity of body [she] is unable to attend Court to make this Declaration.

She further Declares that her maiden name was Anderson, and that she was married to the aforesaid John Eccles in the month of March, in the year 1792, that she has a "family Record," which is herewith annexed, and is as follows To wit:

“Samuel Eccles was Born January 22, 1793

Margaret Eccles was born January 10, 1795

Elizabeth Eccles was born December 6, 1796

Janet Eccles was born January 5, 1799

Mary & Sarah Eccles was born January 23, 1801

Martha Eccles was born September 18, 1803

William Eccles was born July 16, 1805

which said Record the Declarant believes to be as it purports a correct "family Record" of said John Eccles and which is in the handwriting of the eldest child Samuel Eccles.

That her husband the said John Eccles died in the year A.D. 1820 that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the Service but that the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz.: at the time above stated.

Sworn & subscribed on this the __ day of May in the year of 1844

S/ Wm Murray, JP

S/ Jane Eccles, X her mark

[p 38]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the __ day of March 1844 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County John Dolley a resident of said County and an United States pensioner who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath that in the year of 1778 there was a five months draft for militia to serve the United States when this affiant was drafted for and served all of said tour.

1. Said tour as well as this affiant remembers commenced about the middle of October 1778 -- Thompson was Captain of the Company to which said affiant was attached. Lewis and Locke were Colonels. Rendezvoused at the Town of Hillsboro -- was marched to Salisbury, thence to Charlotte -- thence into South Carolina -- to the Savannah, thence to Rutherford's Camp, which was at "Black Swamp" -- where they remained some time -- thence to Cheraw Hill on the Pedee

[River] where they were discharged

In all of the aforesaid tour this affiant remembers that John Eccles (his neighbor) was a private of Infantry in said Company & Regiment and served all of said tour with us and was discharged at Cheraw Hill -- and further saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date first above written before me

S/ Wm Nelson, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

[p 37: [the top portion of this affidavit is cut off]

... the town of Wilmington, was at Swan's also Monroe's Bridge, also at North East Bridge, at each of which places we were stationed some time - when at North East Bridge remember of hearing when there of the capture of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781].

In this tour this affiant served three months and a half & was discharged in Hillsboro last of December following. In all of said tour this affiant remembers that John Eccles a neighbor of this affiant was a private in said Hodges' Company and served all said tour with him.

This affiant further states that said John Eccles died about twenty years ago and that his widow said Jane Eccles has not married since, but remains his widow.

Sworn and subscribed the day & date 1st above written before me

S/ Wm Nelson, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

[p 34: On March 14, 1844 in Orange County North Carolina, Susan Barnhill gave testimony that she was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife; that Jane Eccles maiden name was Anderson; that affiant was not at the wedding but at the "infair" held the next day to celebrate the wedding; that she understood the ceremony took place in Orange County and was celebrated by the Rev. Mr. Hodge in the year 1792. The affiant signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 9: On April 9, 1855 in Alamance County North Carolina, the widow giving her age as 90 filed for her bounty land entitlement as a widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She signed this document with her mark.]

[There are references in this file to an affidavit given by James Williams,³ a drummer in the Revolution, whose claim was suspended. I cannot find his affidavit in this file. On pp 24-25, however, there is a summary of the contents of this file which includes the following summary of the affidavit given by James Williams:

"James Williams testified to this tour [the first 5-month tour referred to by the widow in her application] having been performed in 1778 or 9 - and being of 5 months duration. This occasioned the increase James Williams applied for a pension under Act of 1832 for 18 months service commencing in September 1780 as Drum Major - but as the North Carolina roles did not show his service his claim was suspended for want of proof. He was by his own showing 18 years old in 1780 & was in a condition to know of the service to which he testified."

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband's service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

³ [James Williams R11585](#)