

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Faris Elijah (Farris) (Martha) BLWt 29004-160-55 W7239 f63VA  
Transcription by Fred Weyler 05May2013  
edited and supplemented by Will Graves 5/7/13

[p2] Kentucky certificate 19160  
To Elijah Faris of Washington Co  
Pvt under Capt Donelson,, Col Donelson of Va militia, 2 years from 1779  
Issued 10Aug 1833 @ \$80/annum.

[p4]  
State of Kentucky  
Washington County on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of Sept personally appeared in open court before the justices of the County Court of Washington County now sitting Elijah Faris, a resident on Glens Creek in said county and Long Lick, aged seventy one 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. Viz: I Elijah Faris do hereby declare that I am now in the 71<sup>st</sup> year of my age, and was born in the County of Halifax and state of Virginia and when young my father moved to Pittsylvania County of said state where I resided when the revolutionary war commenced and I was called into the service of my country in the month of Setp<sup>r</sup> 1779 in the said county. I voluntarily engaged or enlisted in the company of Capt<sup>n</sup> John Donaldson of Col<sup>n</sup> Donaldson's Regt for twelve months for the purpose of building forts and protecting the settlements, then making on the Cumberland River about where Nashville now stands. We marched to the Hlstein [Holston] River below Long Island where we built about forty boats and continued till about the middle of February 1780 having had a severe and hard winter and then sailed down the Holstein into Tennessee River and when we reached the Chickamauga or Cherokee Towns we had a severe battle with the Indians. They took two of our boats and about 30 prisoners. We killed a number of the Indians.

[p4] and again we had another attack at the Muscle Shoals and once more below we were attacked. When we reached the Ohio we went up to the mouth of the Cumberland River, and into that river and built a fort where Nashville now stands. I remained in service while until the Fall of 1780 and in the Spring or Summer of 1781 I received my discharge. When I enlisted with Capt Donaldson, we were promised 640 acres of land, as a compensation for our services. After I received my discharge I started with a number of others up to Kentucky and on Green River we were attacked by the Indians, and fled leaving everything we had. There I lost my discharge and have never received any compensation. In Kentucky I enlisted as a spy for one year under Col<sup>l</sup> Benjamin Logan which service I performed and obtained my discharge and immediately enlisted again for another year. For which service I likewise performed and obtained a discharge from Col Logan. These services were performed in the years 1782 and 1783 and the discharges were deposited in the proper office where I obtained my pay.

I hereby relinquish all claims to any pension or annuity from the U States except the present and I am not now a pensioner of the U States or of any State in the Union.

s/ Elijah Faris



[routine county confirmation and certification, several letters and additional statements to comply with war department rules.:

Johnston Faris

John Hughes, clerk

Isaiah Coulter whose sister Martha married Elijah Faris in 1789.

Elijah Faris died , 23May1851 and Martha applied for widow's benefits.

E. D .Askins JP

John B Starr clerk

p.15 illegibly faint

misfiled papers for Andrew Moses and Moses and William Pinnick (Penix)

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### Supplemented by Will Graves

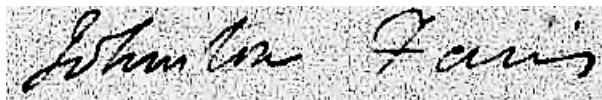
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[5]

Washington County Sct.

This day came Johnston Faris in open court and made oath that he is acquainted with all or most of the fact stated in the above application & that they are true. Given from under my hand this 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1832

S/ Johnston Faris



[p 6]

Commonwealth of Kentucky Washington Circuit Court May Term 1833

This day Elijah Faris appeared in Open court and made on his oath the following amendment to the foregoing declaration. He states that he cannot with greater precision state the dates that he has stated but he states that he served as a private in the tours & years aforesaid before the conclusion of peace with Great Britain two full years, that the service in Donaldson's Regiment was as stated as a volunteer i.e. by voluntary enlistment, that under Logan was of the nature of Militia service & for the period of two full years, all which is ordered to be certified to the Court.

S/ Elijah Faris, X his mark

[p 39]

This day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County of Lincoln Armsted Milner and made oath that he has been intimately acquainted with Elijah Faris from the fall 1779 until this time and that he has always been so far as I know or believe a man of honest Department & strict veracity & has never heard anything to the contrary and further states that Elijah Faris did in the year 1782 or 3 or [indecipherable word] acted as a spy in this County as he has heard and verily believes under the command of Colonel Ben Logan & this affiant further states that the said Faris volunteered as an adventurer under Colonel John Dollinson [sic, probably a mistaken attempt to name John Donaldson] (of Virginia, Pittsylvania County) in Tennessee in the spring 1780 and on our passage down the Tennessee River Dollinson & his men had an engagement with the Cherokee Indians [to affiant's] certain knowledge & further states that such the areas continue down the Tennessee River & up the Cumberland to the French Lick where Nashville now stands & further states that it was reported that said Faris was a good soldier and then about the age of 17 years at that time & continued there about one year after which he came to this State where he remains.

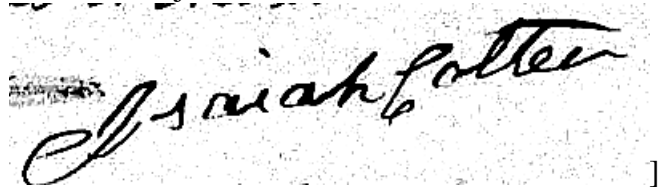
Given under my hand this 15 day of September 1832

S/ Armsted Milner, Sr.

[p 15: very faint image of what appears to be the application dated July 13, 1853 and filed in Washington County, KY by Martha Faris, 84, for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Elijah Faris, a pensioner of the US for his service in the Revolution; that she married him February 25, 1789 in Kentucky; that her husband died June 23, 1851 in Washington County, KY. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 17: copy of a marriage bond issued to Elijah Faris and Job Hail [Job Hale] February 25, 1789 conditioned on the marriage of Elijah Faris to Martha Coulter. The record is certified by the Mercer County Kentucky clerk of court as a true copy of an original bond now in his office.]

[p 10: on February 18, 1853 in Washington County Kentucky, Isaiah Colter [Isaiah Coulter?] Gave testimony that he is 77 years of age and distinctly recollects the marriage of his sister Martha Coulter with Elijah Faris at his father's home in 1789 and that his sister remains the widow of Elijah Faris.



Isaiah Colter

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]