

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Allen J. Bridges W8159

Elizabeth

fn31NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 10/410

[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 Illinois; Greene County

On this sixth day of March, A.D. 1834, personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court of Greene County, Illinois, (being a Court of record), Allen J. Bridges, aged Seventy seven 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832:--

That he was born in the County of Wait [sic, Wake] in the State of North Carolina, near the Falls of Nuse [sic, Neuse] River, in the year 1756: he volunteered and entered into the service of the United States, as a private in the North Carolina Militia when he was very young, the precise year he cannot recollect, under the Command of Captain ___ Alexander, attached to Colonel McDowell's [Joseph McDowell's] Regiment under the Command of General McDowell [Charles McDowell] -- his first employment was in guarding the fords and landings on the Catawba River to keep the British and Tories from crossing -- he was in the battle commonly called Ramsour's battle [sic, Ramsour's Mill] near the Catawba River-- he was in the battle of Salsbury [sic, Salisbury] also—from Catawba we were marched with the prisoners to Salisbury where we guarded the prisoners three months -- that he served in all between seven and eight months for the space of seven months he is confident. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any state or territory.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 4th day of March 1834.

S/ Allen J. Bridges

S/ Moses O. Bledsoe, Clerk

The Court propounded the following interrogatories:

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I cannot recollect what year I was born in but I shall be seventy eight years of age next December the 29th day. I was born in the State of North Carolina.

2nd: Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age, it was set down in my mother's old Bible, but has long been lost.

3rd: Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in the State of North Carolina, Roan [sic, Rowan] County, when I volunteered,

from thence to Wilkes County in the State of Georgia, from thence to Oglethorpe County, Georgia, from thence to Jackson County, from thence to Tennessee, from Tennessee to Greene County, Illinois, where I now live.

4th: How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: I never was drafted or served as a Substitute. My father entered the service and I volunteered to go along with him and serve my country.

5th: State the names of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of the service?

Answer: I do not recollect that I was acquainted with or saw any of the regular officers during the time I was in service, nor do I recollect any events except what have been alluded to in my narrative in the foregoing declaration.

6th: Did you ever receive discharge from services?

Answer: I never received any discharge for my services during the revolutionary war.

7th: State the name of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer: I would refer to John Green, James Whitlock, Thomas Rattan, Alexander Smith, Enoch Banns, the Rev. Elijah Dotson and many others—Signed in open court on the 6th day of March A.D. 1834.

S/ Allen J. Bridges

Subscribed and sworn to in open court

S/ Moses O. Bledsoe, Clk

[Elijah Dodson, a clergyman, and John Green and Thomas Rattan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 8: on February 26, 1853 in Jersey County Illinois, Elizabeth Bridges, 61, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Allen J Bridges, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution; that she married him on July 13, 1836; and that her husband died August 2, 1846 in Greene County Illinois.]

[fn p. 11: certificate issued in Green County indicating that Allen J Bridges and Miss Elizabeth Irvin were married July 13, 1836 by Abraham Enslow, Esquire, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]