

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Elliott W8690

Phoebe Elliott

f51SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/12/08 rev'd 12/26/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

State of South Carolina, District of Beaufort

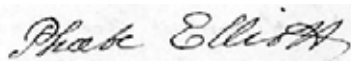
On this 10 day of May 1848 personally appeared before me John M. Baker Magistrate Mrs. Phoebe Elliott widow, aged 76 years a resident of Beaufort South Carolina, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress of July 7, 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows" That, she is the widow of William Elliott deceased formerly of Beaufort aforesaid, who was a volunteer, private, in a troop of horse raised in said Beaufort, or neighborhood, that he served for a while under Captain Edward Barnwell, that this troop belonged to the militia of South Carolina, that while so serving under arms, he was present at the engagements at Jacksonborough, at Savannah River and that John's Island South Carolina that here he was severely wounded and captured on the 20th May 1779 [action at Matthew's Plantation, May 20, 1779]¹, that on the 17th May 1781, he was confined in one of the prison ships in Charleston Harbour, and was so a prisoner 26th of August 1781 See Ramsey History Revolutionary War in South Carolina, volume 2, page 542 -- That subsequently he was sent in a cartel by the enemy to York-town to be exchanged, that on the passage he with other prisoners rose upon the crew, captured the vessel and escaped into Beaufort North Carolina, from whence after months of delay he returned to his home in South Carolina -- That she calls attention to the period of his imprisonment because one of the Certificates from the Comptroller General's office of South Carolina shows a service of only about 19 months -- whereas deponent has reason to believe that her husband served under arms during the War of the Revolution two years and more.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Elliott on the 23rd May 1787, that, he died on the 8th May 1808, that she is still his widow, and in support of her claim submits the annexed proof -- Deponent saith she has not heard nor does she know of another William Elliott other than her husband having served under arms during said Revolutionary War. Deponent saith that no Judge resides within thirty miles over residence, and that her present health will not permit her to travel beyond that distance to execute this declaration.

Sworn to before me on the day & year above mentioned --

S/ Jno. W. Baker, Magistrate

S/ Phoebe Elliott



¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_matthews_plantation.html

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State of South Carolina Beaufort District

Personally appeared before me John M. Baker Esquire, Magistrate, Edward Barnwell of Beaufort, planter, who maketh oath, "That he is nearly sixty-four years of age, & has known William Elliott, the late husband of Mrs. Phoebe Elliott the claimant in this case, from his earliest recollection; that he heard from his uncle Robert Barnwell, that his nephew the said William Elliott accompanied him, Robert Barnhill, as a soldier among the troops sent from this district, by the Council of safety in Charleston, under Colonel Stephen Bull, to Savannah & Purrysburg, to quell some disaffected movements of traitors, in the year 1776. That said William Elliott was also among the troops engaged under General Moultrie [William Moultrie], with the British under Major Gardiner [Valentine Gardiner], in 1779, upon the Island of Port Royal [February 3, 1779], in which engagement, by the returns of the field officers, 40 of the British were killed & wounded among them a Major -- The enemy fled to their shipping in Broad River, & the Americans could not pursue, as they had expended nearly all of their ammunition. This deponent sayeth further, that he has heard, from his father Edward Barnwell, & uncle Robert Barnwell, that the said William Elliott their nephew, was taken prisoner with themselves in the engagement with the British, at Matthews plantation upon John's Island, in 1779, and that this deponent has seen the scar of a very dangerous wound in the breast, shown to him by the said William Elliott, as received on that occasion; that William Elliott was among the prisoners put on board of the Prison ship, the *Pack horse*, and Charleston Harbor, & when sent for exchange to the North, assisted in overcoming the guard on board, & running the schooner into Halifax, North Carolina, from whence, they returned some time before the close of the war; that the said William Elliott never took protection from the British, & his name is to be found with his uncles, John, Edward, & Robert Barnwell among those, who signed a petition to General Greene, that he would not permit any injurious consequences that might accrue to them, while prisoners, to have any influence in preventing a retaliation for the murder of Colonel Hayne.

This deponent further saith, he is the keeper of the Public Parish Register of this Parish, & that the following extract is a true copy thereof, except that the dates are fully written out, of the birth, marriage, & death of said William Elliott -- "William Elliott, son of William & Mary Barnwell, born July 9, 1761, married 23rd of May 1787, to Phebe Wright & died 8th day of May 1808," and, that said Phoebe is still his widow.

This deponent further saith that William Phoenix, who hath, made affidavit in this claim, is without exception, the most respectable colored man he has ever known, & that he holds a high stand, as a member of the Baptist Church in this Town of Beaufort.

Sworn to & duly certified before made this 29th day of October 1849.

S/ Jno M. Baker, Magst.

S/ Edward Barnwell



[p 28—SC Comptroller General's report on payments to William Elliott during the Revolution

[p 44-45]

State of South Carolina Beaufort District

On this the 26th day of October 1849 before me John M. Baker Magistrate in and for said District personally appeared William Phoenix aged 83 years an entirely credible and reliable

witness, who being duly sworn according to law says on his oath that he was a body servant of the late Robert Barnwell Esquire of this District during the Revolutionary War, that said Robert Barnwell together with the his 2 brothers Edward and John took up arms against the British in the year 1775 and deponent says that he was well acquainted with the late William Elliott husband of Mrs. Phoebe Elliott of this District, the said William Elliott was a connection of the Barnwells, they belonged to the same section of Country and entered the service together with them in 1775; and accompanied them with the troops under Colonel Stephen Bull to Georgia in March 1776 -- deponent says that while so the service of the late Robert Barnwell he was present on a plantation in the vicinity during the action in the early part (about January or February) 1779 at Court Royal Island in this District when the Americans under General Moultrie defeated the British from Savannah under Major Gardiner. The militia of this district Port Royal Island were mounted and under the command of John Barnwell and William Elliott was there present with them his neighbors and family kindred and he so continued serving with them until the month of May in the year 1779 when the company was surprised by the British while encamped at the Plantation of the Mr Matthews of John's Island and dispersed. William Elliott was bayoneted in the breast and was taken prisoner and so was Robert Barnwell they remained so prisoners in the hands of the enemy until they reached Halifax North Carolina when William Elliott with others escaped and as this deponent understands and believes joined General Sumter's Brigade deponent saw the said William Elliott again in the latter part of the year 1781 and he was still in the service; said William Elliott died in 1808 and further deponent saith not. Sworn to & subscribed before me on the day & year above mentioned
S/ Jno. M. Baker, Magt.

S/ William Phoenix

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Phoenix". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ William Phoenix".

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$88.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband's service as a private in the South Carolina Cavalry & Infantry.]