

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Edwards S45839

f23NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

Territory of Florida, County of Alachua

On this first day of January A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Honorable the Judges of the Superior Court for the Eastern District of Florida, now sitting, Henry Edwards a resident of the County of Columbia, in the Territory aforesaid 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, to wit:

That he entered the service first, in or about, as nearly as at this distant day he can recollect, the year 1777, and was attached to a company of infantry commanded by Captain Gaimes [sic, Gaines or Grimes?]; Colonel Mathews [Thomas Matthews] being the Colonel of the Regiment to which it belonged, and General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] the commanding General during this period of his service he was stationed principally in South Carolina, and was engaged in the defense of Charleston during its besiegement by the British, a part of which time he was employed in the duties of a marine; and he continued thus to serve during a period of about eight months or more when he was regularly discharged by General Lincoln or his order; but by whom the certificate of his discharge was signed he cannot now recollect. That two or three months after such his discharge, and inspired by his feelings of patriotism and compelled by the necessities of his country, he again entered into its service by joining a company of Infantry commanded by Captain Isham Sheffield, which company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Kenyon [probably James Kenan]; and that he continued with this company for a period of about three months, stationed principally, during the time, near Wilmington in North Carolina, when he again retired from the service, taking a regular discharge from Colonel Kenyon: That he afterwards again returned to the field by joining a troop of cavalry under command of Captain Golaspia [sic, Gillespie?] in which service he continued five or six months, being also stationed during that period near Wilmington. That he resided when he entered the service in Duplin County, North Carolina. That he was in each instance of his engagement, and during the whole period of his service, a volunteer. That besides his having shared in the defense of Charleston, he was also present during the latter period of his service, and a short time after the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781], in an engagement with the British near a place called Sugar Loaf where he killed two of the enemy with his own hands: That he lived since the Revolutionary War in Effingham County, State of Georgia, and in Telfair County in the same State, and that he now resides in the County of Colombia aforesaid. That he further says that in consequence of Indian disturbances which occurred in the part of Georgia in which he then resided, some time, he thinks about the year 1718 or 1818, all the documentary evidence by which this his declaration might be substantiated was lost to him, and that Abel G. Lopar, at present residing in the County of Colombia aforesaid, and presiding Justice of the County Court for said County, who then lived in the same neighborhood in

Georgia with himself is cognizant of the fact of the reputed description of his papers at that time, some of which in relation to his services in the Revolutionary struggle had, he believes, been previously seen by the said Lopar, and that William Edwards of Effingham County and the State of Georgia, is a witness to the fact of his having served in the Army of the United States, at the times above stated, but that he knows of no other person, whose testimony he is in a situation to procure, who can testify to his service.

And further he says that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State whatever.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

S/ Henry Edwards, X his mark

[Abel G. Lopar and Bannet M Dell gave the standard supporting affidavit. The certification indicates that there is no clergyman residing in the neighborhood.]

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State of Georgia, Effingham County

Personally appeared before me William Edwards after being duly sworn, saith upon oath, That Henry Edwards a Soulder [sic, Soldier] of the revolutional [sic] war of Seventy Six did to his knowledge was in the Service as a foot soldier, & likewise under the command of James Galaspie [James Gillespie?] in the Cavalry or Horse, two or three times & he always understood he faithfully acted, a Soldier obedient to his officers & executing every measure to the high interest & welfare to the United States of America.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 21st of November 1829

S/ Wm Edwards, X his mark

S/ Wm Gashett, JP

Witness:

S/ A. G. Loper

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Henry Edwards

11 The declarant did not make his declaration in the County where he resides because there is no Court of record established in that County

14 The declarant states that he served during the Siege of Charleston [that siege ended with the capitulation of the Continental Army at Charleston on May 12, 1780] which is a period known from history. He shows that he served for sixteen months and we think him entitled to a pension in proportion to that time period.

XI The general belief in the neighborhood where the declarant resides so far as we are advised is that he served faithfully during the Revolution, and that he is entitled to a pension.

XII. It appears in evidence that there is no clergyman residing in the neighborhood of the declarant and we believe such to be the fact.

S/ Thos. Douglas

S/ R. K. Call

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On this day the first of January in the year 1833 personally appeared Abel G Lopar [sic] Esq. of the County of Columbia, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that about 15 or 16 years since, say about the year 1816, he saw in the possession of Henry Edwards an original paper purporting to be a discharge of the said Edwards from military service, which said discharge was signed by 3 or 4 officers of different grades, but the names of whom this deponent cannot now recollect, with the exception of

one, to wit Kenyon – and that in said discharge honorable notice was taken of the services of said Edwards during the period of his attachment to their division of the Army, and of the highly faithful and active character of his deportment during such his service.

And this deponent further says that sometime about the year 1817 or 1818 he resided in Telfair County in Georgia in the close neighborhood of the above mentioned Edwards, when disturbances broke out with the Indians in Georgia, and the house of the said Edwards was pillaged by them the said Indians, and that it was the current and general understanding in the neighborhood at that time that the papers of the said Edwards had been among other things taken away or destroyed by the said Indians.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court
S/ James Dell, Clerk

S/ Abel G Loper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abel G. Loper". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Abel G Loper".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia.]