

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Joshua Elkins W17755 Martha fn37NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 11/27/08

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and 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.]

State of North Carolina Chatham County

On this 24th day of January 1843 -- personally appeared before the Subscriber an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid (she being so aged and infirm as not to be able to travel to Court) Martha Elkins a resident of and in the County of Chatham and State of North Carolina aged 86 years old who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to attain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed 4th July 1836 That she is the widow of Joshua Elkins who was a Corporal in Captain Doherty's Company in the 6th Regiment of the Continental line That she is informed and believes that her said Husband served in the Continental Line for two years and three months -- from bad health and becoming unable to perform duty he was discharged upon Furlough and obtained a certificate for his services and returned home in the year 1799 [sic, 1779?] That her said Husband again entered the service in the year 1780 as a substitute for a three months Tour in the place of Andrew Pedy in the Militia under Captain Benjamin Blake -- and in the same year he again entered the service in the Militia and served a three months Tour as a substitute for William Elkins and marched to South Carolina under Captain John Hadley That in the year 1781 he again entered the service as a substitute for a three months Tour and served it out for Moses Hix and served under Captain William McCullers and was in the Battle of Cain Creek or Lindley's Mills. That he was then Drafted and served three months in South Carolina under Captain Lane in General Greene's Army as well as [she] can now recollect That she has no documentary evidence to establish these facts and must rely upon such proves as she may be able to make in support of her claim -- She further declares that she was married to the said Joshua Elkins on the 30th day of June in the year 1780 That her husband the said Joshua Elkins Died on the 22nd day of June 1821 And that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day and year above written before me
S/ Geo. Luther, JP S/ Martha Elkins, X her mark

[On September 29, 1855 in Chatham County North Carolina Martha Elkins made oath that she was the widow of Joseph Elkins and that she is receiving a pension of \$64 per annum as such under Pension No. 3978.]

[fn p. 11, marriage bond dated June 3, 1779 in Chatham County given by Joshua Elkins and James Booker for the marriage of Martha Womack to Joshua Elkins.]

[facts in file: Martha was the daughter of Britton or Britain or Breton Womack; Joshua died June 22, 1821, "killed at his fireside by a clap of thunder."; Thomas Hinsley, 55, testified in Chatham County that he married a daughter of Martha and Joshua Elkins (her name not given); Britain

Womack, brother of Martha, was 76 years old in 1843 and then lived in Moore County, NC; Britain recalls "that Joshua Elkins sat in to work with this deponent's father whether of a shear [share] of the crop or Slavery wages he does not recollect and that during the Summer his Sister and Elkins ware [were] married that they lived in the family after their marriage until a house was built on his father's land and they went to live to themselves and he further saith, that after the said Joshua Elkins and Martha his wife went to live to themselves this deponent went to stay with his Sister for Company and to give her such assistance as he was then able to do that Joshua Elkins was almost always from home But he cannot now say what was the Cause whether he was in the military services for himself or a substitute for somebody else he does not now recollect -- And This Deponent Further Saith one circumstance he does recollect That some years after the war and after the deponent was grown up nearly to manhood that Josiah Elkins employed this deponent to go to a Mr. Thomas Pedy to get his pay to go and collect his money due him for his services as a soldier in the Continental Line this deponent saith that he went to Pedy and he readily acceded to his proposition and that he took the Evidence of the Claim or Certificate and collected the money and paid in gold coin the amount the deponent does not recollect but he does recollect it was then considered to be a large sum of money."]

State of North Carolina Secretary of States Office

I hereby certify that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that Joshua Elkins a Corporal in Captain Doherty's Company of the 6th Regiment enlisted in the year 1777 for the War and was missing on the 4th of October 1777.

Given under my hand this 28th day of Decr. 1842,

S/ Wm Hill

State of North Carolina Chatham County

This day Phebe Booker aged 93 years old personally appeared before the Subscriber an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid -- who after being sworn according to law upon her oath deposed and saith -- That she was acquainted with Joshua Elkins and Martha his wife from their Infancy That they were her near neighbors, children -- and she further saith that Joshua Elkins was a headstrong lad so much so that his father could not control him and he hired him to this deponent's husband to work some time after the war of the Revolution broke out. That Joshua Elkins ran away from this deponent's husband and went to Smithfield and enlisted in the Army -- That said Elkins was under age at that time -- That she understood and believes that sometime in the fall season of the year that Joshua enlisted his father went to bring him back That she then understood from his father that as soon as he got to the Camp that Joshua gave him the slip and was reported missing -- And she further saith that Joshua was gone a considerable time But from the long lapse of time and loss of memory she cannot now say how long he was gone -- She further saith that when he Joshua Elkins returned from the service he came to her husband's house first place when he returned and stated that he had a furlough to come home but for what cause she does not now recollect -- She further saith that after remaining in the neighborhood a while he set out in to work with Britain Womack a Door neighbor of this deponent That sometime in the early part of the Summer, he Elkins married his employers Daughter Martha the present applicant for a pension That they were married by John Robeson Esquire That this deponent was present and saw them married -- And this deponent further saith that after the marriage Britain Womack the father in law had them a house built on his land and settled them there where they remained for a number of years -- and she further saith That the

times Became more troublesome and there was frequent calls for men to go into the Army That whenever a Draft was made Joshua Elkins was ready to take any man's place that would give the highest price -- That she knows he had nothing when he married But in a few years he had a good stack of horses cattle and hogs all of which she understood and believes he got my serving as a substitute and she further saith That she has no doubt But what she has known all the men who he served for But she cannot name them and further she saith not.
Sworn to and subscribed before me the 20th day February 1843.

S/ Phebe Booker, X her mark

S/ Geo. Luther, JP

State of North Carolina, Chatham County

This day Andrew Peddy¹ aged 86 years of age personally appeared before me George Luther an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County -- who being first duly sworn according to law upon his oath deposeth and saith that he was acquainted with Joshua Elkins during the revolutionary war and he further saith That he hired Joshua Elkins to serve one Tour in the militia for him in the year 1781 and that the said Elkins served three months for him under Captain Benjamin Blake and he further saith that he knows of Joshua Elkins having served one other Tour of three months as a substitute for one of his Brothers named William Elkins as well as he can now recollect and thinks he served under Captain John Hadley

And further this deponent saith not Sworn to and subscribed before made this 24th day of January 1843.

S/ Geo. Luther, JP

S/ Andrew Peddy

¹ FPA S8945