

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Edwards R3263  
Transcribed by Will Graves

Rebecca Edwards f70NC  
4/25/08 rev'd 12/17/14

[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 '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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Tennessee, Robertson County: August Term County Court 1832

On this 19<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court & before the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County of Robertson & State of Tennessee William Edwards a resident of the County of Robertson & State aforesaid aged Seventy five 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, depose & say

That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated (to wit) Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle], Major Edwards [?], Abraham Allen, Lieutenant Young, William Couch first Sergeant – and that he was drafted and entered the Service in the month of May in the year 1778 and that he left the Service in the month of August 1778, and that he was drafted for three months. In the month of September 1778, I again entered the Service of the United States under the command of Captain Tavender Mack [Taverner Marsh], Lieutenant John Focher, Joseph Hackney<sup>1</sup> Ensign – Whit Arrington Sergeant as a Substitute in the place of George Bullock for three months, marched against the Tories through different parts of the State though never was marched out of it, had several small engagements with the Tories and on Brush Creek about 50 miles from Fayetteville – in my first Tour I had several engagements with the Tories – we were at the engagement on Brush Creek [October 1781]<sup>2</sup> united with the company commanded by Captain William Douglas, Colonel Roger Griffis, Major Stinber [?] where we completely routed the Tories. Served out the Term of three months and got a discharge, also had one for my first Tour, both of which I have lost.

In the latter part of December 1778 or in January 1779 I again volunteered my services and entered the service of the United States Army under the captains of William Douglass, William Jones – Colonel Griffis at times without any Captain – little fighting against the Tories had many small engagements with them – frequently routing of them and doing [?] of them much mischief by killing whipping & Kitching [sic, catching], and destroying of some of their property by making use of it and sometimes imprisoning of them. I served the whole of the term which was about Twelve months, as was called volunteer minute men at that time – before I again quit the Service – which was December 1779 or 17 January 1780. In January 1780 I again entered the service of the United States Army as a volunteer for three months under the command of the following officers (to wit) Colonel Wade, Captain William Jones, we was then attached to General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army – marched by Kings Mountain was in hearing of the Battle at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] we marched under a hard press to get [there] in time to reinforce the American Army, but was too late to do so – the British Army broke before we got there – night overtaking of us-- prosecuted [?] our press march to Join the Army and on the next day the British Army had fled – marched from there to the River Catawba. We

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<sup>1</sup> [Joseph Hackney S6973](#)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_brush\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brush_creek.html)

then turned down the River we then marched on to join General Greene, at the Cheraw Hills and Pedee [River]. The Tories having got [away] we there remained about three months under the command of Colonel Wade of the militia, General Greene of the Regular Army we were there engaged for the whole time in service to the Army with provisions. On the 27<sup>th</sup> day of September 1781 I got my discharge from Captain William Jones – at the Cheraw Hills and went from there home, after I got home I was afraid to be seen, and laid out three days, hid from the Tories – On the third day in the morning [? could be evening] I was in my own house the Tories surrounded the House, and took me a prisoner. They then carried me to Hillsboro in the State of North Carolina and gave me up to the British Army. I was in confinement three days at which time I narrowly made my escape and ran away. I then lay out several days until the British went off and the Tories I then went home and lived in peace with my God & Country from that day until the present, and all the times in which I served in the Army, I was never marched out of the State of North Carolina except the Trip to the Cheraw Hills. I have hereto annexed the discharge of William Jones Captain for my last Service which was given me at the Cheraw Hills although it appears to have been given in Chatham County. The Balance of my discharges I have lost, or mislaid, during the whole of the time while I was in the Army my family and myself when not in the Army lived in the State of North Carolina, Chatham County on Haw River. I was acquainted with the following regular officers, to wit, General Greene, General Morgan [Daniel Morgan, spelled Morgain], Col. Mayburn [Robert Mebane] who was killed by the Tories – Colonel John Mayburn -- Col. Chrystmas [sic, Christmas?], Capt. Chrystmas [sic, Richard Christmas?]<sup>3</sup>-- I know of no person by whom I can prove I served the different Tours aforesaid with the exception of the services under Captain Tavender Mack, Captain Abraham Allen & Capt. William Jones.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

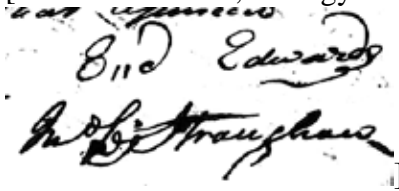
S/ Wm Edwards



Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1832

Test: S/ W. Leal, Clk

[Edward Edwards, a clergyman, and John C. Straughan gave the standard supporting affidavit.



[p 7]

I William West<sup>4</sup> & Oliver Edwards of the County of Robertson and State of Tennessee do hereby certify that William Edwards whose name is annexed to the above dictation served as a Substitute and the place of George Bullock under Captain Taverner Mast and I know that he was in the Army of the United States both before he went under the command of Captain Mast as a Substitute in the place of George Bullock and after under different Captain Abram Allen, Capt. William Jones – and I have no doubt but what he served at least as much as he has set forth in his petition.

Sworn to and Open court this 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832.

S/ William West

Test: S/ W. Leal, Clk

S/ Oliver Edwards

<sup>3</sup> This may be a reference to [Richard Christmas S8196](#)

<sup>4</sup> [William West S14827](#)

*William West  
Oliver Edwards*

[p 10]

The Amended declaration of William Edwards in order to receive a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, which is to be appended to his Original Declaration which was made and sworn to in the County Court of Robertson Tennessee the 17<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 Deposeth and saith as follows To wit:

He served three months in the first Tour spoken of in his Original Declaration.

He served three months in the second Tour spoken of in his Original Declaration.

And in the third Tour spoken of in his Original Declaration served Twelve months as a volunteer minute man.

The fourth tour spoken of in the Original Declaration he served three months, making in all 21 months which he served in the different times and situations as stated in his Original Declaration to which this is to be attached – he served as a private soldier the whole of the time and for such Service he claims a pension.

He was born in the year of 1757 – in Orange County State of North Carolina – He has no record of his age, --, The names of my neighbors who can testify as to my character for veracity and of their belief of my Services as a Soldier of the revolution are John Edwards, William West, Oliver Edwards, - John C. Straughan Esq., Edward Edwards, [illegible first name] Henderson, Warren L. Paige Esq., Moses McCauley Esq., George Blana, Walter Derrington, Elijah Biggs, Elijah Hughhaws, Sandford Hutchison, Moses Byram, John Strether Esq., Burrell Babb, William Babb, Al N. Babb, David Cooper, John Williams, Thomas Williams, Theo [?] Darrington, Thomas West, James Hulett, Toliver Hulett.

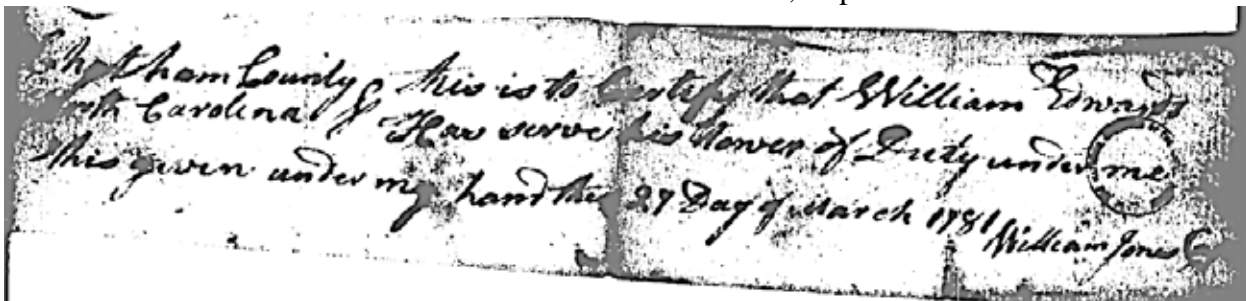
S/ Wm Edwards

[p 22]

“Chatham County, North Carolina This is to Certify that William Edwards has served his tower of Duty under me.

This given under my hand the 27 Day of March 1781

S/ William Jones, Capt.”

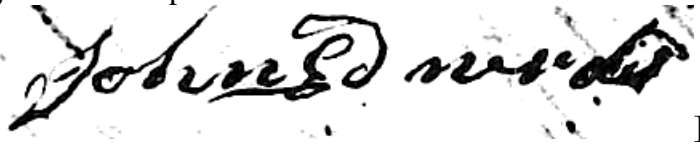


Chatham County, North Carolina This is to Certify that William Edwards has served his tower of Duty under me. This given under my hand the 27 Day of March 1781 William Jones

[p 13: On August 12, 1837, Rebecca Edwards filed in Robertson County, Tennessee, for a widow's pension stating that she is 77 years old, that she is the widow of William Edwards, a pensioner of the United States who drew his pension at Nashville, Tennessee, that she married said William Edwards on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 1775 and that her husband William Edwards died on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April 1837. She also stated as follows: "...she further states that she could give a short history of the sufferings she endured while her husband was in the Service but is advised that it is unnecessary. She will say that having three small children to take care of it was with much hardship in the absence of her husband that she could prevent the Tories from taking the bread that was to support her and them." Her maid name

was Rebecca Brewer. She signed her name with her mark.]

[p 14: On August 12, 1837, John Edwards of Simpson County Kentucky gave testimony in Robertson County Tennessee that he was 73 years old; that he was present at the marriage of his brother William Edwards and Rebecca Brewer; that his brother and Rebecca were married before his brother rendered his services in the revolution; that they were legally married in Chatham County North Carolina by a justice of the peace whose name he thinks was Clark.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Edwards". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid. There are some faint marks around the signature, possibly from the original document or the scanning process.

State of Tennessee, Robertson County

On this day personally appeared William West a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 85 years before me Warren L. Payne one of the Acting Justices of the peace for the County of Robertson and State of Tennessee and made oath in due form of law that he and William Edwards served in the War of the Revolution together they had been Maide's [?] boys in the same neighborhood were well acquainted with each other from their childhood. He knows the time William Edwards and Rebecca Brewer were married they were married on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July 1775 in Chatham County in the State of North Carolina by Alexander Clark a Justice of the Peace he was not present at the wedding but lived within 2 miles of the parties saw them before and after the marriage and has no doubt whatever but what they were legally married; he knows of his own knowledge that they had two or three children when William Edwards served with the affiant in the War of the Revolution. That affiant believes he made an affidavit in support of the services of William Edwards when he was placed on the Pension list under the act of 1832. This affiant and William Edwards has lived closed neighbors ever since the war of the Revolution; knows that Rebecca Edwards is the lawful wife of William Edwards and has remained a widow since the death of her husband. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1837.

S/ Warren L. Payne, JP

S/ William West

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 21 months in the North Carolina militia.]