

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Elisha Collins S10463

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Alabama Greene County.

On this 6th day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court before the Honourable Thomas F Moody, Judge of the County Court of said State and County now sitting, Elisha Collins, a resident of the county of Greene & State of Alabama aforesaid, Aged seventy three years the last day of this present month (November) 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 the 7th June 1832.

States that he has no record of his age but from a statement in his fathers family Bible, he was born the 30th day of November 1759 in the State of Virginia in the county of Halifax, he entered the service of the united states in the month of February 1778 as a volunteer under the command of Capt Thomas Dillard Thomas Hutchins Lieutenant & Charles Hutchins ensign and joined the core for the Elenoys [sic: Illinois] expedition in the County of Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia and was marched to Boonsborough in the State of Kentucky [sic: Boonesborough in then County of Kentucky] & arrived there about the middle of March 1778. he remained there until about the 5th day of June following when he marched under the command of said officers to the falls of the Ohio River [at present Louisville], where he was attached to Capt John Montgomerys Company (afterward was a colonel,) on account of his former Captain (Dillard) resigning (being an old man) the detachment to which I was attached was commanded by Col. George Rodgers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark] (afterwards a General in the service of the United States) the detachment he thinks on the 24th day of June 1778 descended the Ohio River to a point some short distance below the mouth of Tennessee River, from where we marched to Kakaskia [sic: Kaskaskia] (now the State of Illenois) at which place we arrived on the 4th day of July 1778 & took possession of the place (which was then in possession of the Brittish as also made prisoners of the citizens who took the Oath of Allegiance & was released, Governor Rosebrough [sic: P F Rastel de Rocheblave] a Frenchman was also taken a prisioner at said place and was taken by Capt John Montgomery under whose command this affiant was through the wilderness into the settlements of the State of Virginia which was about the middle of October 1778, when Capt Montgomery discharged his company. In the month of May 1779 he volunteered & joined the service of the united states at Lexington in the State of Kentucky under the command of Colonel John Bomon [sic: John Bowman], in Capt John Holders Company Hugh Ross, Leutenant & James Bunton ensign, from whence the same month the detachment marched to the Shawney Towns at old chilicotha [sic: Shawnee Towns at Old Chillicothe in Ohio], where we had an engagement with the Shawne Indians and had some men killed on the ground, & one man by the name of John Denton brought off mortally wounded, who died the second morning after the engagement There was only one Indian killed that he is certain of who was killed by Leutenant Ross. The detachment retreated about 15 miles when they ware overtaken by the Indians where we had another engagement, lost one man, & found one Indian dead on the ground – from whence we was marched back to Lexington where he joined the service, & was discharged thinks that in this campaign he served about twenty days. The next & last service performed by this deponant, was that about the first of August 1780 at Lexington in the State of Kentucky he volunteered in Capt Levi Todd's company & was marched to the mouth of Licking River on the Ohio River whose company was under the command of Col. Benjamin Logan, where we joined General George Rodgers Clarke who commanded the expedition, from thence the detachment under the command of Gen'l Clarke marched to Chilecotha where we found the indian Town deserted & on fire pursued on from thence to Picquaway [sic: Piqua] Town where we found the Indians & had a prety servere engagement [8 Aug], the Indians retreated, lost about sixteen men & killed

about the same number of the Indians, from thence we were marched back to Lexington, where he was discharged – thinks he was about one month in the service in this last expedition. States that he never received from his commanding officers any other than a verbal discharge as was the general practice on those volunteer expeditions – that he remained a citizen of Lexington until June 1782 when he returned to Virginia & married in 1783 & moved back to Kentucky in the year 1784 & remained a citizen thereof until the year 1819 he removed to Greene County in the State of Alabama where he now lives.

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 the united states or of any state or teretory – And states that he does not know of any person living in this state by whom he can prove his services, but there are several persons if yet alive in the State of Kentucky by whom he can prove his actual services as herein before stated. That he can prove his reputation for varacity by Solomon McAlpin James Yeates & James Monett a clergeyman also their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first written Elisha hisXmark Collins