Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of George Edwards S12856
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

VA

State of Kentucky }
County of Lincoln } to wit

On this Day of August 1832 George Edwards personally appeared in open Court before me John L Bridges Circuit Judge of the Circuit Court for Lincoln County now sitting, who is a resident of the said County of Lincoln & State of Kentucky aged seventy four 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 7th of June 1832. That he entered the Service of the State of Virginia under the following officers and served the following Tours of duty. Two of Three months each under Capt Richard Philips [sic: Richard Phillips]. One Tour under Captain David Biggars [sic: David Bigger] of three months. One Tour under Captain Thompson of three months One Tour under Captain Smith of Three months, one Tour of Three months under Captain Buckner and one Tour of three months under Captain Richard Phillips, Junior. He states that the major of the Regiment was by the name of Declaumon [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman, a Dane]. the name of Col of the Regiment was [Arthur] Campbell and the general officers of the Regular Army were Generals Anthony Wayne & the Marquis De la Fayette [Lafayette]. That he left the service three months before Cornwallis was taken prisoner [19 Oct 1781]. He states that he was in an engagement with the British under Lord Cornwallis about six miles above the old town of James Town on James River [Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781]. he does not recollect the particular time when this engagement took place the American Troops were commanded by Generals Wayne & Fayette – his Company was under the Command of Capt Richard Phillips Jun'r. Major Decleuman & Col Campbell and that he was not in any other engagement That he lived about three miles from the Courthouse in the County of Louisa in the state of Virginia, he entered the service in the year of our Lord 1776 and that he left the service about 3 months before Cornwallis was taken - that he was drafted as a malitia man. that he marched generally about the Country near Williamsburg and as far as the bowling Green and that he took one trip up to the Racoon ford on the Rhappahannock [sic: Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River, June 1781]. He states that he served in the 5th Regiment of the Virginia Malitia, that he has no Documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can obtain except William Tisdal who can testify to three months service under Capt Thompson

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state



State of Kentucky }
Lincoln County Sct }

On this 26th Day of November 1832 personally appeared, in open Court, before the Justices of the Lincoln County Court now Sitting, which is a Court of record recognised & established by the Constitution & Laws of the state of Kentucky, George Edwards a resident of said County & state aged Seventy Two 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 7th 1832

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

That entered the service as a Draft in the Virginia Militia as he thinks in the month of May 1776 under the command of Capt Richard Phillips Sen'r and served a Tour of three months, that he was

drafted in Louisa County in the state of Virginia and marched from that County to the neighbourhood of Norfolk and the adjacent counties. It was during the period when Lord Dunmore the royal Governor of Virginia, was infesting the Coasts & water courses of the state by incursions into the country from his shipping, and harrassing that part of the country which was near the seaboard [May - Aug 1776], he well recollects that it was During this Tour that the declaration of Independence was signed, and that it was celebrated in their company immediately after its announcement, he was likewise Commanded by Col Campbell & Major Decleuman, and was discharge by Capt Phillips but has lost his discharge

That he was again drafted as a militia man in Louisa County, & entered the service under Capt Richard Phillips Sen'r. Col Arthur Campbell was the Col. & Decleuman a Frenchman was the Major, as he thinks in the month of September or october, he does not recollect which in 1776 and served a Tour of Three months, and march from the County of Louisa to Little York where a body of the enemy under Dunmore [see endnote] had Disembarked and were levying contribution an & plundering the inhabitants & otherwise harrassing them, that they expelled the Enemy & protected the Country from their incursions and that he served the regular Tour of Three months & was discharged by Capt Richard Phillips Sen'r but where he does not reccollect, he has lost his discharge.

He would state that in the spring of the year 1777 he does not reccollect the month, but thinks it was March or April, he again entered the service as a Draft under Capt Thompson, he has not a distinct recollection of the Col or Major, but thinks they were the same as above stated, Campbell or Decleuman but cannot state positively, as his memory is so much impaired by age and infirmities that he cannot reccollect distinctly, he knows that his Capt was Thompson & that he served a Tour of three months, and that he was called out & served generally six months in each year with an intermission of three months between each Tour. he has lost his discharge.

That in the fall of said year 1777, he does not reccollect the month he again entered the Service as a draft under Capt Smith, he does not remember the other officers and served a tour of Three months that he recollects whilst on this Tour in order to concentrate their forces he was compelled to march through the Chickahominy Swamp and remain without a Blanket or other dry covering untill day break, and that the object of these regular tours was to protect the country round the head of the Chesapeak Bay and the sea coast from the excursions of the British from their ships, he has no discharge.

He states that in the Winter of 1778 [sic] the month of January he thinks he was again drafted & entered the service under Capt David Biggers and Served a tour of three months. he thinks the Col was Richard Taylor [see endnote]. he does not remember the Major, and that he was marched from Louisa County to the County of Albemarle in the state of virginia where his Company was stationed in the Albemarle Barracks as a guard over the British prisoners who were Captured under General Burgoyne in the Battle of Saratoga [17 Oct 1777; brought to Albemarle Barracks in Jan 1779] and where his company remained for the aforesaid period of three months. he knows of no regular officers or regiments having been on Duty at that time, that he marched back to Louisa County & was discharged, which he has lost

He states that the next Tour he served was under the Command of Capt Buckner, that he served as a Draft, he does not rember the officers, that he served this Tour in the spring and summer of 1778 [sic], that it was a Tour of three months, that he marched he marched from Louisa County to the sea board & performed duty in the counties adjoining thereto – that he was discharged as usual and has lost his discharge

That he does not remember to have been in the service again untill, he thinks in the year 1780, in which year he served Two Tours of duty of three months each making in whole six months, that he cannot recollect the names of his Captains nor of any of the other officers, nor will he be positive, that it was in the year 1780 but he thinks that was the year. But this much he knows that he rendered the services & claims a pension for them.

That in the year 1781 During the summer & in the month of July he was again called into the service as a Draft & entered the service under the Command of Capt Richard Phillips Jun'r. (the son of Capt Phillips under whom he served in 1776) Arthur Campbell was the Col & Decleuman was the Major, and that it was at the time when Lord Cornwallis was in Virginia That the Marquis De La Fayette

& Gen Wayne were the commanding Genrals in the regular service. He was in an engagement against the British Army under Lord Cornwallis, about six miles above the old Town of James Town on James River, when Cornwallis crossed James River on his route to Little York. LaFayette & Wayne commanded the American Army & Cornwallis the British Army That they crossed the River & pursued Cornwallis untill they hemmed him in at Yorktown or Little York as it was called from which he Did not escape & that he continued in the service untill he was relieved & discharged from the service by Capt Richard Phillips Jun'r, where or at what time he does not recollect, nor does he know what has become of his discharge

He states that he knows that he has served nine Tours of Duty. Three months each making in the whole Twenty Seven months.

That he marched generally about the Country near Norfolk & York and around the head of the Bay of the Chesapeake, and in and about Williamsburg and as far as the Bowling Green and that he took one trip whilst in service as far as the Racoon ford on the Rhappahannock River. He states that he was in the 5th Regiment of Virginia Militia

That he was born and raised about three miles from the Courthouse in Louisa County state of Virginia in the year 1760, that he was enrolled & Drafted at the age of 16 years old, that in [blank] he removed to Lincoln County State of Kentucky, where he now resides. That his name was recorded in the parish register of his parish in Louisa County. he never had any other register of his name & age & does not know what has become of that.

he would state that he does not know of any Clergyman that he can procure to testify to his character for veracity & truth, & the reputation of the Neighbourhood of his having been a revolutionary Soldier, as the clergyman who resided in his neighbourhood has recently moved to the state of Indiana Jesse Berry by name, and that he does not know any other clergyman who has been acquainted with him for any length of time, he having recently moved from his old Neighbourhood to another in the same County & the said Jesse Berry having been the only Minister in his old neighbourhood. He states that he has no Documentary evidence of his services, nor does he know of any person by whom he can prove any part of his services except by William Tisdal who can testify as to three months service under Capt Thompson, that he is known in his present neighbourhood to James Wallace & Joseph Hall who can testify as to his character for veracity. He hereby relinquishes all 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. Sworn George hisXmark Edwards to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for Lincoln County George Edwards, who being Duly sworn, deposeth & saith, that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively to the precise dates when his Different services were rendered nor to the precise length of time, but he knows that he served not less than the number of Tours mentioned above and at the periods specified in his declaration to the best of his reccollection – and that he knows he has served Twenty seven months in whole making nine Tours as a drafted Militiaman & for such service he claims a pension – given from under my hand this 2 Day of November 1832

Lewis Ball JPLC

NOTES:

Lord Dunmore departed for England on 7 Aug 1776.

The commandant at Albemarle Barracks was Col. Francis Taylor of the Continental Line.

James Wallace certified that "Edwards so long as he continued able to work was regularly employed by [his] Father Major Andrew Wallace Deceased, in his harvest fields every summer And in the conversations between the old men he has often heard them relate over the events of the revolution, part of their services were performed together, and he remembers among other incidents talked of the affair of passing through the chickahominy swamp was frequently mentioned."