Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

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Pension Application of Leonard Ellis W8689 Jane Ellis Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Henry County Sct.

On this 4th day of Sep'r 1832 personally appeared in open Court (being a Court of record) before the Justices of the County Court for said County of Henry, now sitting Leonard Ellis, a resident of said County of Henry aged seventy nine, who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benifit 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. Vizt. He enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year, he thinks 1777 with Isaac Bell [possibly Capt. Isaac Beall] a recruiting officer who conducted him & others to German Town [Germantown], where we joined and found a Company commanded by Capt Geo Wales [George Wales], in the 8th Virginia Regiment of the Continental line, which regiment was Commanded by Col A. Bowman [Abraham Bowman, pension application W396] under Gen'l Mulenberg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]: the regiment he was in marched to the Jerseys & reconnoitered the country until we went to the Monmouth Battle [28 Jun 1778]; when Capt Abr'm. Hite [Abraham Hite S46385] was our Captain (who is now dead or his certificate would be produced) – that he was in the Battle of Monmouth and then marched toward the White Plains beyond Kings bridge, and on the way was taken sick and remained sick about two months, & when he got better he went with Capt. Cherry [William Cherry R13143] to the Albemarl [sic: Albemarle] barracks and from thence home having been there discharged being in the Service upwards of eighteen months. He states that he was a resident in the County of Barkley [sic: Berkeley], Town of Martinsburg State of Virginia when he enlisted – that he entered & enlisted for one year which he thinks was in the fall say Octo of 1777 and was discharged as aforesaid in Spring of 1779 – that he could state many small circumstances, but they, he thinks, would not aid in the investigation of his claim – certain he is that he served faithfully and now wants his pension

He hereby further declares, that in or about the year 1776 he went out under Capt Buckles [possibly Matthew Arbuckle] under Gen'l. [Edward] Hand, under Maj'r. Will Morgan [possible Zackquil Morgan], against the Indians at Pittsburg then called Fort Pitt, he Volunteered for four months and after having scouted thro' the Country, we went down the Ohio River to keep Garrison at Rearden's bottom [Reardon's Bottom near present Georgetown in Beaver County PA] – no battles being fought we were discharged – this was in the Sping & Summer – about this time Ge'l McEntosh [sic: Lachlan McIntosh] went against the Indians. – that he obtained discharges for both services which are lost or misplaced, & that he has no evidence or documentary proof of his services. 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 & that he was at the battle when Cornwallis was taken [siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781].

Sworn to & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid

State of Kentucky } Sct Henry County }

Be it known that on this 18th day of Sept'r 1833 personally appeared before William McCrackin a Justice of the Peace in and for Henry County Ky. and a member of the Henry County Court Jane Ellis a resident of the said county of Henry Ky. age 70 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following statement that is to say – that she is the widow and relict of Leonard Ellis deceased who is the same Leonard Ellis who made his declaration before the Henry County Court on the

4th day of Sept'r 1832 in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That she intermarried with the said Leonard Ellis on the [blank] day of December 1781 in Berkeley County va. about twelve miles from Winchester va. - that her maiden name was Jane Alloman - that she was raised in the said county of Berkeley va and that her father lived within about one mile of William Ellis a brother to Leonard Ellis with whom the said Leonard lived and by whom he was raised – that she was well acquainted with the said Leonard from his childhood. She states that she recollects distinctly of the said Leonard Ellis having as she was informed she thinks probably in 1777 enlisted into the service of the United States for twelve months. She recollects also of his leaving the neighbourhood and upon that business as it was alledged and well understood in the family and neighbourhood and of his being absent for a long time she thinks smartly over a year she has often heard him say the time he was gone in the service upon that enlistment was eighteen months instead of twelve months. And she further states that she has also heard him say in relation to the same matter that he was enlisted into the service by one Isaac Bell a recruiting officer who soon afterward ran away and returned him and others as persons who had enlisted for during the war and that he was compelled to serve eighteen months upon said enlistment and was then discharged by Capt Cherry which discharge he lost. She further states that she has often heard him speak of his having served a tour of four months as a volunteer against the Indians in the neighbourhood of Pittsburg and of the truth of his statement about that matter she has no doubt.

She states further that she recollects distinctly of his performing a tour of three months as a drafted militia man in the year 1781 in the company of Capt Ashby – that upon that tour as she was informed and believes he was at the seige of York and Capture of Cornwallis and the British Army.

She states that from her best information he was born in the State of Maryland – that he lived in Barkeley County va. when he entered the service and there continued after the war till about the year 1791 and then moved to the state of Ky. Fayette County where he remained with his family 7 years and then moved to Woodford County Ky. where he lived about 12 or 13 years and then he moved to Henry County Ky. where he continued to reside up to the time of his death which event took place on the 22nd day of August 1833.

She states that he employed Mr. Ed. P. Thomas to make his application to the War department for his pension and relied upon his skill in matters of the kind and supposed that all was done which was required by the regulations of the Department till a short time prior to his death & he then was in too bad health to amend his declaration or make a new one And she hopes that any inadvertance or want of attention upon the part of Mr. Thomas will not be suffered to prejudice her claim in right of her husband – that she is old and poor and much needs the little pittance which the bounty of the Government has provided for her husband

NOTES:

When Jane Ellis applied for a pension in 1833 there was no law providing for widows. On 1 October 1838 she successfully reapplied. In this application she stated that at the time of her marriage her father lived on the line separating Frederick and Berkeley counties.

The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Frederick County on 14 Nov 1781 by Leonard Ellis and Thomas Maynard Goldsberry for the marriage of Ellis to Jane Allemong.

Correspondence in the file refers to Frances Grimes, one of the children of Leonard and Jane Ellis. On 6 Oct 1833 Elizabeth Bishop, about 64, made a statement in support of Jane Ellis's application, stating that she was the daughter of William Ellis, the brother of Leonard Ellis. Her husband, Elisha Bishop, also made a supporting statement, and added that he married into the family of Leonard Ellis about 47 years previously.