

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Elsbury (Ellsbury) W10016    Mary Elsbury    f62NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves    11/29/08 rev'd 12/29/14

[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.]

### State of Indiana Dearborn County

On this 14th day of November 1833 personally came in open Court before the Probate Court of said Dearborn County, now sitting, Jacob Ellsbury, a resident of said County who being duly sworn, on his oath according to law, and being seventy years of age the 11th of the present month doth, after being sworn as aforesaid make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 -- Entitled "an act supplementary to "An act for the relief of surviving officers & soldiers of the revolution."

That he was born (as appears from the record in a Bible which belonged to his father, and which was given to declarant by his mother after he was "free") on the 11th of November 1763, in the State of Maryland, Was so young when he left Maryland he cannot designate the place of his birth, but it was not far from a place called Noxtown where his father used to go to the "fair" and home again in the same day Thinks he was not more than five or six years old, when his father died and he was bound to a man named Miller a Moravian, and saddler by trade, who soon afterwards moved taking declarant with him to "little York" in Pennsylvania, 20 miles or thereabouts from Lancaster. Does not know exactly how long his master lived at York, for Declarant was still young when said Miller moved with him to North Carolina, near the Moravian towns, and about four miles from Salem. Declarant's mother when she bound him to Miller bound him as being two or three years older than he really was, hence his apprenticeship expired some time before he was 21 years of age. Declarant says he cannot tell whether he was "drafted" or not Says word came to the place where he was -- the Moravian Settlement that they must meet at Richmond or Surry Court house, about twenty miles or so from where he lived in near the Yellow banks of the Adkin or Yadkin River. The Moravians would not lift arms and declarant went himself to the place of rendezvous, glad to quit the service of his master (who was cruel to him and took no pains to learn him his trade) for his time of apprenticeship was not yet out, The Captain's name on this first tour was Jones [John Litten Jones]. Declarant says Lieutenant's name was Micajah Lewis, heard he was afterwards killed at "Kings Mountain." [October 7, 1780] William Lewis, brother of Micajah was Ensign. Declarant cannot recollect, from decay of memory, what year it was when this tour commenced. A written Discharge which he sends herewith, signed by his Captain on the last tour he served seems dated November 1781. The last tour was three months in length -- the tour before the last was three months -- the one before that three months -- and the first one was nine months and declarant can tell the time or year of the first service only by counting the time back from the date of his last discharge. Declarant remembers it was early in the spring -- the weather being quite cool -- when the first

tour began. He therefore states that to the best of his recollection -- and forming his opinion of the date of the year according to the above calculation -- it was in March 1780 that his first tour commenced, when they rendezvoused at Surry Court House as before named, We marched from the Court House to the Moravian towns or between there and Salem and laid there some time perhaps two months -- thence marched below Guilford Court House, and lay on Buffalo Creek, near Buffalo Meeting house, a month or two waiting for orders. From thence marched into Virginia and lay, in camp, until he got his discharge, at or near a place which he thinks was called Horse pasture or Moon Creek, being a Creek or water course. There were several companies here. Benjamin Knox was Captain of one of them. Declarant thought his discharge of not much use, and took little care of it, and does not know what has become of it. It was long ago lost and probably it was lost with many other of his papers, in moving to this country -- as they were very near drowning in crossing Clinch River, and everything in his wagon was wet & many papers lost. This tour of declarant's service was nine months long. It was but a short time after he returned from his first tour before he volunteered for a second tour of service -- He thinks it was in December or November when he commenced a second tour -- They rendezvoused at Cross Creek in North Carolina he thinks a place called Fayette [Fayetteville] now he thinks -- Remembers none of the officers names but Colonels Washington [William Washington] and Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], They lay at Cross Creek some length of time -- marched from there to a place called the "Long Bluff" at that time -- lay at Bluff some time recruiting -- marched thence passed a town called "Monks Corner" [Moncks Corner] to Dorchester a place not far from Charleston -- lay there till he got his discharge his three months service being out. Lived at Dorchester principally on rice -- Can state as to this discharge only as to his former one. He went to Colonel Washington and asked for his discharge, says he "never mind my little man, List for the war, you shall soon have clothes" for declarant was nearly naked, and was tired of living on rice which they made into mush of the River water, and it was so full of sand they could hardly shut their teeth on it when it was made, so preferred going home, Soon after declarant cannot recollect the month, but of course, in same year, volunteered again -- Rendezvoused again at Richmond or Surry Court House under Captain Scott [Arthur Scott], marched to join General Davidson bracket William Lee Davidson], and thence to Cowan's Ford on Catawba River, to prevent Cornwallis from passing the River Cornwallis crossed at Cowan's Ford while Declarant was at a Ford lower down called Tuckaseed's [Tuckaseegee] with a small detachment. In the engagement [February 1, 1781] at the Ford Davidson was slain and Colonel Jo. Williams [Joseph Williams] took command, Shortly after declarant was taken sick and was left behind the troops between Charlotte & Salisbury If declarant's services are computed only till he was taken sick he can safely state that he was in service on this tour two months, if to include his sickness over three. He got no discharge this time, for as soon as he got able to walk, he started home the three months for which he engaged having expired,

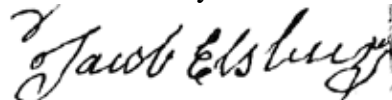
The fourth tour of service he volunteered Joined the Company of Daniel Wright who lived in the same County with declarant. It was a Company of mounted infantry -- Lieutenant's name was Clark, Ensign John Anderson a cousin of Declarant -- Sergeant John Smith, Colonel Robert Smith marched from Surry County to Wilmington. Had an engagement there with the picket guards. The British were in a large Brick house [November 15, 1781] declarant thinks however that most of them were Tories -- Captain Pope's [probably Capt. Charles Polk's] Company of Dragoons were at the same place and time. Grimes was Major of the dragoons, The British &c were driven from the house in one of our men killed -- Some of the enemy were taken prisoners -- principally Highland Scotch We put them in a little pen which was made up for

them, and guarded them that while -- Understood they were afterwards taken to headquarters somewhere but does not know where Declarant does not know of any person living by whom he can prove his service -- Cannot remember the names of persons who served with him as they were strangers to him till he went into the service -- except Mark Whitaker and Becket Nicholls a Mr. Green, Peter Faulk & 2 men named Franklin who were with him at the last tour of service At the end of the last tour of service which lasted three months he received a written discharge which he transmits to the pension office herewith marked A. Lived in South Carolina till near thirty years ago moved to Lexington Kentucky -- stayed there about four years -- then moved to Shelby County Kentucky staid about two years -- then moved to mouth of Kentucky River -- stayed about two years -- thence moved to Dearborn County Indiana where he has ever since lived -- He states Arft. J. Vance, Ezra Ferris, James Dill, Absalom Runnion & Amos Lane & John Test and could name hundreds of others who are his neighbors & can testify to his veracity and their belief of his services as a revolutionary soldier, In conclusion Declarant says, that to the best of his recollection he served as a private soldier & volunteer in the Army of the Revolution at least 18 months commencing in March 1780 -- and ending on 17 November 1781 -- Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll or agency of any State.

Sworn to in open Court and subscribed 14 day of November 1833.

S/ James Dill, CC

S/ Jacob Elsbury



[Ezra Ferris a clergyman and Arthur J. Vance gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Indiana County of Dearborn

Before me John Saltmarsh a Justice of the Peace in and for said County & State personally came Jacob Elsbury, an Applicant for a Pension under the law of Congress, who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith, that from his advanced age, and decay of his memory, he cannot recollect with positive certainty, the name of his Colonel during his first period of nine months service, but is under a slight impression, though he may be mistaken in it, that his Colonel's name in that term was Martin Armstrong,

Deponent says it is impossible, as he believes to produce positive evidence of his service in said nine months, but here again solemnly declares that that was called a nine months tour, that he was called on to serve as in a nine months tour and did so serve and was regularly discharged, Deponent understood it was a nine months tour, and received no discharge till the end of the term, Perhaps others who understood matters better may have considered it as a term of six months, and one of three, or three terms of three months each, with no intermission but Deponent was extremely young and he considered it one term of nine months & so still considers it.

S/ Jacob Elsbury

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of February 1834

S/ John Saltmarsh, JP

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Said of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that the name of

Jacob Elsbury does not appear on the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, but from an examination of his declaration I am induced to believe he did serve as therein stated, having been personally acquainted with several of the Officers therein named.

Given under my hand this 17th day of March 1834.

S/ Wm Hill

[p 13: On April 7, 1845 in Dearborn County Indiana, Mary Ellsbury a resident of Laurenceburgh Township in Dearborn County, aged 77 on May 21st next, made application for a widows pension stating that she is the widow of Jacob Ellsbury a revolutionary war pensioner under certificate numbered 26579; that she married him may one 1788; that he died March 15, 1844. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Facts in file: In 1848, Nancy Ellsbury, over 50, testified that she is the 4<sup>th</sup> child of her parents, Jacob and Mary Ellsbury; that the family's Bible has the following record: "Elizabeth Elsbury was born February 4, 1789"; that her sister Elizabeth married William Lefton ; Elizabeth Elsbury [Lefton] gave a similar affidavit; Mary's maiden name was Hudspeth, married on her father's farm in Surry County, NC; Mary was born May 21, 1768; Elizabeth Elsbury married February 15, 1822, William Lefton;

Frederick Ellsbury born September 4, 176\_

Jacob Ellsbury born November 11, 1763

Benjamin Ellsbury born April 1, 1765

William Ellsbury born October 13, 1766"

Presumably, the above is the family record of the birth of the applicant and his siblings.]

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"Brunswick County November 17<sup>th</sup> day 1782

This is to Sartify that Jacob Elsbury is served

A tower of Duuty in the mounted infantry

in Colonel Rob Smiths Ridgment and in

My Company as agreed and faith ful Solder

And is now Dischargd from the same

Given under my hand

S/ Daniel Wright, Capt."

Brunswick County (Volume 1) May 1811  
This is to certify that Jacob Elbert is served  
Attender of Deuty in the mounted infantry  
in Capt. Rob Smiths Regiment and in  
My Company as aged and faithful Soldier  
And is now Discharged from the same  
Given under my hand  
Daniel Wright Capt

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for one year and 6 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]