

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Eaton W18663

Anne Ellen Bryant¹ f36NC

Pension application of William Bryant W18663

Anne Ellen Bryant

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 29th day of August 1844, Anne Ellen Bryant, a resident of the aforesaid County and State aged 88 years appeared this day personally before me, one of the Justices of the Courts of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County (at her own residence she being too infirm to attend Court to make her Declaration) and after being first duly qualified according to law maketh the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836:

1. This Declarant, the aforesaid Anne Ellen Bryant states that she had a former husband whose name was James Eaton, who in the war of the Revolution as a private of Infantry did but serve the United States as follows: to wit that in the fall of 1778 (about five years after her marriage to the aforesaid Eaton) there was a draft for five months militia man when, her husband was drafted for said tour.

The Company to which said James Eaton was attached was under command of Captain Thompson, Lewis Colonel, rendezvoused in the town of Hillsboro, and were marched to Salisbury, thence into South Carolina, was at Purrysburg in South Carolina, thence to Black Swamp thence to Cheraw Hills and were there discharged: and returned home.

In all of the foregoing tour, the Declarant believes that her husband was in a regularly organized Corps and called into Service, by the proper authorities -- That he had a discharge for said tour, but does not now know what has become of it.

This tour this affiant proves by the witness Dolley² whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

2. This Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that sometime in the early part of the year after his discharge from the above tour said James Eaton and this Declarant moved into the State of South Carolina and settled on Wappoo River, about 15 miles from the Eutaws that about 1 June 1781, as well as affiant can now remember her deceased husband, James Eaton, aforesaid, was drafted for a tour of duty in the United States service, and as a private of Infantry, was under General, the Colonel of his Regiment was Colonel Scriven [James Screven] -- that her husband was under General Greene in the battle of the Eutaw Springs: received a mortal wound in said battle was taken home and placed under the care of Doctor ___ but died of said wound in about three days after the battle -- At the persuasion of this Declarant's brother Colonel Archibald Lytle this Declarant again returned to Orange County, aforesaid & settled in the town of Hillsboro:

¹ former widow

² [John Dolley S6802](#)

where she is at present living, in has been living since her return to this State.

This Declarant feels persuaded that her Deceased husband the aforesaid James Eaton did serve other tours, in the War of the Revolution, but in the lapse of upwards of 60 years, cannot give any explicit statement of them:

This Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that her maiden name was Lytle, that she was Sister to Archibald and William Lytle, both of whom were officers in the North Carolina Continental line, -- the former a Lieutenant Colonel, the latter a Captain in the Army of the revolution,

That this Declarant was married to the aforesaid James Eaton in Granville County in the Summer of 1773.

In proof of said marriage the Declarant has caused to be produced a copy of the marriage bond of James Eaton, which is hereto annexed. The Declarant has also caused to be produced the affidavit of Mary Harris, in proof [of] her marriage to said, James Eaton, which is hereto annexed.

Said James Eaton died as above set forth on or about the 11th day of September, 1781.

The Declarant, the aforesaid Anne E. Bryant, has reason to believe & does believe that her last husband William Bryant, as a private of Infantry in the War of the Revolution did serve the United States, as follows, to wit: That on or about the middle of September, 1781 the town of Hillsborough was captured [September 12, 1781] by the Tory forces under Colonel Fanning [David Fanning], when there was a call for militia man -- said William Bryant, this Declarant has understood and believes, volunteered to serve said tour. Hodge was Captain, and Hugh Tinnin [Hugh Tinnen], Colonel of the Regiment said William Bryant was attached to, rendezvoused in the Town of Hillsboro in the County aforesaid, and were under command of General Butler [John Butler] -- were at the "Raft Swamp" -- Lucas' Lane, Monroe's Bridge & North East [Bridge], and after serving a tour of three months and two weeks, vs. the Common enemy was marched back to the town of Hillsboro and there discharged -- what has become of said discharge this Declarant does not know.

This tour is proven also by the affiant John Dolly [sic, John Dolley] whose affidavit is hereto annexed.

The said Anne E. Bryant, Declarant as aforesaid, sets forth upon her said oath, that she and the aforesaid William Bryant were married in the town of Hillsboro in the year next after the close of the war: to wit: 1784 as will further appear by reference to the proves hereto annexed and that said William Bryant did die on the 17th day of January 1835.

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the Service, but that the marriage took place, previous to the first of January 1794: at the time above stated.

The Declarant further sets forth upon her said oath that from old age & bodily infirmity she cannot attend Court to make this Declaration.

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day & year above written before me.

S/ Wm Nelson, JP

S/ Anne E. Bryant, X her mark

[p 3 marriage bond copy—extremely faint—given July 5, 1773 in Granville County, NC, by James Eaton and James Topet [?] for the marriage of Eaton to Anne Lytle.]

[p 4 marriage bond copy—given by William Bryant and Abraham Tatom of Orange County, NC, dated May 29, 1783, for the marriage of Bryant to Elenor Eaton.]

[p 10]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

On this the 28th day of February 1844 personally appeared before the undersigned, one of the Justices of the peace in & for said County John Dolley a resident of said County, and an United States Pensioner, who being first duly sworn according to law maketh oath that in the war of the Revolution, he served in the war of the revolution two amongst other tours to wit

1. In the month of October 1778, there was a draft for five months militia man to serve in the Army of the Revolution, when this affiant was drafted for said tour and did serve all of said tour: Rendezvoused in the town of Hillsboro in Orange County aforesaid -- Thompson was Captain, Lewis & Locke Colonels: were marched to Salisbury, thence to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County -- Thence to Purrysburg in South Carolina, and Rutherford's Camp -- thence to Cheraw Hills, where we were discharged: our five months tour there ended.

In all of said tour this affiant remembers the said James Eaton of Orange County aforesaid, was a private in said five months tour and in said Company with this affiant & was discharged with him at Cheraw Hills.

Said James Eaton as this affiant has always understood & believes married Ellen Lytle -- that said Ellen was afterwards married to William Bryant whose widow said Ellen now is, and is applying for a pension.

2. This affiant further states upon his said oath that, in the fall of 1781, he served a tour as private of militia in the United States service

This tour as well as this affiant remembers Commenced on or about the 15th of September 1781. Colonel Fanning at the head of a large body of British and Tory forces surprised and captured the Town of Hillsboro, in said County -- Governor Burke was taken prisoner, as were all the troops then stationed in said Town.

In a day or two after said Town was captured, this affiant volunteered as a private in the Company Commanded by Captain Hodge -- Tinnen Colonel -- Butler Brigadier General.

Pursued the Tory forces to near Wilmington, was in the engagement at Lucas Lane -- was stationed at while at Swan's & at Monroe's Bridge & at North East Bridge -- returned to the Town of Hillsboro and was there discharged after having served three months and two weeks.

In all of this tour, this affiant remembers William Bryant the deceased husband of Ellen Bryant formerly widow of James Eaton aforesaid, was a private soldier in all of said tour with this affiant and served all of said three months and a half tour, and further saith not Sworn and subscribed the day & date first above written before me.

S/ H. Parker, JP

S/ John Dolley, X his mark

Mary Harris, 90, gave an affidavit in support of Anne E. Bryant's claim [fn. p. 13]. She says Anne was the daughter of Andrew Lytle and sister to the late Col. Archibald Lytle and Captain William Lytle

[p 14: Joseph White also gave a supporting affidavit—very faint—difficult to read—]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this the 4th day of April 1845 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County Anna Ellen Bryant, a resident of the Town of Hillsboro in the County aforesaid aged about __ years, who being first duly sworn according to

law, doth on her oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to Certain Widows."

That she is the widow of William Bryant who was a private of Infantry in the war of the Revolution, and did serve the United States several tours of duty in said War; amongst other tours of service was one in the fall of 1781, early after the Town of Hillsboro was surprised and captured by Colonel Fanning. For a more full account of said William Bryant's Revolutionary Services, this Declarant respectfully refers the Commissioner of Pensions to her Declaration now on file in the Pension office -- which said Declaration was made under the Act 4th July, 1836, in Consequence of her first husband James Eaton having served also in the War of the Revolution as a private Soldier, and after she and said James Eaton were married, but not being able to obtain any Record evidence of said he was Revolutionary Services, the Declarant the said Anna Ellen Bryant aforesaid hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension under the Act of July 4th 1836, and prefers this her Declaration under Act of July 1838.

She further declares that she was married to the said William Bryant as set forth in her original Declaration, and that she caused to be procured and forwarded there with a Certified Copy of the marriage Bond of her Deceased husband the aforesaid William Bryant.

That said William Bryant did die in the year of A.D. 1835 leaving the Declarant his widow, who has not since married but remained the widow of the aforesaid William Bryant. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the Service but the marriage took place previous to 1 January 1894, viz.: at the time stated in her original Declaration.

The Declarant further states that from old age and bodily infirmity she is unable to attend Court to make her Declaration and therefore makes it at her own residence in the Town of Hillsboro in the County of aforesaid.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written, before me
S/ Wm Nelson, JP

S/ Anna Ellen Bryant, X her mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]