

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harvey VAS1431

vsl 12

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/26/14

[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 '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.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Report upon the claim of the Heirs of John Harvey
deceased Captain in the Navy for bounty land for
his services.

To the Governor

Sir,

The petitioners have filed affidavits, in support of this claim – one, of Charles Hayden – the other of Sarah Timberlake (a sister of the said Captain John Harvey) – Both of these witnesses have been certified by the Justices of the Peace who administered the oath to them to be of very respectable character. The first – Charles Hayden, says – that John Harvey entered the service in the Navy of the United States in the year 1776, or early in 1777, that he acted as Captain and continued in service until he was taken prisoner by the enemy who kept him in close confinement for 12 or 18 months – that he served at least three years, including the time of his captivity. The other witness, Mrs. Sarah Timberlake says that her brother was a Captain in the Navy of the United States during the revolutionary war, and that he served as such for three years. (See the affidavits which have been filed.)

I have not been able to find any proof that John Harvey was commissioned a Captain or that he ever held any Commission in the Continental Navy. He was not an officer in the State Navy. His heirs do not say, that he [image of this page of this document cut off at the bottom thereof at this point]

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vices, if he will was a Citizen of Virginia, and bore a commission in the Continental Navy, and actually served in it 3 years. But the proof of his having been a Commissioned officer is not satisfactory.

Respectfully submitted

John H Smith, Commissioner &c

May 25, 1835

[p 4: poor quality image]

State of Virginia Botetourt County to wit

I hereby certify that I lived for many years in Northampton County a near neighbor of

Captain John Harvey who was also a resident of that County and that the said Harvey entered the Navy in the service of the United States and acted as Captain as well recollect that he was superior in command of the Vessel which I was frequently on board of whilst he was commander. The said Harvey entered the service of the Navy in the year 1776 or the early part of 1777 and continued in service until he was taken prisoner by the enemy who kept him in close confinement for 12 or 18 months, when he was either exchanged or released by the enemy, the said Harvey to the best of my recollection never resigned his commission and was in the service of his Country at least three years or more calculating the time he was a prisoner of the enemy.

S/ Chs. Haydon

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chas. Haydon". The signature is written in dark ink and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

[Attested May 7, 1833 in Botetourt County Virginia]

[p 8: petition of the heirs but the image is so poorly copied that it is largely illegible. Their names appear to be Richard Harvey, Rebecca Harvey, John H. B. Rolls and Polley Rolls his wife]

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Fauquier County to wit

Personally appeared, Sarah Timberlake, before me Thomas Ingram a Justice of the Peace for the said County and made oath, that, as she before stated in a former Affidavit [not contained in this file] that she was well acquainted with John Harvey. He being her Brother. Who resided in Northumberland County in Virginia, that she intended to have said in the affidavit on a former occasion , that her Brother John Harvey, the Father of Rebecca Harvey of said County of Fauquier County was a Captain in the Navy of the United States during the Revolutionary War & that he served as such for three years . And doth now say, that said John Harvey was Captain as aforesaid, and so considered by all in the neighborhood where he resided. And that he served for 3 years as aforesaid in the War of the Revolution and further saith not.

S/ Sarah Timberlake, X her mark

[Attested March 26, 1833 in Fauquier County Virginia.]