

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Hancock R4552

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 20 Dec 2010.

State of Kentucky }

Adair County } SS

On this 10th day of August 1832. personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Adair County Court now sitting William Hancock a resident of Adair County, & State of Kentucky, aged 83 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth 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.

He states that he entered the service of the United States in February 1780 under Capt John Trigg who was Commanded by Gen'l. Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg], Col. Parker & Major Decloman [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman] & marched to Dismal Swamp and returned home.

The Tour was about three months. He resided in Bedford County Virginia at the time he entered the service. Four or five weeks after his return from Dismal Swamp He received orders from Col Linch [sic: Charles Lynch] of Bedford County Virginia that if he with others would take Tories and deserters and bring them to trial that we would be clear of any other service. He states that he was engaged in the business of taking Tories &c from May 1780 until the surrender of Cornwallis which was in October 1781 about 16 months In his tour to dismal swamp he was drafted In the business of taking Tories he was ordered by the officers & willingly engaged in the business He states that he has no documentary evidence by which he is enabled to prove his service –

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–

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[signed] william Hancock

State of Kentucky }

Adair County } SS

I do certify that William Hancock with others were engaged in the State of Virginia in taking Tories & deserters. I recollect of them bringing some of them to my Fathers and keeping them there in confinement for some time given under my hand this [illegible] day of August 1832. I was about 9 years old
[signed] Simon Hancock

State of Kentucky Adair County Selesit

I George Dabney [pension application W3007] do hereby certify that William Hencock was in the servis of the united states at the Dismal Swamp under the command of Capt. John Trigg who was under the command of Gen'l. Mulinburg Col Parker I think & Maj Declaman and that said William Hancock was 2th Sergent in Capt Trigg Company and the tour was 8 months given under my hand this 4th day of August 1832.

I am in my 78 year

George hisXmark Dabney

By way of Amendment and to fulfill the requisitions of the War Department he states in addition to the statement made in his original Declaration that he was born in Chesterfield County & State of Virginia on the 20th day of October 1749. That he has a record of his age at his residence in Adair County. That he is known in the neighbourhood where he resides by Daniel Trabue & Nathan Gaither who have given their certificate annexed to his original Declaration and to Simon Hancock who has given a certificate proving

part of his service and to a great many others who would to certify his reputation as a Soldier of the revolution if it were necessary —

He would state that owing to his old age & infirmity at the time his original Declaration was sworn to in the County Court of Adair that not a Clergyman was to be found in the Town of Columbia the Seat of Justice of Adair County and he was unable himself & could procure no person to get one for him before the Court would adjourn and he assigns the foregoing as the reason for not procuring a clergyman to certify in the first Instance. He states that after the 3 months tour to Dismal Swamp as mentioned in his Original Declaration that he then went on to taking tories & guarding them and had been at it before in obedience to the orders of Col. Lynch of Bedford County Virginia that he served no regular tours except the 3 months tour before spoken of but was engaged 16 months in this kind of service & was willing at any time called upon to enter into any other kind of service. He states that received for every Tory a recpt. from Col. Lynch but has lost said receipts. He states that if he ever received a discharge for the aforesaid service of taking Tories that he has lost it. He would further state that he was 2nd Seargent in Cap Triggs Company during his 3 months Tour to Dismal Swamp.

[signed] William Hencock