

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Epaphroditus Hanks R4567

fn21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/8/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[fn p. 15: the following documents was prepared by a semi-literate scribe; because it is so challenging I have not attempted to edit it and present it as written with my guesses as to interpretation in brackets where I think it might be helpful.]

State of Alabama Montgomery County: Personally appeared Epaphroditus Hanks before me William Martin an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County and after being dwely [duly] sworn saith that he Inlisted [enlisted] in the year 1775 or 1776 and was put in Capt Martin Caswell company and was commanded by Maj. Garam Henry Dornold [???] adjudant adjutant] Thos. Terrance and Matchell Kasin Lieutenants, Richd Caswell Genle. Daniel Godwin, Micall Pickel Mans Arms John Bars Sugor Dodlin John Riley Micall Grant Booth Masingo Mess Mates the 5th Regement [regiment] he was on artificial [?] after the death of Genl Caswell I was put under Genl Clinton after the Resignation of Clinton I went under Genl. Washington and thare remained until peace was made and I never deserted my post I was Discharged at little york after Cornwallis was taken I inlisted for 3 years first and then I inlisted during the ware my discharge got axidently [accidentally] burnt up in my fathers house I am near 81 years of age & Bin Blind near 3 years & Living on the Curtesy of the good people of Alabama I was at the Battle of Alamance N. C. also Morse Creek [Moore's Creek Bridge] also Stamp or bier Creek [Brier Creek] in geo [Georgia] also Granys Quarter S. C. also the Eutaw Springs then prsided [preceeded?] to Little york and thare took my discharge Sworn to and subscribed before me Decr. the 18th A. D. 1830

S/ Wm Martin, JP

S/ Epaphroditus Hanks, X his mark

State of South Carolina Sumter District: Personally appeared in open Court on the first day of November 1832 – the Court of Common Pleas now sitting for the District of Sumter aforesaid Epaphroditus Hanks, Resident of the District aforesaid – aged Eighty-five years who being duly sworn in open Court According to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 – that he was born the

25th of January 1747 in Northumberland County in the State of Virginia agreeable to the record of his age which is in a large family Bible that he now has in his possession – which he believes to be true – this deponent saith that his Father and family emigrated from the State of Virginia to the State of North Carolina when the claimant was a lad and settled in Dobbs County, then called, – and there remained until he entered the United States Service under General Caswell as a listed Soldier and served under Martin Caswell as his Captain the subaltern officers Lieutenant John Gray Ensign – Thomas Luance – Colonel Salter & Major Gorham the Claimant thinks he entered the service sometime in the winter 1776 – the Claimant saith that he cannot name precisely the day and date as he is and illiterate man he marched under the above named officers to Moore's Creek in North Carolina – not very far from Wilmington where they had a battle with the Tories, and defeated them under the command of McLeod – the Claimant thinks the battle was in February 1777 – he was then afterwards marched to Wilmington & remained there three months, he was then marched to New Bern & thence was transferred to the State of Virginia, and joined General Washington's Army and was present in the siege when Cornwallis was taken, at Yorktown, the Claimant saw Cornwallis deliver up his sword to General Washington and says General Lafayette was present – as to the day and he does not Recollect, but thinks it was in October 1781 – he was Discharged by General Washington and some years after his discharge was burnt in a house – the Claimant hereby relinquishes every Claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ B. J. Earle, Presiding judge

S/ Epaphroditus Hanks, X his mark

[Reverend Thomas D Glenn gave the standard supporting affidavit. John B Miller gave a separate supporting affidavit.]

South Carolina Sumter district

On this the 14th day of February 1835 Epaphroditus Hanks of said district and State personally appeared before me Franklin J Moses and justice of the Quorum for said district & State, and makes oath as follows by way of amendment to his declaration for a pension. That he entered the regular service soon after the declaration of Independence, & remained in the service until the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. That he was at the battle of Brandywine – Bunker Hill – & Yorktown – that he cannot state with precision the length of his service, but he continued active with little animation until the surrender of Cornwallis. He received a written Discharge after the battle of Yorktown from General Washington which was burned up in his father's kitchen house which was consumed by fire. This deponent does not know of anyone in the district or State who was a fellow soldier with him & for this reason he cannot produce any such witness. This deponent says he can only account for his name not being on the Roll of the Department in this way. That after the battle of Yorktown he walked home to his father's in Halifax North Carolina: that his feet were in such a state when he arrived there, that for at least 5 weeks he could scarcely use them. That during that period, intelligence arrived of an order requiring the soldiers to repair to the paymaster General somewhere at the North to receive their pay. That owing to his situation as to his feet he could not go – and he has heard from Ripley Copeland of this district who he did not know in the Revolution, that as the soldiers would go and receive their pay, their names were put down on a list. This is the only way he can account for his name not being on the Roll – as he was in the service from the winter of the Declaration of Independence till the surrender of Cornwallis.

Sworn to before made this 14th February 1835

S/ Franklin J Moses, QU

S/ Epaphroditus Hanks, X his mark