

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Hassell R4728 Mary fn38NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/24/11

[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.]

State of Illinois Jefferson County: SS

On this first day of July 1847 before the subscriber Abner Esters one of the Judges of the County Commissioners Court in and for said County personally appeared Mary Hassell a resident of said County aged eighty-three years old the 8th of next December who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions made by the acts of Congress passed July 7, 1838, March 3 1843, and June the 17 1844 granting pensions in half pay to certain widows, that she is the widow of Benjamin Hassell a private soldier in the Army of the revolution and served in the whole three years or upwards, that he entered the Army as near as she can remember sometime in the year 1777 in the latter part of that year he left Tyrrel County [Tyrrell County] North Carolina when he joined the Army and his first tower [tour] of service he went as a nine months men whether it was by enlistment or not I can hardly tell but I believe he volunteered on the first occasion. I think he then took other men's places at least he never came from the Army until he served three years he then came home with a parole from the British after being taken prisoner at the taking of Charlestown he then took the place of William Phelps of Tyrrell County North Carolina on that trip he was under Captain Richard Howett [sic?] can't remember any other officers that he was under during the war have seen the parole and kept it in my possession for a long time, he was in the battle of Gilfort Court house [Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] he took me there after we were married and showed me that timber that was shot in time of the battle, he received two wounds during the war, once he was stabbed by a bayonet in the breast and cut a most powerful slice in the flesh at another time he was shot in the leg and was in the oshitle [hospital] at Charlestown when he was taken prisoner by the British in addition to his parole he had three discharges have frequently seen them and read them he never applied for a pension, he died in Hickman County Tennessee on the 15 day of March 1820 and was married on the 5th day of January 1784 by Esquire John Terkenton [Tarkenton?] in Tyrrell County by biens [banns?] we have a family record of the children's age is written in the white leaves of a small Bible at or near

the time of the birth of each child and written by different persons has been in my possession ever since and I still remained his widow. She further declares that she was not married to said Benjamin Hassell prior to his leaving the service but that the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated.

Subscribed and sworn to before made this day and year first above written.
S/ Absalom D Estes, Judge
S/ Mary Hassell, X her Mark

[fn p. 4: Isaac Smith of Jefferson County Illinois gave testimony that he became acquainted with the veteran and his wife in 1804 at which time they had 6 children the oldest of whom was about 20 years old; that he frequently heard the veteran state that he was in the war of the revolution and remembers hearing him say he was one of "Jelaskies Light Horse company [sic, Pulaski's Light Horse?], have heard him say he was in the battle of Gilford [Guilford] and several other battles have heard him say he was wounded at 2 different times what's with the bayonet and once with a ball, have heard him tell of being taken prisoner at Charleston by the British and was sent home on parole...."]

[fn p. 4: Milly Smith gave testimony that she has been acquainted with the but no and her husband for about 55 years; that when she first became acquainted with them they had its 3 children the oldest of whom was about 6 years old that their ages were written in a Bible; that she has "heard the said Benjamin Hassell frequently tell about being in the war of the revolution have heard him tell about being at the battle of Guilford and another by the name of Stono or Stony Point or some such name and at the taking of Cornwallis and also at bunkers hill...."]

[fn p. 8: family record

Samuel Hassell and Uriah Hassell the sons of Benjamin Hassell and Mary his wife was born November 17th day 1804

Michale Hassell the daughter of Sylvanius Hassell and Hetty his wife was born July 25th day 1813

Deba talan Hassell the daughter of Sylvanius Hassell and Hetty Hassell his wife was born'd November 29th 1814

James Kelough Hassell son of Polly Hassell by James Kelough was born on August 1st day 1821
[fn p. 9]

Cela Hassell daughter of Uriah Hassell and Polly his wife was born February 26th day 1824

Liza Hassell daughter of Uriah Hassell and Polly his wife was born April the 17th day 1826

Polley Hassell the daughter of Benjamin Hassell and Mary his wife was born August 7th 1800 [?]
[fn p. 10]

Nancey hassel dafter of Benjamin hassel and mary has wife was born february the 26 d 1795

Isaac Hensley Picket son of James Picket and Polly his wife was born September the 2 day 1823

Milla Hassell dafter of Benjamin Hassel and Mary his wife was Born the 18 day of November 1784

Silvenous Hassell son of Benjamin Hassell and may his wife was born february 13 Day 1788

[very faint entry, might read: "Seela Hassell Daughter of ? Hassell and Mary his wife was born ? the 24 day 1792"]

[fn p. 11]

Nancy Hassell Dafter of Benjamin Hassell and Mary his Wife was Born'd Febery 26th Day 1795

John Hassell Sun of Benjam'n Hassell and Mary His wife was Bornd the 18 Day of May 1798

[This file contains 3 letters at the end of it, all written by Samuel Carswell addressed from Bertie County [presumably in NC], all dated in the early 1800's, addressed to Brother and Sister or Daughter. I did not discover the relationship of Carswell to the veteran and/or his widow.]