

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Holiday Hethcock (Hathcock) R4812

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves and C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }
County of Johnston }

On this 23^d day of February 1836 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, Holiday Hethcock, a resident of Johnston Co and State of North Carolina aged about 74 or 5 years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he volunteered in the services of the United States in the summer of 1781 under Jonathan Smith Capt - Jacob Stallings Lieut. Alexander Avery Ensign on a service of three months. That he entered the service at Smithfield N. Car. and was marched to Dixon's Ford on Tar River in the County of Granville thence to Franklin County - thence to Edgecombe Co -- thence to Smithfield - thence on to Kinston - thence across the River Neuse to Southwell Brown thence up again to Smithfield - thence down the River to Major Carson's where we were discharged having served the full term of three months. This affiant knows of no documentary evidence to prove his said service but can prove it by the Revd Nathan Gully who was with him and who certificate is hereunto attached - but whose bodily infirmities do not admit of his traveling to court to give his testimony. He rec'd a regular discharge which has been lost.

This applicant also had previously volunteered on another term of five months in Johnston County aforesaid in the fall of the year 1777 [sic] under Matthew Cullers Capt and Lieut. Boyte - was marched from Smithfield to Richland Chapel - thence across the Cape Fear [River] at Wilmington - thence to Georgetown S. C. to Monk's [sic: Moncks] Corner - to Dorchester - & to Charleston and was placed under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln, who took command of the Southern Army in 1779] a few months before Charleston was taken by the enemy [12 May 1780]. The General of the militia under whom he served was named Lillington [John Alexander Lillington] - he served out fully his term of five months and rec'd a discharge from Capt Cullers which discharge has been lost or destroyed. He knows of no documentary evidence of his said service but can prove it or a part thereof by Bryant Adams [pension application S6468] who was a fellow soldier in the service.

In reply to the presented interrogatories the affiant states that he was born in Northampton Co Virginia.

2. That there is no record of his age to his knowledge.
3. That he was living when called into service in Johnston Co No Ca - that he has since spent about one year in Fayetteville No Ca and about 20 years in Orange Co No Ca - that he now lives in Johnston.
4. That he was a volunteer in both his terms of service.
5 & 6 answered in Declaration.
7. He states the names of the Rev. Jesse Adams, John Lee Sen'r, Colo John Lee & Wm B. Allen, Esq. as gentlemen who can testify &c.

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 and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Holiday hisXmark [illegible]

We, Jesse Adams a clergyman residing in the neighbourhood of the Declarant in Johnston Co and Henry Lee residing in the same, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Holiday Hethcock (a free colored man) who has subscribed and sworn to the above Declaration; that he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier in the Revolution and we concur in this opinion and believe him to be about 74 years of age.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and date above written.

S/ Jesse Adams

S/ Henry Lee

Bryan Adams being duly sworn deposeseth & saith that he was with Holiday Hithcock in his second tour described in his declaration and knows the facts therein stated to be true - except as to the length of time the declarant [illegible word] alleges to have served - This affiant cannot positively swear that the time was five months - although such may have been the fact. He knows, however that it was as much as three months - and he believes it was more. he has also forgotten the name of his lieutenant -

Sworn to and subscribed the day & date above written [sic] [signed] Bryant Adams

[The file includes an undated index card with the following information:]

4812

REJECTED

Holiday Hethcock

Service: a colored Soldier

State of NoCa }

Johnston County }

Personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County William Bryan [pension application S6699] of said county and state and having been duly Sworn doth on his oath declare and say - that in the times of our Revolutionary War free negroes and mulattoes mustered in the ranks with white men in said State - at least in that part of the State in which he then resided - and in which Holiday Hethcock then resided - to wit in the County of Johnston. This affiant has frequently mustered in company with said free negroes and mulattoes - and he believes he had mustered with the said Holiday Hethcock - That class of persons were equally liable to draft - and frequently volunteered in the public service. ~ This affiant was in the army a short time at Wilmington at the time Craig was near that place [Col. James Henry Craig, Jan 1781 - Jan 1782] and remembers that one mulatto was in his company as a common soldier whose name Archibald Artis - This affiant has always known the said Holiday Hethcock - and has always understood that he was in the army of the Revolution

Sworn to and subscribed this 21st day of November 1834

D. H. Bryan JP

[signed] William Bryan

State of North carolina Johnston Cou[page torn]

This is to certify that in June 1781 I myself under the command of Captain Jonathan Smith and Jacob Stallings Lieutenant and Elexander Avery Insine at which time I was cal'd out to serve a three Months tower in the revolution army at which Holiday Hethcock a free man of coulour was a solger in the revelution army our march was as follows from Smithfield to Dickersons ford on tar river in Granvil County, from thence to partridg in Franlin County then to Tiverils[?] Mill in Edgcomb County then to Smithfield from thence to kingston Dobs county [sic: Kinston, in Dobbs, now Lenoir, County] [two illegible words] Neuse River to southwest Bridge then up to Smith Field in Johnston County, then [illegible word] Neuse to Major Carsons our time being out we were [several illegible words]

Sworn to before me John W. Johnson Justice in and for said county this 8th day February 1836

Nathan Gulley

On 8 Jan 1853 and on 14 Aug 1854 David Hathcock, son of "Halladay Hathcock" deceased, assigned powers of attorney to obtain the pension or other benefits due for his father's service.

Washington D.C. April 5th 1854

Hon. L. P. Waldo Comr., of Pensions

Sir On examining the case of Holliday Hethcock, of N. C. for pension under act of June 7th 1832, we find that his services and identity are fully proven by three witnesses, and that his case has been suspended merely because he was a free man of color. As we understand that several cases of this sort have been admitted you will oblige us by having it admitted.

Respectfully &c. Thompson J[?] Venable