

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension application of Robert Henson, (Hanson, Hinson) Jr. R4902

fn35SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[Note: the pages as posted on Footnote.com are badly scrambled; they are posted in the correct sequence on HeritageQuest.com.]

[fn p. 12]

State of Virginia, County of Fauquier (To Wit)

On this seventeenth day of March eighteen hundred & forty six, personally appeared before us the undersigned justices of the peace in & for the said County, Robert Henson (or Hanson he says his name was formerly spelt by some) a citizen of the aforesaid County aged ninety five years his last birthday which was the twenty fifth day of last December (as he always understood from his father, Robert Henson), who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th, 1832. So as to embrace his Continental services of Eighteen months under an enlistment from the State of South Carolina & his militia services composed of two tours, viz., one of three & the other of four months from the State of Virginia, making altogether nineteen months in the Revolution as will be hereafter set forth. That he was born & raised in the aforesaid county & continued as resident of the same with his father Robert Henson until sometime in the early part of the Revolution when he and his brother Charles Henson left Virginia & went to his brother James Hinson in the State of South Carolina where he the said Robert Henson remained until he enlisted & entered the regular Continental services of the United States from the said state of South Carolina as will be hereafter mentioned. That his brother James Henson with whom he resided in the South lived about fifteen miles from Ninety Six Court House in the said State of South Carolina & he remembers that before he entered the Continental service from the said State of South Carolina as a soldier to have seen in service in the said State several of his acquaintances from his native County Fauquier in Virginia (to wit) Thomas Groves<sup>1</sup> & Jesse Withers,<sup>2</sup> the former drum major & the latter sergeant in Captain Slaughter's Company. That he was slightly acquainted with the said Slaughter before he left Virginia, that Slaughter resided in Culpepper [sic, Culpeper] County, Va before he the said Robert Henson went to the South & the said Groves & Withers of the said Slaughter's company went from his native county Fauquier Va & before they went to the South always lived near neighbors to him & he was acquainted with them & as stated he saw them in service in the said State of South Carolina in Captain Slaughter's company & they persuaded him to enlist in the service which he concluded & enlisted in the Continental Line under Captain John Satterwhite or Satterwaite he does not now recollect which name he bore at Ninety Six

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<sup>1</sup> This MAY be the same man as Thomas Groves W4211

<sup>2</sup> This MAY be the same man as [Jesse Withers S11819](#)

Court House in the said State of South Carolina for the term of three years but before entering the service as hereafter mentioned, the said Satterwhite or waite resigned his commission & Captain Lewis Duvall<sup>3</sup> took the command of the Company & marched under said enlistment into service at Ninety Six Court House to the best of his recollection in the month of June 1779 & from Ninety Six his said Company under Duvall & Samuel Rice was Lieutenant, & William Hamilton was Sergeant of the same & marched to Col Egill's [Edgill's or Edgehill's?] farm in the said state where the Tories had erected a sort of Fort around the dwelling at said farm & his Company, Capt. Slaughter's Company together with one other company under the command of Col. Marion marched against said Fort & killed & hung all the Tories in said Fort, about 50 or 60 in all. That his said Company under Duvall numbered sixty eight privates besides officers to the best of his recollection & he remembers the name of William Higgins, Newton Higgins, Thomas Anderson, Isaac Davenport, William Goggin, William Creasy, John Lindsay, Thomas Saunders, Tenner Hudson & Joseph Hall, all of whom were privates in the said company under Duvall & he does not know that any of these men are now living. That his Company marched from said Fort to Ninety Six & had an engagement with the Tories at that place & dispersed then & halted a short time at this place & from Ninety Six his forces under Col Marion marched to Charlotte crossing the Saluda & Catawba Rivers & at Charlotte his forces had a skirmish with the Tories & killed some of them & from Charlotte after remaining a short time his men marched on as far as Guilford for the purpose of strengthening his forces & from Guilford his men returned to Ninety Six & had a brush with Tarleton's [Banastre Tarleton's] light Horse at Ninety Six & killed a good many of them, the remainder made their escape, there were under Tarleton at this place as he understood about three hundred men & from Ninety Six his Company under Duvall, Capt. Slaughter's Company together with 2 or 3 other companies under Col. Marion marched to Eutaw & had an engagement with Tories or enemy & he thinks his forces retreated with many killed about ten of his men. This took place after he had been in service a long time but does not remember how long but it was after he had marched through the Country to a great many others, some of which his forces halted a short time at & after his forces had had a great many skirmishes with the Tories & from Eutaw his forces of five or six companies marched on to Hanging Rock & had a skirmish with the enemy under Tarleton & killed about twelve of them. At this time a deserter was found in his ranks who was hung upon the spot. After remaining a short time to rest his forces marched on to King's Mountain near the line between North & South Carolina where they had a hot battle. His forces were joined by a great many troops & his forces retreated in the onset but then afterwards rallied & conquered the enemy. General Morgan's army he thinks formed his forces in this battle. Here he was wounded by a ball in the leg & was carried with the wounded from this place to Ninety Six Hospital & he understood that the enemy carried their wounded from the battle to Charleston & he was informed that the number killed & wounded in this engagement amounted to several hundred men. That he had been in service when wounded at this place about sixteen months & a few days. That he was, as has been stated, conveyed from said battleground to Ninety Six Hospital where he was confined of said wound seven weeks & a few days & was attended by one Doctor Mattan [?could be Mattox?] who extracted the ball from his leg & he recovered from said wound after being confined seven weeks and a few days in said Hospital & Doctor Mattan gave him a written discharge which he was directed to do by his Captain Duvall in the event he recovered from said wound & he had been eighteen months in service & said Hospital, that is he had served sixteen months & four days when wounded & was confined of said wound seven weeks & three days, making eighteen months from the beginning of his enlistment to the recovering of said wound & as soon as he was able to walk he left said Hospital with his written discharge as before stated & went to his brother James Henson & staid a few days & then set off for Virginia. That he remembers about this time to have heard of the battle of Cowpens between Americans & English that after leaving his brother's he set off for Virginia crossing over the Saluda & Catawba,<sup>Yadkin</sup> Rivers, touching at Charlotte, Guilford &c crossing

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<sup>3</sup> [Lewis Duvall R3181](#)

Roanoke River & when he reached Cumberland County, <sup>Va</sup> he stopped to rest a few days at the house of an old acquaintance & whilst there was drafted for the militia service. That on his way from the South to Virginia he found it necessary to waid [wade] Smiths River & got his discharge wet & destroyed. That after reaching Cumberland County, Va on his way from South Carolina he was drafted for this term of three months in Captain James Allen's company of the Virginia Militia & Nathaniel Carrington was first & Samuel Rice, 2nd Lieutenant, Samuel Creasy was Sergeant of the same & marched from Cumberland Court House under Col. Joseph Carrington <sup>& Major Martin Richardson</sup>, to Richmond, Va where his company drew their arms for the service & then marched on to Williamsburg and halted a short time to have the guns repaired & then his said company with <sup>Allen's</sup> company marched on to Hampton crossing the James River at Ruffins Ferry & his company was stationed at Hampton about two months and whilst at Hampton he saw the British Fleet lying in Hampton Roads. That he went upon the steeple of the church at that place & saw the vessels of said Fleet & could distinguish one large black looking vessel from all the rest & this ship fired a signal & all the Fleet set sail & he saw the them distinctly when they left his waters & he understood that there were three hundred vessels in the said Fleet. That after said Fleet left said Hampton Roads his company returned to Williamsburg & halted about three weeks & then marched on up to Richmond & gave up their arms & then continued to Cumberland Ct. House & was discharged after serving out the tour of three months & he remembers the names of Luke Creasy, William Goggin, Robert King & Robert Brown all of whom he believes are now dead. That he does not remember to have met with any of the regular troops or regiments in the tour of three months from Cumberland & his company did not march with any militiamen except two companies which his company met with between Hampton & Richmond on his return from Hampton. That after his discharge from this time of three months in Cumberland which was in the spring of 1781 he came on to Fauquier County, Va to his father's, Robert Henson's & a few days after reaching his father's he was drafted in the militia & served a tour of four months under Captain Thomas Bronaugh, Joseph Tullop [?] was Lieutenant & Rodham Tullop<sup>4</sup> was ensign of the said company under Captain Bronaugh, marched under Col. Armstead Churchill [Armistead Churchill], Major O'Bannon, from Major Joseph Blackwell's<sup>5</sup> in the said County of Fauquier in this commission of 1781 & went on by Fredericksburg to Richmond where said company drew their armies for the service & then marched on to Williamsburg & then on to Hampton & was stationed more than two months in that place & then continued back & halted about three weeks at Burwell's Ferry on the James River, there his company met with Major Ramsay's detachment from Prince William County, Va at Headbushes [?] Tavern in Northumberland County, Va & said detachment came on with his company from said Town to Williamsburg & found the British in possession of said Town & had a small Fleet in the James River at said Town & his forces together with Major Ramsay's detachment & several of these companies retreated from said enemy & was pursued by the British from said Town up to Richmond & he remembers in the engagement at Williamsburg this William Hambrick of Captain Weaver's company was wounded in the leg & William Hume of said company was wounded in the shoulder in said engagement at Williamsburg & Benjamin Bullet of his Captain Bronaugh's company was killed in said engagement. That when his said forces reached Richmond on this retreat from the enemy at Williamsburg the enemy's Fleet was lying in the James River at Richmond & the enemy had encamped on the opposite side of the River & the enemy fired upon his forces from their vessels but as the banks of the River were high did not damage his forces much & whilst encamped in Richmond he remembers that an Englishman was maneuvering on the water as if offering a challenge to his men when one of the artillery men (as there was an artillery company in Richmond at this time) hoisted [?] a swivel & shot said Englishman through the middle & killed him on the spot & he recollects another circumstance to have occurred whilst <sup>at</sup> Richmond there was a large Kettle & men engaged tarring <sup>cables</sup>, ropes & the

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<sup>4</sup> Sic, McAlister lists a "Rodham Fuller" as an ensign serving in the Fauquier County Militia.

<sup>5</sup> Sic, McAlister lists a "John Blackwell" as a Lieutenant serving in the Fauquier County Militia.

press so great to witness the operation that the men crowded against a stack of arms which fell & one of the guns fired & shot a man by the name of Dowdle from Prince William County, Va belonging to Major Ramsay's detachment from said county & Dowdle died in less than two hours thereafter. That he understood all the Companies & detachments & regiments in Richmond at this time were under the command of General Weadon [George Weedon] of Virginia. That his company met with some of the Regular troops in this tour of four months under Captain Thomas Bronaugh at Nuper's [?]Noose between Hampton & Williamsburg, that he met with a great many troops in Richmond & a militia company from Spotsylvania & another from Caroline County but made no acquaintances with them. That Captain Tillman Weaver's [Tilman Weaver] Company from Fauquier County Va started from Major Joseph Blackwell's with his company & continued together throughout the entire tour of four months. That companies from Spotsylvania & Caroline came as a relief to his company under William Bronaugh & Captain Weaver's company. That their company was detained in service one month over the draft waiting as it was stated for a company to relieve them. That he remembers the names Jesse Withers, Cain Withers, Lewis Jennings, William Bronaugh, Peter Conway, George Pusley, Andrew O'Bannon, John Whitton, Jonas Williams first sergeant of his Captain Bronaugh's company & that he does not know that any of these men are now alive. That this his last tour in the Revolution ended some short time before the Siege at York this term expired whilst his company was stationed at Richmond & after serving out four months his relief came & his company was marched up to Fauquier County, Va & discharged. That he remembers distinctly that during the whole of his service to the South of the Continental Line from South Carolina that his acquaintances Thomas Groves & Jesse Withers of Captain Slaughter's company were with his company under Duvall that they went together at Egell's farm, at Ninety Six, at Charlotte & marched together to Hanging Rock, to Eutaw & to King's Mountain where he was wounded and these men Groves & Withers were both pensioners of the United States and he begs that the Department will refer to the papers of the said Thomas Groves and Jesse Withers if on file for further evidence in support of his claim for a pension and the said Jesse Withers from Fauquier County, Va, the same Jesse Withers who served as sergeant in Captain Slaughter's company in the South as before stated the same Jesse Withers from Fauquier Va was with his company during his last tour of militia service in Virginia under Captain Bronaugh. That he was witness for the said Jesse Withers in his application for a pension and that the said Jesse Withers was to have been his witness to prove his pension <sup>in said</sup> war. That he put his claim for a pension in the hands of Doctor Thompson of Fauquier County some ten or twelve years ago that he remembers <sup>Doctor Thompson</sup> promised to procure the affidavit of the aforesaid Jesse Withers to be witnessed in my claim for a pension <sup>and</sup> <sup>promised</sup> to prepare my papers and attend to my claim for me and that he has been waiting in expectation of getting his pension as he remembers that Doctor <sup>Thompson (the said Doctor Thompson died last year)</sup> who was a magistrate made him swear to a paper in relation to his claim. That he always considered his company under Captain Lewis Duvall in the South and the said Captain Slaughter's company from Virginia which said company under Slaughter served with his said company in the South were both in the regular service that the other companies in the South serving occasionally with his under Duvall and Captain Slaughter's company were militia companies that he was never a substitute for anyone that he has no documenting evidence in support of his claim that he does not know of any person now living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state in the United States of America.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Robert Henson



State of Virginia, County of Fauquier

We, Marshall Rector and William Rector residing in the neighborhood of Mr. Robert Henson certify

that we are well acquainted with Mr. Robert Henson who has subscribed and sworn the above declaration that we believe him to be ninety-five years age as he states that he is reputed and believed to have been a soldier of the Revolution and we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed this 17th day of March 1846.

S/ Marshall Rector

S/ William Rector

In the foregoing Declarant deposeth and saith that by reason of his confinement as an invalid pauper of the poor house of Fauquier County Virginia for more than 20 years that he cannot furnish the certificate of a Minister of the Gospel as the rules of the War Department require that he has been confined as above stated and has not been able to travel during his confinement and therefore is not acquainted with a Minister of the Gospel and he begs lives of the Department to substitute in the room of the Clergyman a respectable citizen of his neighborhood to wit Mr. Marshall Rector. Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert Henson

The following questions and answers were this 17th day of March 1846 taken before the undersigned justices in the matter of the application of Robert Hinson for a pension.

Ques. 1<sup>st</sup>: when and in what county were you born?

Answer: I was born in Fauquier County, Va on the twenty-fifth day of December 1751 as always understood from my father Robert Henson.

Ques 2. Have you any record of your age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I always understood from my father that Parson Craig christened me and recorded my name in his Parish Register. Parson Craig has been dead many years and I do not know what has become of his Register.

Ques. 3. Where were you living when called into service, where have you been since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in the County of Fauquier Virginia until about the beginning of the Revolution when I removed to South Carolina and went into service as before stated in my declaration and asks leave to refer the department to said declaration for all the particulars in relation to the place of my residence when called into service. I have always lived since the Revolution in my native county Fauquier Virginia in which I now live.

Ques. 4: How were you called into service? Were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Answer: I was a volunteer in the South and was twice drafted in the Virginia Militia as can be seen by reference to my declaration and was never a substitute for anyone.

Ques. 5 State the name of some of the Regiment Officers who were with the troop when you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: In my southern service I recollect the names of Capt. Satterwhite, Capt Duvall, Capt Slaughter, General Marion, General Morgan and recollect that Captain Slaughter's company served the whole time on the South with my company under Capt. Duvall, that Marion had Command of the forces with whom he served and recollects to have been with militia companies in his Southern term but does not now remember the names of their officer. He remembers in his first term of service in the Virginia Militia the name of Col. Carrington who had command of his company under Capt. Allen

from Cumberland County Va and not recollect to have met with any Continental or militia regiments during the said tour but remembers to have seen the British Fleet in Hampton Roads that he saw from the steeple of the Church at Hampton when said Fleet fired the signal to sail from said Hampton Roads that the vessel in said Fleet which fired the signal was different from the others, that being a large dark looking ship,. That in his second term of Militia service he remembers to have seen some British vessels in the James River at Richmond and the British encamped in Manchester Va that he recollect the names of Capt Bronaugh and Capt. Weaver from Fauquier and their companies and Col. Ramsey's company from Prince William Va and remembers to have met some of the regular troops at Nuper Noose below Williamsburg and he does recollect the names of their officers and remembers there was an artillery company in Richmond but did not form any acquaintances with the officers and remembers to have met with one company from Spotsylvania and another from Caroline County, Va and further particulars of his service he begs leave to refer the department of his declaration.

Ques. 6 Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it.

Answer, in my Southern term of service I received a discharge from Doctor Muttins [?] by directions from Capt Duvall as stated in my declaration which discharge was destroyed on my return to Virginia. I had to wade Smith's River and said discharge got wet & was destroyed. In my first term of service in the Virginia Militia I recollect a discharge from Capt. Allen in Cumberland County, Va and took it home with me but it was afterwards destroyed or mislaid or lost and for my second term of service in the Militia I received no discharge.

Ques. 7 State the names of person in your present neighborhood to whom you are known and who can testify to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier in the Revolution.

Answer. Mr. George Crump, Mr. Enoch Barber, Capt Joseph Morgan, Major Peyton George, Captain William Bower, Captain George Duff, John P. Willis, Gary W. Sinclair, Jeremiah Preston, Lemuel T. Oliver and J. T. Suddoth.

Sworn & subscribed this day and by the aforesaid

S/ Robert Henson

Before us the undersigned justices in and for the County of Fauquier Virginia and duly authorized to administer Oaths.

S/ James Payne

S/ Jno. Thompson, JP

[fn p. 4]

This applicant would respectfully invite the attention of the Department to his peculiar situation having been closely confined to the poor house with his leg cut off for mire [more] than twenty years & blind during which period he has been deprived of all intercourse with his old acquaintances & consequently does not know that he can furnish the testimony of any of his fellow soldiers to prove his services in the Revolution & establish his claim for a pension. That he never fully recovered from his wound at King's Mountain in the South that affliction having returned upon him after a few years & continued to distress him up to the time of amputating his leg. He hopes however that the Department is able to find upon the Rolls & on file & in his narrative satisfactory proof of his services as set forth in his application. Doctor Thompson promised some ten or twelve years ago to get his pension for him & several other persons came to see him about his claim but in consequence of his long & close confinement he was unable to refer them to witnesses who could testify for him & that he supposes is the reason that his claim has never before been presented & would further say to the Department that in preparing his declaration he got a friend to sign his name to the paper in the presence of the magistrates as he could not see to write.

Respectfully

S/ Robert Henson by request