

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hitchcock (Hedgcock) R5057

f41SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/11: rev'd 7/26/18

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of North Carolina Macon County} Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions April Term 1836

This 15th day of April 1836 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of said Court now in Session Thomas Hitchcock also Hedgcock a resident citizen of Macon County & State of North Carolina aged about eighty-one years that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as follows.

That he enlisted under Captain Snipes<sup>1</sup> of the South Carolina State Troops Colonel Haurys [sic, probably Peter Horry's] Regiment General Marion [Francis Marion] commanding the term of one year on or about the last of December 1781 or first of January 1782 at \_\_ on the Santee Ten miles below McCord's Ferry on Pedee River South Carolina served as hereinafter to be described in answer to the question No. 5. Served 15 months 3 months longer than his enlistment because of the war's raging so fiercely – has no documentary Evidence of Service and that I know of no person whose testimony can be procured who can testify to my Service.

I hereby release all claims to a pension or annuity except the present, and declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Questions by the Court

1st – When & where were you born?

Answer. I was born in Marlborough District South Carolina on 3rd November 1755 which appears from an entry in my father's old Bible now lost or worn out or otherwise gone.

Question 2. Have you any record of your age?

Answer – none, but the one in my own Bible made by copy vig [sic?] my father's.

Question 3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolution & where do you now live?

Answer. I lived [in] Marlboro District in South Carolina at the time of going into Service – then in Rowan North Carolina about a year, then went to Lincoln & lived 14 years then to Tennessee Cock County Tennessee & then moved to this County when it was Haywood & lived here ever since.

Question 4th. How were you called into service, were you drafted? Did you volunteer or were you a substitute?

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<sup>1</sup> There are several possibilities as to the identity of this officer: both Capt. Henry Snipes and Capt. William Clay Snipes served under Lt. Col. Peter Horry during the time the veteran says he was in service. Neither of these officers are known to have been at the engagements in which the veteran says he fought. Capt. Henry Sparkes is known to have served under Horry and been with him at Waccamaw Neck and Biggin Creek Bridge.

Answer. I enlisted in the state troops of South Carolina

Question 5. State the names of some of the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops, where you served, such Continental and militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of your Service?

Answer to No. 5.

I enlisted & marched to the 4 hole swamp [Four Hole Swamp] under General Marion thence to the fork of Wateree [River] there crossed the waccamaw [Waccamaw River], fought<sup>2</sup> the British Colonel Watson & Tories – then crossed the Pedee [River] met the British and Tories at Goose Creek Bridge<sup>3</sup> they were foraging – tried to take the forage from the British – we were defeated, then went to Black Creek & to Black Mingo<sup>4</sup> & encamped scouting there, the Enemy had about 1200 [could be "200"] North Carolina militia Prisoners – placed our Blankets on the Bridge to prevent the Enemy hearing the horses feet, just at the day break attacked the Enemy took a British Captain & about 80 men & released the prisoners, who were on horse scouting about marched to Marion's Station (on Santee), called Ancrum's old fields – there scouting about in the neighborhood, on a scout within a few miles of Camden met the British & were defeated – Joined Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army at Pine tree Creek, went to Sand Hill Creek there fought & were whipped.<sup>5</sup> I was often below Ancrum's old fields with 50 other man on a scout under Captain Snipes on a Scout when the Battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs] was fought heard the guns distinctly battle fought about 8<sup>th</sup> September 1782 [sic, 1781] a memorable day – continued to serve for 3 months after my term of a year was out, because the times were hot & the Country in such a state our officers would not discharge a man even when his time was out if they could possibly induce one to serve: I did serve & in all 15 months – discharged in spring of 1783 below Ancrum's old fields by General Marion, Got a written discharge but have lost it long since. General Greene and Colonel Washington [William Washington] & his dragoons not far from the High Hills when we went to Goose Creek where we fought – & were defeated – Horry was Major when he first was under him but got to the Colonel. I was wounded in the back & breast at the battle of Goose Creek. I am old, my memory very bad so bad that I cannot remember the times & places where we fought we had a great deal of scrimmaging under Marion. I cannot remember any of the militia regiments that were with us, we were with Green's Army about a month or 6 weeks Colonel Washington with his Dragoons along. I saw General Morgan of the Rifle Corps on his March not far from the High Hills of Santee we were with him but a short time perhaps not more than 24 hours. I may have made many mistakes as to dates for my memory is gone, but I believe the substance of the above is verily true.

Question 6. Did you ever receive a written discharge & by whom was it signed?

Answer – I received a written discharge signed I think by Marion. I got it of Colonel Horry.

Question 7<sup>th</sup> – State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity & good behavior and your services of the revolution.

Answer. I am known to James Truit Sheriff and David Elders the clergyman who certified for me and Samuel Sanders Esquire whose affidavit is hereunto appended.

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<sup>2</sup> Waccamaw Neck, July 6<sup>th</sup> or 13<sup>th</sup>, 1781

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_waccamaw\\_neck.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_waccamaw_neck.html) The British forces at that engagement were commanded by Lt. Col. George Campbell

<sup>3</sup> Biggin Creek Bridge, July 16, 1781.

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_biggin\\_creek\\_bridge.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_biggin_creek_bridge.html)

<sup>4</sup> September 28, 1780. [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_black\\_mingo.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_black_mingo.html)

<sup>5</sup> Hobkirk Hill (or Second Battle of Camden), April 25, 1781.

[http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_hobkirks\\_hill.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hobkirks_hill.html)

Sworn to in open Court

S/ Thomas Hedgcock, X his mark

S/ John Latham, Clerk

[Samuel Sanders gave a supporting affidavit in which he stated he has known the veteran for 41 years; that the veteran has the reputation of having served in the revolution; that he, Sanders, has seen the discharge purportedly signed by General Marion; that he recollects one time of the discharge being read by Captain Samuel Ramsey of Lincoln County North Carolina; Sanders also recalls the veteran and Nicholas Isler, another veteran, talk about their services together in the revolution.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam Sanders". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[David Elder, a clergyman, and James Truit gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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North Carolina Macon County} This day came before me James M Thomasson one of the acting justices of the peace for said County Thomas Hitchcock and after being duly sworn deposed and saith in answer to the requirements of J L Edwards of the pension Business first requires said Hitchcock to answer with respect to the date of his enlistment Answer Mr. W. Rone [sic, William Roane] drew off my claim and happened to rather be in a state of intoxication but as far as I can say done all my business correct only with respect to the date you wrote about I cannot read nor write and I understood him as having dated it right that it appears that he did not to the best of my recollection the date of my enlistment was in the latter part of the year 1780 or in the beginning of the year 1781 the other objection you wish me to answer why I did not apply for a pension center is I live in the most extreme part of the state of which is very thin settled and no person living in my reach that could do the business for me and I am very frail and cannot go and attend to any of that kind of business without some person comes to me. Sworn to and subscribed before me this day 14th March 1842

S/ Jas. M. Thomasson, JP

S/ Thomas Hitchcock, X his mark

[p 4: Letter dated September 19, 1848 addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions from a Hunter Hitchcock in which he states that he is the son of Thomas Hitchcock and he makes reference to there being other children (unnamed) of the veteran. There is also correspondence in 1850 making reference to a Mrs. Hedgcock, the widow of this veteran.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hunter Hitchcock". The signature is written in dark ink and is somewhat slanted to the right.

[p 15: A typed letter in the file contains the following:

"The claim for pension was not allowed as the soldier failed to furnish proof of his service, as required by the pension law. One Thomas Hitchcock of the South Carolina line was found recorded as a deserter in February, 1783, and no evidence was submitted to prove that the applicant for pension was not identical with the deserter."]