

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Hodges R5087

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/7/14

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 11]

The State of Tennessee Henderson County: Circuit Court October Term the year of our Lord 1832

On this 8th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John C Hamilton presiding as Judge of said Court now sitting Jesse Hodges a resident of the County of Henderson in the State of Tennessee aged seventy-nine years the 11th day of February next who being 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 7th 1832.

This Declarant States that he entered the service of the United States in the latter part of the month of January in the year 1781 from the County [of] Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia the place of his nativity as a Volunteer Militia Private in the Regiment of Pittsylvania in Militia commanded [by] Haines Morgan [Haynes Morgan] and in the Company commanded by Captain William Dix or Dicks his Lieutenant was by the name of William Wilkinson. This Regiment was attached to the Brigade under the command of General Stephens [probably Edward Stevens]. This Declarant states that this Regiment marched from Pittsylvania Court House and joined General Stevens' Brigade on the South side of Dan River on the borders of North Carolina at the House of one Colonel __ Moore. This Brigade as herein before stated marched to Hillsboro but after this the marching and countermarching was of such a character and this Declarant then being a Stranger to the geography of the Country has no recollection of the Counties through which he marched – This Brigade joined the Army then under the command of General Nathaniel Green [Nathanael Greene] who had succeeded General Horatio Gates after the Battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780]¹ in the command of the Southern Army in which Brigade was also in the Battle [of] Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781]. This Declarant states that he was not in this Battle owing to this Circumstance – that General Stevens after he had joined his Brigade learning that he was the owner of a good wagon and team dispatched him home for the same, in obedience to which mandate he returned home and with his wagon and team again joined the Brigade and during the whole of this service which lasted from the latter part of January 1781 to the first week in May he drove his wagon when he was discharged – this Declarant solemnly states that neither for his personal services or that of his wagon and Team he has never received either directly or indirectly one cent from his Country – nor has he any vouchers from the Wagon Master of this Brigade who was by the name of Jimison [probably

¹ Nathanael Greene actually assumed command of the southern Division of the American Continental Army from Horatio Gates in Charlotte North Carolina on December 2, 1780.

Jamison] the immediate wagon master of this Declarant was by the name of Abner Wells. This Declarant can only assign as the reason for this that he with his Team was ordered home to convey the sick and wounded of his Regiment to the County [of] Pittsylvania the place of their nativity and was there discharged by his Captain the said William Dicks and who gave him certificates and vouchers of his services and which together with his Discharge he has long since lost never having considered them of any value in consequence of the Depreciation of the Continental money. This tour of service lasted for about 3 ½ months as well as this Declarant now recollects.

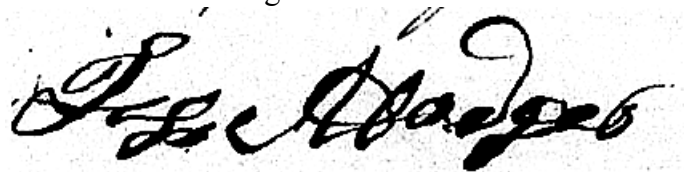
This Declarant states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can testify to his Service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid

S/ E H Tarrant, Clerk

S/ Jesse Hodges



[John Howell and Benjamin Miller gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions by the Court

1 Quest. Where and in what year were you born –

Answer. In Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia on the 11th day of February 1754 –

2 Quest. Have you any record of your age and if so where is it.

Answer. At Home in my Bible

3 Quest. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live.

Answer. I lived in the County [of] Pittsylvania in the State of Virginia in the year 1798 I moved to the State [of] Tennessee in Wilson County – and ever since in Henderson County I have lived my residence here being 11 years.

4 Quest. 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 volunteered – served for about 3 weeks when I was ordered by General Stevens to return home and bring on my wagon and Team which I am accordingly did and drove the same for his Brigade the balance of my tour of service as stated in my Declaration.

5. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, Such Continental Militia regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of your service –

Answer. The Generals of the Army were Nathanael Greene Commander in chief, Brigadier Stevens of our Brigade, Colonels William Washington and Henry Lee of the Cavalry and Colonel Daniel Morgan of the Rifle Corps my own Officers I have before stated. The circumstances of my service are set forth in my Declaration.

I Edward H Tarrant Clerk of the Circuit Court held in and for the County of Henderson in the State of Tennessee do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of said Court in the matter of the application of Jesse Hodges for a Pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & private seal there being no seal of

office this 8th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832
S/ E. H. Tarrant, Clerk

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State of Tennessee McNairy County: SS

On this 4th day of December in the year of our Lord 1837 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court for said County now in session, Jesse Hodges a resident of McNairy County State of Tennessee aged eighty-three 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 7th 1832 –

That he was born on the Eleventh day of February in the year of our Lord 1754 in Halifax County State of Virginia, from Halifax County I moved when very young to Pittsylvania County in the same state, there I resided when I entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Soldier which was on or about October 1780 under Captain William Dick, first Lieutenant William Wilkerson, Orderly Sergeant David Chisum. After our Company was organized we marched from Pittsylvania County where I volunteered to Halifax Old Courthouse, here my Company and self joined the Brigade commanded by Colonel Haynes Morgan General Stevens who was under the immediate command of General Green from here we marched with General Green in various directions through Virginia and North Carolina, when the Army got to Guilford County North Carolina. We encamped a very short time. While here the Army wanted Wagon[s] and Teams [to] Convey provisions &c and by some means the Commanders found out that I had a Wagon and Team at home so I was sent by General Orders to get my Wagon and Team, three men was sent with me as a guard. I returned so soon as I possibly could and joined the Army again with my Wagon near the same place I left it in Guilford County North Carolina. I was then placed under the command of Abner Wells wagon master. I understood that a man by the name of Jemison was hid Wagon Master. When I joined the Army with my wagon I believe it was in February 1781 as well as I now recollect – I was with the Army when we had an attack at Ramsay's Mill from here we went on to Guilford Courthouse, and was there when the Battle commenced, but was ordered to drive my Wagon and Team to Troublesome I am Works which we done, After the Battle was over the Army came to where we were, where the Army halted a short time, and then started in pursuit of the British. We followed them across deep River then into South Carolina at this time I left the Army and went home having served in this Campaign from October to May following. I volunteered for the Term of six months which time I fulfilled, and several weeks over. I cannot now recollect the precise number of weeks over six months but I am positive it was not less than three weeks – he further states that he received a written Discharge signed by Captain William Dick also a Discharge for my Wagon not believing they would ever be of any service to me I used them carelessly so they have long since worn out and destroyed or I have lost them – that he has no Documentary or Written evidence to prove his Services by but he can prove by Parson Francis Beard also James Michie both of whom has been personally and intimately acquainted with him for a number of years that he is a man of veracity and good moral character and that it has always been represented in the neighborhood where I have resided that I was a revolutionary soldier. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever for a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State. This applicant further states that a short time after the passage of the law of the 7th of June 1832 he had a declaration made out and sent to the War Department – the same was not allowed as he has ever heard from old age and infirmity he has delayed a further

application until this time his residence being 12 or 15 miles from the Courthouse. After the Revolutionary War was over I remained in Pittsylvania County Virginia until the year 1798 when I moved to Wilson County State of Tennessee where I resided for 22 years, from there I moved to McNairy County State of Tennessee where I now Reside.

The following is the Interrogatories propounded and submitted to the Applicant by the Court
Where and in what year were you born,

Answer. I was born in Halifax County State of Virginia on the 11th day of February 1754

Have you any record of your age if so where is it –

Answer I have a record of my age in my Bible. I copied it from my father's Bible where my age was recorded.

Where was you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Answer – I have made a full answer to this Interrogatory in my Declaration. Where I refer the Commissioner of Pensions –

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 for a 6 months tour which I served and not less than 3 weeks over in the same Tour before I was discharged.

State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the Troops where you served such Continental Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Answer. This Interrogatory is fully answer[ed] in the Body of my Declaration

Did you ever receive a discharge from the services if so by whom was it given and what have become of it,

Answer This Question is also fully Answered in the Body of my Declaration.

Given under my hand the date above.

S/ Jesse Hodges

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Maclin Cross, Clerk

[Francis Beard, a clergyman, and James Michie gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Tennessee McNairy County: SS

On this the 5 day of September 1840 in Open Court now sitting for said County personally appeared Jesse Hodges a Resident of McNairy County State aforesaid aged eighty-seven 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he has made to Declarations which he is informed and believes have been different in what he supposed they contain namely that the service was in part by driving a wagon. This deponent will state that after the most mature reflection he cannot be mistaken in the time he entered the service under General Green or was mustered into service with a view of joining the Army in North Carolina which finally was commanded by General Greene as expressed in his former declaration. This deponent most positively states that during the whole term of service of six months and some weeks the greater part of which service was under General Greene as aforesaid and expressed in his previous Declaration was actual service performing camp duty engaged in battles and all other service pertaining to the duty of a soldier and not as the driver of a Wagon

that if he did sometime take charge of a wagon or was ordered to do anything about the baggage wagons it was by order of his Captain or other commanding Officer and not as a hired wagon near that he did not drive a wagon as his employment nor was he separated from his Company or mess but performed all the military service that was usually demanded of the volunteer troops he was therefore in actual service more than 6 months under Captain Dick and received an Honorable discharge which discharge he has already accounted for.

This deponent further makes oath that he entered the service again in 1781 shortly after his return home, he was drafted under Captain Thomas Hudgens and was drafted for a 6 months tour and was marched and mustered into service at Bucklies Tavern [Buckley's Tavern?] Pittsylvania County Virginia and after he had been in service about a month or he positively will state that he was in actual service 21 days of this engagement, he hired a cousin of his by the name of James Casey to serve out the balance of his time and this deponent most positively declares that his cousin as aforesaid served out the full period of the time which he engaged for with exception of a few days, which was after the taking of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781]. This deponent is informed and believes that he is fully entitled to the bounty of his Government for services rendered the United States in the War of the Revolution and therefore prays this may be taken as a part of his Declaration and as in duty bound he will ever pray.

S/ Jesse Hodges

[p 5: On September 3, 1853 in McNairy County Tennessee, William C Hodges, 75, a resident of McNairy County made oath that he is the son of Jesse Hodges who was a wagon near in the revolutionary war and an applicant for a pension for his services in that war; that his father Jesse Hodges died in the affiant's house in McNairy County on March 18, 1842 leaving no widow his mother, Elizabeth Hodges, having died January 6th 1842; he made this affidavit in order to obtain the benefit due his father at the time of his death under the pension laws of the United States on the half of himself and his siblings, Polly, Fanny, Tabitha, and Jesse Hodges. He signed the document with his mark as William C Hodges Sr.]