

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Mason R6990

fn23VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/18/11

[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.]

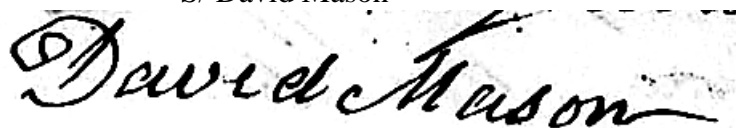
State of Tennessee Hawkins County: August Sessions 1832

On this 29th day of August 1832 Personally appeared before the justices in open Court of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County now sitting David Mason a resident of said County & State aged about 75 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 with Captain Baylor & served in the first Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named officers Captain Baylor, Captain of the cavalry under whom he enlisted, but afterwards Colonel Washington took the command under whom this applicant then served, the field officers were Colonel Holt Richardson, Colonel Campbell, Major Cary or Kary as well as this applicant now recollects. That he entered the Army in 1776 & continued to the close of the war which took place by the surrender of Cornwallis at the siege of Yorktown which happened in October 1781, he resided in Caroline County in the State of Virginia at the time when he entered the service, that after he enlisted the Regiment marched to Winchester in the State of Virginia & from thence through Maryland into the State of Pennsylvania where they joined the grand Army that during his service in the Cavalry he was in the battles of Brandywine, of Germantown, that after the battle of Germantown he attached himself to a foot company under Captain Hand in said Regiment where he served as first Lieutenant that after he had attached himself to the foot company he was in the battles of Monmouth, of Camden, in the latter he was wounded in the calf of his right leg & the siege of Yorktown where his service [indecipherable word] that he was discharged at Fredericksburg & has by some means lost his discharge.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State, or if any, only on that of the agency of the State of Virginia.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ David Mason

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

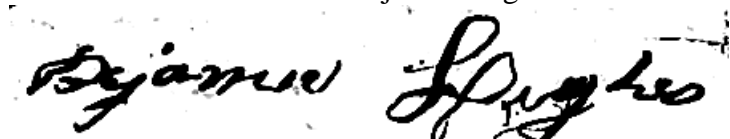
State of Tennessee Hawkins County: Personally appeared before me Nicholas Fain one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for the County & state aforesaid Benjamin Hughes¹ now a

¹ FPA S3079

pensioner of the United States and residing at this time in Smith County in the State of Tennessee, who after being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he is now in his 76th year of his age, that he now lives in Smith County in the State of Tennessee, that he formerly lived in Campbell County Virginia, where he was living when he applied for, and obtained his pension & that better than two years ago he moved from Virginia to the County where he now lives, and that now he is on his return home, from the City of Richmond, having gone on their to see about transferring the payment of his pension from Richmond to Nashville, that he fell in with his old acquaintance David Mason with whom he formed an acquaintance during the Revolutionary War. This affiant further states that during the Revolutionary war he belonged to a Company of Infantry and became acquainted with David Mason the above applicant for a pension, that he did not belong to the said Regiment with the said Mason, but that he was well acquainted with him during the war and saw him very often during the war & that he was in the service as an enlisted soldier and knows him to have served for at least two years during the Revolutionary war. This affiant further states that he was in several battles with the said David Mason during the Revolutionary War, viz. the battle of Brandywine and the siege of York, that he also saw the said Mason in company with those who guarded the prisoners taken at the siege of York, and on their march to Winchester. Affiant further states that the applicant is the same David Mason he knew during the Revolutionary war and that he is entitled to a pension for such service. He further states that the way he happened to fall in with the said Mason at this time was as follows, this Affiant stopped in the neighborhood of the said Mason, to have his horse said and the landlord inquired where he had been & this affiant told him that he was a pensioner & formerly lived in Virginia & that he had been to see about transferring his pension from Richmond to Nashville. That the landlord then named the said Mason with whom this affiant had been acquainted & affiant went to see his old acquaintance and ascertain from him that several years ago he had applied for his pension but on account of not having proof of his service it was not allowed him & that he was glad to see the affiant by whom he could prove his services.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 22nd day of August 1836

S/ Benjamin Hughes

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Benjamin Hughes". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "B".

To the honorable the Congress of the United States in session Assembled in the City of Washington

The petition of David Mason now a Citizen of Hawkins County in the Vicinity of Moresburg [Mooresburg] within the State of Tennessee would most respectfully represent to your Honorable body that he having been along a Soldier in the Revolutionary War and having endured much for the cause of freedom and rendered many important Services to his Country and that Struggle for liberty has always felt it his right to share with others the bounty of his Country provided for those who have rendered Similar Services, that he has ever since the passage of the Law giving pensions to the Revolutionary Officers and Soldiers known himself entitled to a pension having rendered the Services alluded to in the Act of Congress in such cases made and provided But however just his claim he has never been enabled to furnish all the proof required by the acts of Congress to entitle him under the said acts to a pension the act of Congress having required proof of Services to be made by two witnesses and it not being in the

power of your petitioner to furnish proof of his Services as a Revolutionary Soldier but by one witness only his claim though regularly made out and forwarded to the proper Department he is informed and believes has been rejected because your petitioner had proven his services by one witness only when the Law required the affidavit of 2 witnesses to such fact.

Your petitioner would further represent that confiding in the liberality and Justice of the Representatives of his Country he is encouraged again to urge his claims for a pension and desire that a Special act be passed for his benefit or that you in your Wisdom make some provision for him by which he can received such pension as you may believe him entitled to.

Your petitioner would further add he has but little doubt in the consideration of the allegations contained in this petition that your honorable body will make due allowance for any deficiency in his proof of Services because of the great lapse of time which has intervned as also the very few Survivors at this day as well as the scattered condition of the Survivors their remote habitations from each other besides want of recollection &c. and Such like casualties which might be enumerated all of which Should in the opinion of your petitioner excuse from full proof of Services as required by the Laws.

Your petitioner would here respectfully insist as he does not now know where the individual resides who proved his Services as a Soldier in the Revolutionary War that his Declaration preparatory to his obtaining a pension together with the accompanying proofs hereto annexed be obtained from the Department that it be seen and inspected by your honorable body and made a part of this his petition and for fear the same may [document compromised and text illegible] cannot be had your petitioner would here give a brief allusion to himself as well as short outline of the Services he rendered the United States in the Revolutionary war to wit.

Petitioner was born in Hanover County State of Virginia in the year 58 [1758] when about the age of 4 or 5 years his parents removed to Caroline County in said State where at the age of about 17 years he enlisted in the Service of the United States for 18 months in a company of Cavalry commanded by a Captain Bailor [Baylor?] that he went into Service under Captain Bailor sometime thereafter a Colonel Washington took command of said Company with whom he continued to serve till the end of said 18 months that during which time he was in several engagements with the British while under the command of said Colonel Washington to wit in an action fought at the Battle of Monmouth also another at Germantown that shortly after the expiration of said 18 months having Served his full term he again entered the service of the United States in the Regular Army as a first Lieutenant in Captain Hand's Company of the 1st Virginia Regiment of Regular troops, that he continued to serve as first Lieutenant as aforesaid till the end of the war and while in this last Service he was in several engagements with the British troops, he was then sent by General Washington under General Gates and was in the battle in South Carolina against the British called Gates Defeat [August 15 – 16, 1780] he was also in the battle of Gilford [Guilford Court House March 15th 1781] and continued in the Army till the taking of Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] at Siege of York that he was in said last action at which place he was very severely injured by the firing a cannon so near him that he had his face and head dreadfully powder burned thereby the consequence of this injury greatly affects him till this day his face frequently breaking out in large and painful sores and he has no reason to hope but will continue to do so till the end of his natural life.

Your petitioner would further say that his first and second discharges from the Army have been lost or misplaced so that he has it not in his power to produce them that he served out the full term of each engagement that 9 or 10 years ago he came from Virginia to the State of Tennessee where he has ever since resided that he is now in his Eightieth year since the 2nd of

April last. Petitioner would further say that being in necessitous circumstances and from age and infirmity being unable to support by his labor and having settled amongst strangers he is compelled of necessity to throw himself on their individual Charity.

Your petitioner will hearsay he has fought for his Country in the Revolutionary War he has suffered much for his Country and cannot but hope that at his advanced age his Services will be remembered and that he will still receive some aid from his Government which will free him from want during the remainder of his life.

December 26, 1837

S/ David Mason

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County: Personally came before us James L Etter and Elisha Dodson two of the acting Justices of the peace for the County and State aforesaid the above petitioner David Mason aged about eighty years who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that the facts and statements contained in the foregoing petition are all Just and true to the best of his knowledge recollection and belief, he further states that he relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State or territory of the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed before us this 5th day of January 1838

S/ David Mason

S/ James L. Etter, JP

S/ Elisha Dodson, JP

[Cleon Moore and Robert Hall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]