

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Declaration of Samuel Hatcher S13324

f20VA

Transcribed and annotated by Roy Randolph

March 12, 2012

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading. A bracketed question mark [?] indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Not all the material in the Pension File is included in the transcription.]

State of Kentucky and County of Montgomery, sct.

On this 1st day of October personally appeared in open court before Levi Y. Millspaugh, Joseph Bondmont, and Robert Trimble, justices constituting the court of and for the county Montgomery and state aforesaid, now sitting, Samuel Hatcher, a resident of and in the county of Montgomery and state aforesaid, aged 72 years on the 6th Feby. next, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That at a little upwards of 16 years of age, in May 1777, he volunteered in the service of the U.S. for a tour of 3 months in Cumberland (now Powhatan) County in the state of Virginia and immediately entered the service in discharge of that duty under the command of Capt. Robert Hughes [sic, corrected to Hughes throughout] his ensign, he believes, was Peter Polk. Marched forthwith on to Williamsburg and from thence on to York in all which region of country British were occasionally dashing from their vessels in upon our settlements. From Yorktown we were marched across the country to Suffolk, but at our approach the british [sic, sometimes spelled with a lower case “b” corrected to “B” throughout] took to their shipping. From Suffolk we marched back by the way of York to Cumberland County Va. and was dismissed, he thinks, in the latter part of August after the expiration of the said three months had expired. He received a discharge or certificate of service signed, he believes, by Capt. Hughes and which he gave to his father as it was understood it would do to pay tax.

In the early part of September 1777 (don't recollect the day) he volunteered again in said Powhatan County, Va. for a term of two months and entered into immediate service under the command of Capt. George Williamson and marched down James River in the neighborhood of Richmond and was for a considerable length of time engaged defending the citizens of that section of the state from the continued depredations of the British and from there we were marched up James River and returned to Powhatan County where again dismissed. And I received a certificate of service signed, to the best of my recollection, by Capt. Williamson, which he also gave to his father. But I herewith so state, and so represent, that I believe we were discharged from this latter service a few days (perhaps a week) before the said term of two months had fully expired.

In the succeeding year, 1778, in the latter part of the spring or first of the summer he thinks it was but cannot be certain—he volunteered for another tour of two months in the said county of Powhatan Va. and forthwith entered the service under the command of the said Capt. George Williamson and marched to the neighborhood of Richmond to protect our inhabitants in that section from the murders and robberies of the British but after remaining in that quarter for several weeks the British again took to their vessels and we were marched to Powhatan and dismissed. Received a certificate of service signed by Capt. Williamson which he also gave to his father but is satisfied, to the best of his recollection, that the two months for which he entered the service had not entirely terminated when we were discharged—it lacked several days but cannot say how many.

In November 1779 he went from Powhatan County to Boonesborough, on the Kentucky River, in Lincoln County, Va. (now Kentucky) and in the beginning of the year 1780 he entered the service of the U.S. to guard the frontier inhabitants against the depredations of the Indians at Boonesborough under the command of Capt. Logan. Marched across on to Dicks River where we remained a considerable time and had frequent skirmishes with the Indians. I remained [in] this service until the latter part of the summer of that year. Immediately after the expiration of the preceding service I again entered a similar service for a term of six weeks under the command of Capt. Gatliff and was stationed at Bryant Station where I continued in active service scouring through the country and skirmishing with the Indians until the expiration of the said six weeks when I was dismissed, but received no written discharge. It happened in this way, this applicant was absent on a scouting expedition and news reached the station that the Indians and British were approaching that point and Capt. Gatliff had gone out in pursuit and was absent when this applicant returned. But it was a false alarm and Capt. Gatliff sent word to the Station for us to be discharged. We were discharged but got no certificate—I suppose the Capt. being absent—but in those days we were not very particular. And does not recollect whether he received a written discharge for the service under Capt. Logan.

After the term of service under Capt. Gatliff had expired this applicant immediately re-entered the same service for a another term of 3 months under the same Capt. Gatliff as a substitute for one Cristwell or Caldwell, an Irishman, living at Bothman's Station on Dicks River and served that term as a substitute in a similar service as set forth in the preceding term but has no recollection whether or not he received a written discharge.

In January 1781, I think the first of the month, I returned to Powhatan County, Virginia and in the same month a very few days after my return a call for men was made and it fell to the lot of my father to go for a tour of two months. I immediately equiptd [sic, equipped?] and went to Col. Friends in Chesterfield County, Va., the place of rendezvous, and told the officers that I would serve the tour in place of my father and they agreed to it. So I entered that service for the said term of two months as a substitute for my father under the command of Capt. George Williamson. From thence we marched to Old Petersburg near the mouth of the Appomattox River from there down the country near to Hood's Old Fort. At this point we met the British, our men commanded by Major Daniel Duvall, thinks Col. Wills was present. Had a pretty severe engagement killed 17 and wounded 30. The day after the battle one Muse [?] and I took 2 British prisoners and brought them into our quarters. From here we marched on to Cabin Point and there or near to South Key [sic, South Quay in present Suffolk City], shortly after the battle, Capt. Williamson left us and we were placed under Capt. Hubbard. About this time the British took to their shipping and we were marched back by Cabin Point & on to Powhatan Co. and discharged our term of service having expired. I believe I received a certificate of service but really I am not certain.

Shortly after my return about the 1st of March 1781, another call for men was ordered to go down into North Carolina against Lord Cornwallis. The lot fell again on my father as one. I had just been thrown from my horse and lame but told my father I would come on as soon as able. In two or three days I started and arrived near Guilford North Carolina while the battle was raging. I wished to push on to the battle but Capt. Moore, in [whose] company I had fallen, advised me not for he said I would as soon fall in with the enemy as with our own men. The next day we went to the Iron Works about 10 or 12 miles from Guilford Courthouse, the appointed place of rendezvous. On my arrival there I found my father had been sent with some prisoners to, I think, Pittsylvania or Prince Edward Courthouse and I then and there entered the service of the U.S. as a substitute for one John Flood for the remaining part of his two month's tour. About 15 days of Flood's service had expired when I entered in his place under the command of Capt. Thos. Hubbard & Major Tucker & Gen. Greene. We

then marched in pursuit of Cornwallis and followed him, I think, to Deep River. From there we marched up the country by the way of Guilford and on to Amelia Courthouse Va. where we were discharged our term of service for which we entered having expired. Received a written discharge signed by Capt. Hubbard and gave it to my father. This was about the first of May 1781 and a battle of the Guilford was about the 15th of March previous.

For something like a month or two after my return from Guilford the British had gone around up the seacoasts and was annoying us in that quarter. I volunteered two or three times during that period against the British but as soon as we would get in the neighborhood where the enemy were they would take to their shipping and we would be marched back to Powhatan Co. and discharged. I think I did not serve in these tours more than about 15 or 20 days in each tour and do not ever recollect certainly who my officers were but think perhaps we were under Capt. Williamson.

About the 25th day of August 1781, I again entered the service of the U.S. as a substitute for one John Dean for a tour of two months in the county of Powhatan Va. under the command of Capt. Hughes Woodson. Marched immediately on towards Yorktown under Col. Randal [sic, probably Beverly Randolph] and Maj. Tucker. Proceeded to within about a mile of Williamsburg where we were joined by Gen. George Washington. I was on guard at my post when Gen. Washington passed by. He went immediately on towards York, and returned in less than two hours. From there we marched to a place called, I think, Springfield where we remained several days. We then proceeded to York and closed the lines around that town where we continued until about the 18th of October 1781, about which time Gen. Wayne stormed a redoubt and took 28 prisoners and at the same time the French, on the opposite side of the town, stormed 2 [?] redoubts and took 30 prisoners. I, as my time was about to expire, in company with others was sent to guard and convey the prisoners to Williamsburg. The day after we left York, on the 19th perhaps, Cornwallis surrendered. We were discharged at Williamsburg. I received a written discharge signed by Capt. Hughes Woodson. It was in the night before our certificates were signed. Mine I gave to my father on my return home.

He knows where no living witness resides by whom he can prove his various services. 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 in the Union. Samuel Hatcher



Sworn to and subscribed in open court October 1st 1832.

M. Harrison, cmcc [Clerk, Montgomery County Court]

To the questions propounded by the court as required by the War Department this applicant answers as follows, to wit:

- 1st Born in Cumberland (now Powhatan) County in the state of Virginia on 6th day of February 1761.
- 2nd His age was recorded in Bible of his father but he has not seen it for years and does not know in whose position it is.
- 3rd He lived in (the now) Powhatan County, Virginia, when called into service. Subsequent to the Revolutionary War he moved to the state of North Carolina then into the state of Georgia then back to Bedford County, state of Virginia and from there to the state of Kentucky where I at present reside in Montgomery County thereof.

- 4th The four first campaigns I entered as a volunteer. The sixth seventh and eighth entered the service as a substitute. Then two or three short services as a volunteer and the last campaign I entered as a substitute.
- 5th Gen. Greene at Guilford, Gens. Washington, Wayne, Lafayette and DeMarcus at York and for the circumstances of service refer to declaration.
- 6th He, with a few exceptions, received written discharges at the end of each service, which he always gave to his father as it was said they were good to pay taxes with.
- 7th Colonel John Berry, Captain George Cooper, Maj. Aquilla Young, Andrew Simpson, Maj. Charles Glover, Hon. Henry Daniel and Saml. D. Everett he refers for persons who can testify to his character for veracity.

[John Hon [?], a clergyman, and James L. Fame gave the standard affidavit of reputation for veracity, age and belief in the neighborhood of Revolutionary War services.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$52.09 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months and 19 days in the Virginia service.]