

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Shofner (Shoffner) S14568

fn24NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/11/11

[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.]

State of Kentucky Green County: Sct.

On this 21st day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Green Circuit Court holden for the County and State aforesaid Henry Shofner aged seventy-seven years the 23rd day of August 1832 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 of the 7th of June 1832. That he was drafted to serve in the militia in the revolutionary Army of the United States for 5 months in the County of Mecklenburg and State of North Carolina in the year 1778 in the month of November, that he lived in that County at the time of being drafted that he served the time of his enlistment out and was discharged, at a place called the Turkey Creek on Savannah River in the State of South Carolina, that it was in the month of May when he was discharged he served in the company commanded by Captain William Houston, the Colonel's name was Francis Locke who commanded the Regiment, the adjutant to the Regiment was of the name of Laughman [?] General Rutherford commanded the brigade, of which the company he served in was a part. That he was also engaged in the suppression of the Tories in the state he lived as a soldier in the company of Captain John Starnes for about eight months during the time the British forces were in the possession of Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina. This was in the year 1780. Afterwards he volunteered as a soldier in the company of Captain Joseph Shin in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Smith, into Rutherford's Brigade – who had previously been taken prisoner, but had been released & again took the command of his brigade. In this tour he was engaged in what was called the Wilmington expedition and served for 3 months, and was discharged, on Cape Fear River below the town called Cross Creek now called Fayette [sic, Fayetteville] in the State of North Carolina. The discharges he got, he has lost or they have been destroyed, he never was in any battle, he marched through North Carolina & South Carolina – He was marching to cross the Savannah River (when General Nash [sic, General John Ashe], came galloping up & dashed into the River, retreating from his defeat¹) to assist in and engagement between the Americans & British troops on the contrary side of the River.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to any pension or annuity whatever except the present, and

¹ The veteran is referring to the engagement at Brier Creek March 3, 1779. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/briercreek.htm>

declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state. Subscribed and sworn to this date above stated

S/ Henry Shofner

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

State of Kentucky Mercer County

On this 17th day of August 1832 Charles Hart² a resident of said County & State aforesaid, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, stated that he is well acquainted with Henry Shofner of Green County Kentucky and is acquainted with his service in the American Revolution in the United States Army both in the suppression of the Tories and his serving two other tours of duty in North & South Carolina, he was in the service at the same time & marched many a days side-by-side with him, he has seen the declaration made by the said Shofner of his services in order to obtain a pension & states that it contains the truth to the best of his recollection. These tours were served in 1778 – 1779 & 1780 and in the year 1781 –

S/ Charles Hart, X his mark

State of Kentucky Mercer County

On this 4th day of June A.D. 1834 personally appeared before me Isaac Pearson a Justice of the Peace in one of the Judges of the Mercer County Court and State of Kentucky Henry Shofner aged seventy-nine years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make this his further declaration in order to increase the pension he now receives under the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States, in the State of North Carolina Mecklenburg County in the month of November 1778 for five months under Captain William Houston and joined the Regiment commanded by Captain [sic] Frank Locke and marched to Charlestown South Carolina, from thence to Savannah and from thence to Turkey Creek on said River, where we were discharged after serving fully five months. Our Brigade was commanded by General Rutherford. We arrived at home in the month of May 1779 and in June the next month following we enlisted in the minute service under Captain John Starnes as light horsemen and joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel Davidson, afterwards General Davidson, a man by the name of Fifer [sic, Phifer or Pfifer] succeeded him as Colonel. We served as a light horseman in the service aforesaid from June 1779 until November 1781 which is two years and five months, he served as light horse. He was honorably discharged on the Cape Fear River near Raleigh North Carolina in the aforesaid months of November 1781 after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Little York in Virginia, he solemnly swears that he served two years and ten months at least to wit, five months in the foot service in two years and five months in the light horse service, we provided our own horses, and many times had to provision ourselves in the best way we could, he knows he was not sufficiently explicit in his first declaration as to the periods of his service. He prays that the Honorable Secretary of War will allow him such a pension, the Justice of his case considered, he may be entitled to receive for his services in the war of the Revolution his discharges have long since been lost, and he knows of but one man by whom he can prove his services, which is Mr. Charles Hart Senior of Mercer County, whose Deposition will follow this declaration. He will state respectfully, that

² [Charles Hart S16406](#)

under the law of the 7th of June 1832 he thinks he is entitled to a pension as a private of cavalry for upwards of 2 years faithful service. He further states that the witness by whom he expects to prove his service, lives in Mercer County which is his reason for making his declaration in any other than his own County. He is a resident of green County Kentucky and has been for many years.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Isaac Pearson, JPMC

S/ Henry Shofner, X his mark

The Deposition of Charles Hart Senior taken at Clerks Office of Mercer County Kentucky this 4th day of June 1834 to be read before the Honorable Secretary of War, in behalf of Henry Shofner a revolutionary Soldier. This deponent being 73 years old and first duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith that he became acquainted with the said Henry Shofner who is now before him, in the year 1777, then in North Carolina Mecklenburg County and has been well acquainted with him ever since. That they served in this same Company, Regiment & Brigade and under the same officers. He knows they served together in the cavalry of North Carolina for at least 2 years and 5 months and that previous to that they served 5 months together in the foot service in the revolutionary war the said Henry Shofner who has subscribed his said declaration was always considered a faithful soldier, he further states that he has heard his declaration read and he knows that the statements therein made are strictly true.

And further saith not.

S/ Charles Hart, Senior, X his mark

The further affidavit of Henry Shofner of Green County Kentucky made in order to increase his pension being duly sworn according to law states that the reason he did not set forth the whole of his service in his first declaration was wholly on account of his having forgotten the precise time he served, that he has since been reminded of it I Charles Hart of Mercer County who served in the same mess with him the whole time, that he now is as fully convinced that he served upwards of 2 years in actual service as he is of his existence the particulars set forth in his foregoing Declaration are as State who served with him but the said Charles Hart who served in the mess with him in the cavalry and foot service also his officers are as follows in the foot service Captain William Houston, Major Branham, Colonel Frank Locke, General Rutherford. In the cavalry Captain John Starnes, Colonel Davidson commanded the Regiment he was promoted to the rank of General again Captain Joseph Shinn, Colonel Fifer commanded the Regiment he returned home and Colonel Smith succeeded him we were discharged on the Cape Fear River in November after the surrender of Wallace at little York in Virginia by the said Colonel Smith, he will state that whether his pension to be increased or not the services set forth by him were faithfully winded in the Army of the Revolution, and further saith not.

Signed and sealed the 12th day of September 1834

S/ Henry Shofner, X his mark

[Elias Barbee and John Barbee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]