

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Harding S16145

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/14

[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.]

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State of Indiana Marion County SS

On this 13th day of November A.D. 1832, Personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable John C Hume sole Judge of the Probate Court in and for the County aforesaid now sitting Henry Harding Senior a resident of the said County of Marion aged 80 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, during the revolutionary War, and served as herein stated. That sometime in the summer or early in the fall of 1775, being soon after the royal government was dissolved in the state of Virginia and while Governor Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last royal Governor of the colony of Virginia] was laying on board of a ship of war, this Applicant volunteered into the service of the US for six months on Hicoo [Hico] Creek in said state & near the North Carolina line, where he then resided. He was put into a company commanded [by] Peter Rodgers in Colonel Lewis's Regiment (name of other officers &c not now recollected). That he was marched under these officers in company with a considerable body of soldiers through Williamsburg to near Gwyns Island [Gwinn Island] where he was continued for some length of time he recollects that these men had been recently raised by the House of Delegates of the State of a Virginia for the purpose of defending the coast against the forces under Governor Dunmore who then lay in the Chesapeake Bay and had greatly alarmed the inhabitants about Norfolk offering to free & protect all the Negroes that should see fit to enlist in the royal service; that after having continued some two or three months near the mouth of James River in the neighborhood of Norfolk and Hampton, after there had been considerable skirmishing between Dunmore's Fleet and the provincial soldiers & about the time or shortly after Norfolk was burned [January 1, 1776] by the British this Applicant was marched under the officers above named to quell a party of Indians in the back parts of Virginia who it was supposed had been raised at the instance of Governor Dunmore & were under the command of a disaffected white man named Gurty [probably Simons Girty] and were about to join the Tories on the frontiers of Virginia and North Carolina who were to operate in favor of Governor Dunmore in order to reestablish royal government in Virginia. Before these Indians had done any mischief of consequence, and before the party to which this applicant belonged had reached the head waters of the Holston [River], where, to the best of his recollection the Indians had been assembled under one Simon Girty they were dispersed by some means, but whether by an engagement with the whites or by the prospect of operating with

Dunmore failing he does not now recollect – while on this tour he was in one slight engagement with a party of Indians near the head waters of Holston, as he now believes, the Indians were soon defeated, and the whites with whom this applicant belonged after having traversed the frontiers for some time marched back to Hico or near that, where he was discharged having been in the service about four months being nearly two months less than the term for which he first engaged.

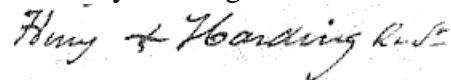
That sometime in the winter of 1776 he entered the service a second time and was shortly after rendezvoused at Hillsborough in the state of North Carolina under one Captain Moore and was soon after marched to join a detachment under the command of Brigadier General Moore [James Moore], who had under him, a large number of provincial troops and militia, that had been prepared to oppose a party of Scotch Highland Tories that were raised by General McDonald [Donald MacDonald]; but before this applicant had joined the main Army McDonald's party was met by Colonels Lillington [John Alexander Lillington] and Caswell [Richard Caswell] at Moore's Creek with a large number of militia, was engaged by them [February 27, 1776], himself [MacDonald, not applicant] taken prisoner, and his party entirely disbursed. Thus a junction between McDonald's party and the British fleet which was then expected on the coast was prevented, but the party to which this applicant belonged were marched to Brunswick and were stationed there and ranged in the neighborhood of Cape Fear River to suppress Tories and to prevent the British from landing in that vicinity for about six months when he was at Brunswick or in the neighborhood of that place discharged from the service and returned home making the full time spent in the service during this engagement about six months. The two preceding tours were before there had been any Army regularly organized by Congress for more than six months. This Applicant was, consequently, in company with no regular soldiers during either of said terms; and from his want of education, the great length of time that has intervened since his service, and the few opportunities afforded to a private soldier to ascertain facts which daily transpire, and the general movements of an army he is unable to give so minute a detail of circumstances and so full an account of the several parts of the Country through which he marched as might be desired to make this declaration in entirely satisfactory.

That sometime about July or August in 1780, – he enlisted a third time into the service for 18 months at Woodstock in Virginia on the Shenandoah River, was put into a company commanded by Captain Holdam in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Campbell, and was in a short time marched to Hillsboro and thence under General Stephens [Edward Stevens] and joined Gates's [Horatio Gates'] Army at Rugeley's Mills, sometime about the middle of August ensuing his enlistment, and but a few days before the battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780]. He recollects that the advance of the British and American armies met in night between Clermont [sic?]¹ and Camden when the engagement was commenced and continued until morning, when it became general, that DeKalb was here mortally wound [wounded] and Gates' Army was defeated with great loss, that American Army retreated to Salisbury in the State of North Carolina. That in the fall after the defeat at Camden General Green [Nathanael Greene] took command of the southern Army [Nathanael Greene assumed command of the southern division of the American Continental Army in December 2, 1780 in Charlotte North Carolina]; this applicant continued with Green's Army and marched with them to Hicks Creek in South Carolina near the Cheraw Hills, where Green detached General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] with a considerable force into the

¹ *Clermont*

district of Ninety Six & upon receiving information of the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] General Green left the Army at Hicks Creek under the command of General Huger and proceeded himself to join the detachment under Morgan. In a short time after Green had left the Army at Hicks Creek, General Huger proceeded to march them to Guilford Court House where Morgan's men and Green's main Army formed a junction, but in consequence of the close pursuit of the British Army which it followed the detachment under Morgan, in order to retake the prisoners captured at the Cowpens, General Green was compelled to retreat across the Dan River into the State of Virginia: The British having failed to bring on a general engagement returned into the state of North Carolina and General Green thereupon recrossed the Dan River and continued to change the situation of his army every night in order to elude an attack from Lord Cornwallis from that time until the battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] which took place in March 1781 and in which engagement his Captain Holdam was killed. This applicant states that he continued in the service until in February 1782. That he was in Greene's Army at the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781] which took place sometime in the spring after the battle at Guilford, and was raised in June following; that he was also in the battle at Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] which he thinks was late in the same summer with the Siege of Ninety Six; at this last mentioned battle his Colonel, Campbell [Richard Campbell], was mortally wounded and died before the battle was ended, that although this applicant has a much more distinct recollection of the circumstances of this last tour of service than he has of either of the preceding tours yet to give a full detail of the many incidents of his last term of service, now, in his recollection, would be to make this declaration to prolix – He received a discharge at someplace either in the State of Virginia, North Carolina but does not recollect which a few months before Lord Cornwallis was taken at Yorktown [October 19, 1781]. After receiving his discharge he returned home to Woodstock where he had last enlist [enlisted]. In answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department to be propounded by this Court he states that he was born in Stafford County in Old Virginia in the year 1752 from which place his father removed to Hico when he first volunteered, from that to Woodstock where he enlisted for the last 18 months: he entered the service in the manner and under the officers herein before mentioned. Since the war he resided in Woodstock aforesaid until 1796 when he moved to Dearborn County, Indiana, from which place he removed to this County – he has no record of his age. He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person who can testify anymore positively to his service than Isaac Way who is a resident of Ripley County in this state and now a pensioner under a former act of Congress, whose affidavit is hereto annexed. Beside the said Way he is well acquainted with Elijah Dawson a resident of this County who can testify to this applicant's reputation as a revolutionary soldier. 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 or territory* – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written in open Court.

S/ Henry Harding ??



*that he has been acquainted with no clergyman in this County for any length of time his whole service in the revolution would not fall short of 28 months.

[Elijah Dawson gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Indiana Ripley County: SS

On this 16th of October A.D. 1832 before the undersigned John Craig a Justice of the peace within and for said County personally appeared Isaac Way, a surviving Soldier of the revolutionary war and a pensioner under the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, who being duly sworn according to law saith that he is well acquainted with Henry Harding a resident of the County of Marion Indiana now about to make application for a Pension under the above recited Act of Congress, that he believes the said Harding to be Eighty years of age that he was acquainted with said Harding during the revolutionary War, and that said Harding was in the service of the United States a Private Soldier from the State of Virginia & in the Virginia line of ___ for the Term of eighteen Months, that he was only occasionally in Company with said Harding, yet he most firmly believes that the said Harding was under Green [Nathanael Greene] at the siege of Ninety Six. He was in Green's Army, when he retreated across Dan River that he was in the Battle at Guilford Courthouse and the Eutaw Springs & in other engagements; he also believes that the said Harding served other towers [tours] of service during the revolution – And he states that he has been well acquainted with the aforesaid applicant since the Revolution and that he has been always reputed and believed in his neighborhood to have been a soldier of the revolution.

S/ Isaac Way², X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]

² [Isaac Way S16568](#)