Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Hughes S17228 MD [sic] VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Missouri } Sct. County of Howard }

On this eleventh day of February 1833, personally appeared in Open Court, before the Judge of the first Judicial Circuit of the State of Missouri now sitting Joseph Hughes, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged between eighty and eighty one 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 officers, and served as herein stated. On the 10th of June 1774, he enrolled himself as a volunteer, at Red Stone [now Brownsville], in the State of Pennsylvania, under Captain Michael Crissop [sic: Michael Cresap], (who was under a Major [Angus] McDonald) [see endnote] and immediately commenced a Campaign against the North Western Indians, a body of whom, after several days march, they encountered at Wapatomaca, on the river Scioto, in the present State of Ohio. In this engagement some lives was lost on both sides, after which he returned with Captain Crissop and his command to the settlements where the company was disbanded, having been absent about five weeks. He went shortly afterwards to Red Stone (which was a place of general rendevous) for the purpose of obtaining a discharge, but seeing many of his old comrades again going against the Indians, he joined them and was absent in the same description of service as in the first campaign mentioned, but without any thing material occurring, for the space of about ten weeks. About this time a Treaty was concluded with the Indians [Treaty of Camp Charlotte, 19 Oct 1774], and hostilities measurably ceased until the Summer of 1779, when he again entered the Service under Captain Henry Prather of Col. [John] Bowman's Regiment, at Harrods Station [about 5 mi S of present Harrodsburg] in Kentucky [ten a part of Virginia] and went under his Command against the Indians who had much annoyed the settlements of Kentucky. We came up with them at Old Chillicothe [near present Xenia], in the present State of Ohio, but they were too strong and too well fortified to enable us to dislodge them. The Command of Cap Prather consequently commenced a return march, but had not proceeded more than twenty miles homeward, before they were attacked by a body of Indians (probably from Chillicothe) but the engagement terminated with the loss of only one man killed on each side – and the command of Captain Prather returned without any thing else occurring – being absent about three months.

On the 8th of July 1780, he again entered the Service under Captain Henry Prather, who was then under the command of Col (or Gen'l) Geo Rogers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark], at Harrods Station and commenced another campaign against the Indians. The command proceeded to the Falls of the Ohio [at present Louisville], where it formed a junction with the rest of Gen'l Clarkes command – thence proceeded up the Ohio river to the mouth of Licking (opposite Cincinnati) where they had an encounter with the Shawnee and Delaware Indians, in which, being too weak for the Indians, they lost between twenty five and thirty of their men – and returned to Harrods Station which they reached in the fall, having been absent between seven and eight weeks.

He thus computes the aggregate of his actual service at between eight and nine months [see endnote] – though during the entire period embraced in the foregoing narative, he was held subject to duty and to be marched at a moments warning. He has no documentary evidence concerning these services, and knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to it. He states that he was born in Baltimore County, Maryland, on the 20th day of September 1752 but that he has no record of his age. That when he was called into service he resided near Red Stone, Pennsylvania – that since the Revolutionary War, he resided for several years at Harrods Station, afterwards for several years in Fayette (since Jessamine) County Kentucky – and since that time, and at present, in Howard County Missouri. He states that he never received a discharge, having never demanded it – that in his present neighborhood he is

known, amongst others, to Jerre Kingsbury & Thos Fristoe who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their beleif of his services aforesaid.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. Joseph hisXmark Hughes

State of Missouri, County of Howard: – In the Howard Circuit Court, March Term, March 29, 1834, before the Honorable David Todd, Judge of said Court, personally appeared in open Court Joseph Hughes (the same whose original application for a pension was made before this Court on the 11th day of February 1833) who being duly sworn deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but, according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentions below, and in the following grades:

For eight months and one week I served as a private soldier; and for such service I claim a pension.

Joseph hisXmark Hughes

NOTES:

Redstone Fort was in the part of Pennsylvania claimed by Virginia, and Capt. Michael Cresap and Maj. Angus McDonald were officers in the Militia of Virginia.

Hughes's first two tours were before the Revolutionary War began (19 April 1775). He therefore served during the Revolutionary War a total of no more than five months, which was less than the minimum of six months required for a pension. He was mistakenly granted a pension for eight months and seven days of service.

A document in the file states that Joseph Hughes died on 9 Feb 1836.