

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harmon S18006

f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/19/14

[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.]

At a Court held for Accomack County at the Court House thereof by adjournment on Wednesday the first day of August 1832:

John Harmon (of Hy) of the County of the County of Accomack this day personally appeared and made the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7th day of June 1832

"State of Virginia, Accomack County to wit

On this 1st day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court now sitting John Harmon (of Hy) resident of the said County & Parish of Saint George aged Sixty-eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his corporal oath upon his corporal oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 – That he served in the Militia of Virginia in Accomack County, from the time he was about 15 years of age till free from military duty by reason of age; that during the war of the Revolution he served in Captain William Polk's Company, Captain Robert Coleburn's [Robert Coleburn's] Company, that during the war of the revolution the militia of this County were frequently called out to keep guard and were in actual Service a considerable portion of the time. The companies were divided & a part of them performed duty alternately. That Colonel Simpson was commander of the Militia of this County at one time & Colonel Corbin [George Corbin] & Colonel Cropper [probably John Cropper] afterwards. That this deponent was engaged principally on the sea & Chesapeake Bay coast in preventing the enemy from landing for the purpose of obtaining Supplies & plundering & burning the houses of the citizens in consequence of the very exposed situation of this County there was frequent alarms given and the militia were compelled to turn out to defend the Country. This deponent rendered service at different times at Upshur's Point on Parramore's landing & at Metompkin Inlet & elsewhere as occasion required: This deponent states without hesitation that he was in actual service under arms during the Revolutionary War in the militia of this County at least 3 years. This deponent was born in Accomack County in the year 1764 & he has a record of his age at his residence. That he resided in St. George's Parish when he entered the Service, has continued to live there from that time to this – that he served in his own account & not as a substitute. This deponent further states that, John Cropper, Levin Joynes, Thomas Parker & Smith Snead were officers of the regular Army and went from this County where this deponent rendered Service. And they were attached to the 9th Virginia Regiment Continental establishment. This deponent saith that he never received any discharge. This deponent saith that the Reverend Matthew Floyd, Hilary Mears, Houston Kellam are my neighbors who can testify as to my character for

veracity and as to their belief of my services as a soldier of the Virginia militia during the War of the Revolutionary War. 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 any agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

John Harmon (of Hy)"

[Mathew Floyd, a clergyman, and Bowdoin Snead gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 26]

The deposition of John Harmon of Henry the applicant for a pension who says in answer to the 4th objection – that he entered the Militia voluntarily before he was liable to do duty at the age of 15 years to wit in the first of the year of 1779 – & was in service each & every year from that time during all the War regularly in his turn. In answer to the 5th objection he says that the militia were classed & divided & perform duty on guard in turns = that he Guard in turn 8 or 10 days at a time wants in about 3 or 4 weeks during each & every year from 1779 until the War ended – that he attended all alarms which were very frequent – & that having nothing else to do he voluntarily kept guard & [paper damaged and text illegible] duty when not required so as to do [paper damaged and text illegible] of his regular term, besides keeping his regular tours – & that in fact he was under arms either voluntarily or in discharge of his duty in his turn nearly all of his time from 1779 until the War ended – that he did nothing else during that period = that the County of Accomack was much exposed to the enemy during the War as it lies between the Atlantic & the Chesapeake Bay –

In answer to the 17th objection (4th interrogatory) he says that was voluntarily in service a great part of the time from the time he was 15 years old he was 16 to wit in 1779 and was a regularly enrolled militia soldier afterwards, but frequently volunteered out of his term.

S/ John Harmon of H.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Harmon of H". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

[p 27]

The deposition of Houston Kellam¹ aged upwards of 76 years who says that he has known John Harmon of H ever since he was a boy & has lived a near neighbor to him all the time & that he knows that said Harmon served as he states in the above deposition.

S/ Houston Kellam, X his mark

The deposition of Hillary Mears² aged upwards of 73 says that he has always lived a near neighbor to John Harmon of Henry & that he recollects well that said Harmon served on guard & attending alarms as he has stated in the above deposition.

S/ Hillary Mears, X his mark

[p 7: On November 30, 1850 in Accomack County Virginia, Samuel M Turlington, 46, and George Nock, 55, gave testimony that they were well acquainted with John Harmon deceased of said County; that he died in 1842 leaving no widow and 4 children namely: Abel, Rosie, Siner &

¹ [Houston \(Houston\) Kellam W4254](#)

² [Hilary \(Hillary\) Mears S18508](#)

Comfort, that Comfort died and was never married and left no children; that Rosie & Siner are still living and that Abel is dead leaving 3 children namely William, Littleton & Margaret his only children and heirs at law.]

[p 10: On February 24, 1851 in Accomack County Virginia, Rosa Harmon and Sina Harmon filed an affidavit stating they are the children and heirs at law of John Harmon deceased, a revolutionary war soldier; that they claimed the arrears of pension due their father; that they are informed that a certificate of pension has been issued to Edward O. Finney and Garrison Burton, Executors of said John Harmon deceased; that said certificate was issued without their consent and they wish to have the arrears paid to them; they appointed Henry A Wise as their attorney to act on their behalf.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending October 2, 1842 for service as a private in the Virginia service.]