

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Hooper S1913

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County & State aforesaid

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1832, personally appeared before the Court aforesaid, Jesse Hooper a resident of said County & State, aged Seventy-four years on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of March last, 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 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States (the Army that was raised before the Declaration of Independence) in the month of March 1776 with Jacob Coulson and served in the first Battalion (or Regiment) of the Georgia line, under the following named officers, to wit, L. McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh], General, \_\_ Harris [perhaps Francis Henry Harris] & \_\_ Habbersham [John Habersham], one of them Colonel, the other Lieutenant Colonel, -- he cannot however remember their rank or their given names.

The applicant states further, that on the enlistment of which he is now speaking, he entered the service as a private soldier, and remained in the service for the term of one year, ending March 1777 at which last date, or soon after, perhaps in the April, he was regularly discharged by the above named Habersham: he remembers that his discharge which has been long since lost, was a printed paper, the blanks being filled up in writing: During the term of this enlistment, the applicant was only in one engagement and then as follows, Sometime in February or March, as well remembers the applicant recollects, General McIntosh marched a force of about 500 men from Savannah to the Altamaha River, to a place called Fort Barrington: Captain Colson's [Jacob Colson's] company, in which the applicant was a private and was present, constituted a part of this force: Soon after the troops reached the fort, 30 or 40 men were ordered to pass the River in boats, and reconnoiter the strength and position of the Indians, the enemy against whom the Detachment was directed. Six men and their horses, besides the ferryman, went over in the first boat. As soon as the boat reached the opposite shore, the Indians who lay in ambush, rose upon the men, and fired. Four of the number were killed on the spot -- two of them jumped into the water and attempted to swim to the shore from which they had started. One of the two was killed in the attempt -- the other made good his retreat. The ferryman, by lying close to the bottom of the boat and artfully directing the oars also escaped. After this the Indians immediately appeared in force, and a battle was kept up for some time from the opposite banks of the River, neither party venturing to cross.

During the engagement the applicant well remembers that General McIntosh received a

ball in his heel<sup>1</sup> – he was present when the wound was inflicted. Not long after the engagement, the detachment was relieved by Colonel Sumpter [Thomas Sumter]<sup>2</sup> & his command. General McIntosh marched us back to Savannah where the applicant was discharged as before stated.

The applicant who lived in Wilkes County Georgia on Broad River about one mile above the mouth at the time of his first enlistment, returned thither where he was discharged. In a few days after getting home, he substituted himself for one Hezekiah Yancey, a militia man drafted for three months, and served the time out at Fort Charlotte on American Station on the South Carolina Bank of Savannah River.

Coming home from [Fort] Charlotte the applicant did not remain long until he enlisted a second time for one year he now entered the service as a light horseman. The name of his Captain was William Wilson, John Coleman was the Colonel. The duty of the company to which he was attached consisted in guarding the back settlements, & aiding at times in defending the outposts – he labors under the impression (though time and age has weakened the minuteness of his recollection) that he was then in the Continental line – he was in no battle during this term: About sixteen days before his year was out, Colonel Coleman called the men together, told them verbally, that they were at liberty, and that he would give them their regular discharges whenever they would apply. The Colonel soon after took sick & died & the applicant never got his discharge in the regular form: Soon after this the British, aided by the Tories and Indians became so troublesome & dangerous, that the frontier Settlements of Georgia broke up their Forts & Settlements, and many of them went to the forts in South Carolina. Applicant then became a volunteer under one Captain Little and he served for a long while, in the petty, but dangerous warfare of the day, he was in an engagement against the Tories at a place called “Kettle Creek:” [February 14, 1779] the battle was very warm & lasted near four hours. The Tories were commanded by Col. Boyd [John Boyd]. General Clarke [Elijah Clarke] of Georgia with Colonel McDooly or Dooly [John Dooly] & Colonel John Cunningham under him, commanded the American troops. It was said that General Clarke had several horses shot under him during the fight, though of this the applicant only speaks from the report of the day. In the same Captain's company, the troop being still under General Clarke but the names of his other field officers not now recollected, applicant was at the first Siege of Augusta [September 12-18, 1780].<sup>3</sup> The Americans succeeded in taking Grayson's fort [sic, Grierson's Fort], as he believes would have succeeded in expelling the British from the place altogether, if a strong reinforcement to the enemy's Army had not compelled them to retire – he well remembers that on occasion of this siege, the Americans fought the British & Indians, three days & nights & there was many lives lost on both sides. Applicant was also at the Siege of Savannah [September 16-October 18, 1779]. The name of his Captain has entirely escaped his recollection. Colonel John Dooly or McDooly commanded the Regiment to which he belonged and the Count d'Estaing was commander in chief. The Americans were unsuccessful, but they fought bravely.

In conclusion the applicant begs to state that he faithfully served his Country through the whole of the revolution, he is now old, poor & helpless, and desires to avail himself of the bounty of the Government.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court July 28, 1832.

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<sup>1</sup> Veteran appears to be describing the engagement at Ft. McIntosh on the morning of February 17, 1777. See Harvey H. Jackson, *Lachlan McIntosh: and the Politics of Revolutionary Georgia*, Athens, GA: The University of Georgia Press, 1979.

<sup>2</sup> Sic, Sumter was not in this engagement. Lt. Col. Francis Marion with about 110 men was on his way to relieve the fort when he learned of its surrender. See, <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/1777-skirmish/#770202>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk of Davidson County Court

S/ Jesse Hooper, X his mark

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Personally appeared before said Court, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1832, Charles Gent<sup>4</sup> a Citizen of said County, & made oath to the following facts, to wit, that he has been acquainted with the within named Jesse Hooper from their early youth, that he is himself now seventy-eight years of age: that he was in the battle of Kettle Creek spoken of in the above declaration, with said Hooper: that the Tories were commanded in said battle by Col. Boyd: that the American troops were commanded by General Clarke of Georgia, Colonels Dooly & Cunningham or Pickens [Andrew Pickens], that said battle was warmly contested, that said Hooper behaved himself well as a private in said action, that three horses were shot under General Clarke on the day of engagement: he also states that he was in the Siege of Augusta, with said Jesse Hooper, at which siege General Clarke commanded the American troops, and Colonel Brown those of the British & Tories: that said siege was warmly carried on, and would have been successful had it not have been for a reinforcement to the enemy: we fought from Thursday 10 o'clock until the same time of the day of the next Monday, these were the only two actions in which I was concerned with said Hooper, but I served with him almost constantly during the war, and he always behaved himself as a good soldier. He also further states that said Jesse Hooper enlisted at the same time with himself under Captain Wilson for one year & served out the year with him.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court July 28, 1832

S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

S/ Charles Gent, X his mark

[Facts in file: Veteran born March 23, 1758; veteran died July 8, 1839 while a resident of Davidson County, Tenn.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia Continental line and militia.]

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4 [Charles Gent S1903](#)