

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Massey S1918

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } S.S.

White County        }

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared before me Nathaniel W Williams Judge of the Circuit Court of Law and Equity for said State, now sitting in the said County of White, John Massey a resident of White County and State of Tennessee, aged, about sixty seven years: who first being 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 and served as herein stated. He entered the service, as a substitute in the place of Thomas Hammonds who had been drafted for Eighteen months in the Company of Captain Kilpatrick [sic: Abraham Kirkpatrick], at a place then called "Cumberland Old Courthouse – barracks" in Virginia – but in what County he has no recollection, as he was then very young, not exceeding, as he believes fourteen years of age; was wholly illiterate, and has so remained ever since. Captain Kilpatrick's Company was attached to a Regiment of Militia [sic] Commanded by Colonel Feebecker [sic: Christian Febiger, a Continental officer]. He believes, that this was in the month of February or March 1779. From the place where he entered the service, he marched with the Troops to Manchester Virginia, for the purpose of guarding the magazine, which was then at that place. He was very sick nearly all the time he remained at Manchester, and in consequence of his extreme indisposition, can only recollect, in general terms, the object for which the men were stationed at Manchester. The eighteen months for which he engaged as a substitute, expired without his having to be stationed any where except at the "Old Barracks" above mentioned and at Manchester: At or near the time of the expiration of the period for which he substituted, he enlisted at Manchester, in the United States army, as he believes. After his enlistment, He was sent to "Winchester Barracks" to guard some prisoners who were called "Burgoyne's men," or "Burgoyne's hessians" [sic: Hessians captured with Gen. Burgoyne at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777, brought to Albemarle Barracks in Jan 1779, then to Winchester Barracks in Feb 1781]. He cannot recollect to what Regiment he belonged after his enlistment. It was but a short time before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] as well as he can remember. He was again the victim of disease at Winchester, and obtained a furlough, and left there; and returned to Amherst County Virginia where he afterwards resided. And before his furlough expired, the war terminated, and the news of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis reached him, just as he was about to return to join the army. His memory has been much impaired by severe sickness of late. He has no documentary evidence by which he can establish the foregoing facts nor does he know of any living witness by whom they can be proved.

- 1 From the best information he possesses he was born on the 30 day of May 1765 in the County of Hanover Va.
- 2 The Record of his age was contained in a Bible which was lost when he had the misfortune to have his house burnt, in the County of Green in East Tennessee, about thirty years ago.
- 3 At the time he was called into service he lived in Fluvanna County Virginia. After the close of the war he lived in Amherst Va from thence he removed to what is now Greene County in East Tennessee. From thence to what is now Overton County in West Tennessee – from there he removed to White County where he now resides and has resided upwards of twenty five years
- 4 As to the manner of his being called into service, he has already stated that he was first substitute for Thomas Hammonds, in the first instance, and subsequently enlisted.
- 5 He cannot recollect the names of the Regular officers at Manchester where he remained a considerable

time guarding the magazine, there were only a few men, who were left there to repel an expected attack upon it from the Negroes, which however was not made. At Winchester he was so extremely sick, that he had no opportunity of forming any acquaintance – he was indisposed all the time he remained there, and left it under furlough as above stated, when he was scarcely able to walk.

- 6 He did not receive a discharge being under furlough when the war closed. This furlough was burnt when his house was.

He states the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his Character for Veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution – Viz – Isaac Taylor, who has for many years Represented this County in the state Legislature. The Hon. Jacob C Isack's our present representative in congress, Major Henry Lyda, Turner Lane Esq. Col. Jose C. Dew, William Hitchcock Esq. Jesse Lincoln, Merchant of Sparta, and the Rev'd. Levi Perkins.

He hereby relinquishes Every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

John hisXmark Massay