

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Josiah Harper S1953

f20VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/20/14

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

State of Tennessee Smith County

On this \_\_\_ day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Exum Whitley one of the acting justices of the peace for the State and County aforesaid, Josiah Harper a resident of said County, aged seventy-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 the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States and served as herein after stated. That he \_\_\_ [entered the service] in the latter part of the summer or first of the fall in 1780 in Bedford County and State of Virginia. That he was marched from thence to Hillsborough and attached to the Company of Captain Phillip Webber, he was marched from thence to Salisbury, thence to the Cheraw Hills, thence he was marched to head the British and Salisbury [sic], and was in a skirmish with the British at the Yadkin River in North Carolina, And after various other marching, the particulars of which is not distinctly recollected, he was marched back to Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia and at Pittsylvania old Courthouse in the State of Virginia was regularly discharged by Captain Phillip Webber on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of February 1781 and he now produces his discharge from Captain Webber, which he prays may be taken as part of his declaration. He served he thinks six months in this tour of duty. The Regiment he was in was commanded by Colonel Glenn or Glan, and Major Stubblefield. The Brigade was commanded by General Stevens [Edward Stephens]. He has no documentary evidence, except his discharge, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. 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 in the United States, or elsewhere.

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the year 1763.

Question 2<sup>nd</sup>. Have you any record of your age, if so where is it?

Answer. I have from my father Register

Question 3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Bedford County Answer. I lived in the state of Virginia a long time then moved to Smith County in Tennessee State where I now reside.

The answers to the 4, 5 & 6 interrogatories will be found embodied in the preceding declaration.

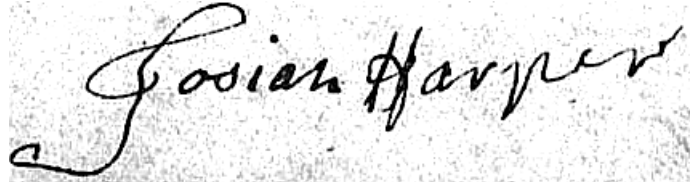
State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can Testify to your Character for veracity and their belief of your Service as a Soldier of the

revolution – I am acquainted with Exum Whitley Esquire, John Gordon, Captain John Damson, Colonel Robert Allen, and many other respectable gentlemen of this County, to whom reference might be made if necessary –

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832

S/ Exum Whitley, JP

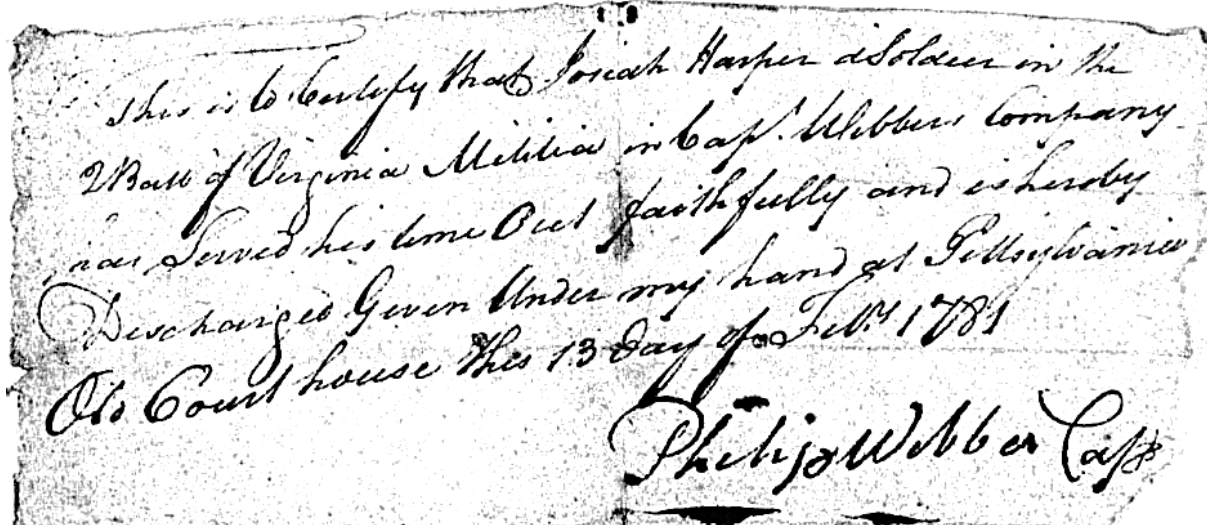
S/ Josiah Harper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Josiah Harper". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

[p 12]

This is to Certify that Josiah Harper a Soldier in the 2 Batt of Virginia Militia in Captain Webber's Company has served his time Out faithfully and is hereby Discharged. Given under my hand at Pittsylvania Old Courthouse this 13 day of February 1781.

S/ Philip Webber, Capt.

A handwritten document on aged, slightly stained paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "This is to certify that Josiah Harper a soldier in the 2 Batt of Virginia Militia in Capt. Webber's Company has served his time Out faithfully and is hereby Discharged Given Under my hand at Pittsylvania Old Court house this 13 day of Feb. 1781". At the bottom right, there is a signature that reads "Philip Webber Capt".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]