

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Humphreys S21307

f10VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/19/14

[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.]

State of Tennessee Monroe County: County Court SS September 1834

On this 17th day of September personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court for said County now sitting William Humphreys a resident of said County of Monroe, aged about seventy-nine 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 7th 1832.

That he was born in Ireland, the year he cannot exactly state, having no record of his age. He was living in what is now Washington County Virginia when called into service; where he lived five or six years after the revolution, then moved into Washington County (as it is now) Tennessee, where he lived till about fifteen years ago, since when he has lived in Blount County and the said Monroe, which are adjoining, with his children who live in the said Counties, having no settled home, other than said residence among his children being sometimes in one County and sometimes in the other. He was drafted each term of service as a private of militia.

In, so well as he can tell, the year 1778, he was drafted for a term of three months in the company of Captain James Montgomery under Colonel Arthur Campbell and marched on down through the Country (crossing French Broad River) down to the Tennessee River, and to the boundary of what is now said County of Monroe. This expedition was against the Cherokee Indians. Nothing occurred of importance this campaign, except that Captain Elliot was killed in going from Chota Town to Tellico Town. He was in service this campaign so well as he remembers two months. He was discharged; but whether in writing or not he disremembers. He went on horseback this tour. The same year or in 1779 he was drafted again for three months under the same Colonel and in the same company, but under a new Captain whose name he forgets. They marched up to the head of New River against Tories and Indians who were said to be lurking there. They found no embodied troops, and nothing of importance. He was discharged by the Colonel before the term expired having served, he is convinced, at least one and a half months. He was in Infantry.

After being at home a few months, he cannot say exactly how many, he was drafted again for a term of three months, in the same company under Captain Edmiston, under Colonel__ Shelby [probably Isaac Shelby]. This tour they marched on down to Chickamauga, on the Tennessee River, against the Indians. This was a campaign of great severity as they went down in canoes and suffered greatly for something to eat – having nothing but a trifle of meal for 15 days. They did nothing this campaign but killed a few Indians, scattered them, burned their houses, corn &c. There was a [word written over and illegible] made of some property taken

from the Indians & Applicant bought a pony which he rode home. He served this campaign at least 2 ½ months. If he received any written discharge in the last two campaigns he forgets it. All he thought of was getting released, and how the Colonel did it he forgets.

In the fall of 1780, he was drafted for three months under Captain James Montgomery, under Colonel William Campbell to go to the South against the British and Tories. After marching on a quarter part of the way to Kings Mountain Applicant with perhaps nine others was ordered to go and watch a gap in the Mountain to prevent Tories and English from coming in upon the settlement while the men were all gone. There they stayed till the troops went on and were at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]; and saw Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] no more that campaign. The company was soon discharged, after the battle; but applicant did not get a written discharge as he knows he had no chance. He was in service this campaign, so well as and impaired memory enables him to state, not less than two months. In all eight months – and each time in militia – a private of Infantry except that the first campaign he went on horseback, and lost a fine horse from eating cane after being full of corn.

He has no documentary evidence and knows of no one 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.

The following persons his neighbors can testify to his character for veracity and their belief in his services as a Revolutionary Soldier, viz. – Samuel Blackburn, Esquire, Nathaniel Magill & George W Anderson. He went each time of service from the same neighborhood – Washington County Virginia.

S/ William Humphreys, X his mark

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Wm S. Gallaway, Clerk

[Allen H Mathis, a clergyman, and John A. Aikin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]