

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Martin Hancock S2260

f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/7/11 & 12/13/15

[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, Wilson County

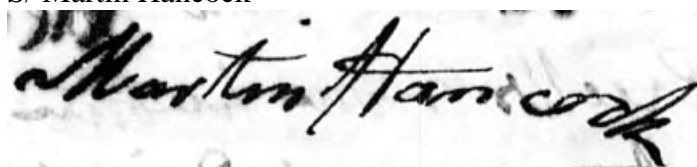
On this day personally appeared in open Court before George H. Ballard, David C. Hibitts and Benjamin H. Billings Justices of the Peace for the County of Wilson and holding the Court now sitting at the September Term A.D. 1832 in the town of Lebanon Martin Hancock aged 71 years having been born in the year 1761 as he believes [?] from family tradition having no record of his age 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Declarant entered the service of the United States in the latter part of October or the first of November 1778 in what was then Bute now Franklin County in the State of North Carolina as a Substitute for one Joseph Seawell who had been drafted for a five months tour he entered the service under Captain Allen [Charles Allen, Sr.] of the North Carolina militia, Hopkins was in the Lieutenant, and Tussell the Ensign in said Company, they Rendezvoused at Kingston [sic, Kinston] and was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Eaton [Thomas Eaton] and the Brigade was commanded by Generals Ashe [John Ashe] and Bryant [William Bryan] they marched from the place of Rendezvous through South Carolina to near Augusta in Georgia they halted near Augusta the British Army having possession of that place in several days the British left that place (Augusta) the American Army crossed the Savannah River and followed them to Brier Creek – when the American Army got to that place the British had burnt the Bridge over Brier Creek, the American Army attempted to rebuild the Bridge while in the act of rebuilding it the British Army recrossed the Creek in a different point and attacked them in the rear which brought on the engagement at Brier Creek [March 3, 1779]; after the American Army was defeated at Briar Creek the Corps to which he belonged joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at Purysburg [Purrysburg] in South Carolina and continued with him until discharged after a service of five months, the company to which Declarant was attached was then discharged except myself, I was left to take care of my Lieutenant who was confined by sickness which detain me one month longer making in all a period of six months service. The next service I volunteered for three months – in Franklin County North Carolina under Captain ~~Mekins~~ Macons [Harrison Macon] of the Militia, Ransom [Richard Ransom] acting as Lieutenant. He marched to Wake Court house in said State under the command of Colonel Seawell [Benjamin Seawell], they marched to Wake Court house the place of Rendezvous there Colonel Seawell returned to Franklin to recruit and his company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Axum [sic, Benjamin Exum, Akson, Exxum] and Colonel Brickell [William Brickell], they marched to the Cross Creeks now known as Fayetteville from thence they marched into South Carolina and Joined General Gates they marched on to Rugeley's Mill in said State from the mill they started in the night in the direction of Camden a smart action took

place in the night between the horse, the next morning a general engagement commenced which resulted in the defeat of General Gates [Horatio Gates was defeated at the battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780], afterwards Declarant was placed under the command of General Jones [Allen Jones] of North Carolina militia and continued until his term of service expired making a tour of three months. Declarant expects he can prove part if not his whole service by William New and William Seawell Esq. by whom together with the Reverend Obadiah Freeman, Joseph Johnson Esq. Major E. A. White, Colonel Tiendley [?] and others he can prove his character for truth. Declarant has long since lost his discharges. Declarant was raised in Franklin County in the State of North Carolina from there he moved to the State of Georgia – from Georgia to Tennessee where he has lived for about 22 years in the County of Wilson where he still resides. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatever except the present and his name is not on the pension roll of any State in the United States.

Sworn to in open Court this 27th day of September 1832.

S/ Josiah S. McClain, Clerk

S/ Martin Hancock

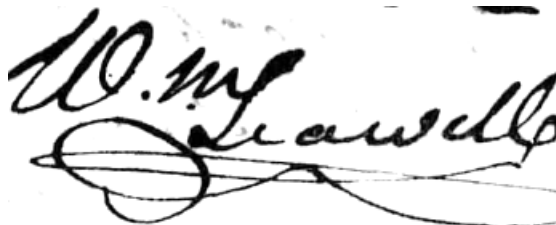
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin Hancock". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

William Seawell age 61 does hereby certified that he has known Martin Hancock who has subscribed the foregoing declaration for more than 50 years he was raised in the same County with him Franklin County North Carolina he always understood from his father Colonel Benjamin Seawell that said Hancock was in the Revolutionary War and that he was in the Battle at Briar Creek. Witness has a distinct recollection of having seen said Hancock when he started under Captain Macons in the Regiment commanded by my father Colonel Seawell to Rendezvous at Wake Court house he always understood and it was generally believed and none that he was in the Battle of Gates Defeat it has never been doubted in North Carolina or Tennessee by all to whom said Hancock was known that he was a soldier of the Revolution he has always supported a high character for truth and honesty and witness has no doubt that he served as stated in his declaration.

Sworn to in open court 27th of September 1832

S/ Josiah S. McClain, Clerk

S/ Wm. Seawell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm. Seawell". The signature is written in dark ink and features a large, decorative flourish at the bottom.

William New ¹age 71 years does hereby certify that he has known Martin Hancock for 60 years that he knows he was a soldier of the Revolution – he saw him after he had started in his tour of duty under Captain Allen he saw him after he returned from this tour of service in the South and thinks he was absent about six months – the next tour of service under Captain Macons witness was along with him and was with him in Gates Defeat – this was a tour of three months – which

¹ [William New W10802](#)

said Hancock served out and was discharged – said Hancock has always been known and reputed in his neighborhood to be a soldier of the Revolution – his character for truth has never been doubted.

Sworn to in open court 28 September 1832.

S/ Josiah S. McClain, Clerk

S/ William New

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William New". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "S/ William New".

[Obidiah Newman, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for 9 months service as a private in the NC militia.]