

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Ranson S23382

f18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/14/09 rev'd 12/15/11

[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 New York Rockland County

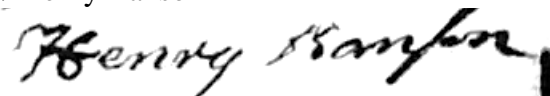
On this 28th day of November in the year A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Judges of the court of Common Pleas [sic] now sitting, Henry Ranson, a resident of the town of Haverstraw in the County of Rockland and State of New York, aged seventy-six years the fifth day of July, 1832, 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. That early in the spring of the year 1776, in New Bern, North Carolina, where he then resided, he enlisted for three months in a company of Artillery commanded by Captain Vance [could be Nance] in Colonel Caswell's Regiment, and marched to Wilmington on Cape Fair River [sic, Cape Fear River], against Sir Henry Clinton, marched from thence to New Bern and was there discharged, the time of service being expired, from there went to Edenton and there enlisted under Captain Bayley, as a guard to the Powder waggons, and guarded them to Wilmington which engagement lasted one month, from there went to New Virginia, Winchester town, there joined a volunteer corps under Captain Thurston in the month of December, and marched to Philadelphia to assist General Washington marched from Philadelphia to Morristown, quartered at Lord Sterling's from there marched to Quebletown [Quibbletown], near New Brunswick, there attacked the British, had an engagement for 2 hours, from there returned to our quarters at Lord Sterlings, and was there discharged on the 17th of March, 1777, from there went to White Plains and there enlisted under Captain John Thomas, the Colonel who commanded the Regiment not now recollected but believe his name was also Thomas, and after Captain Thomas resigned then Captain Townson [Townsend?] took the command, and after he was appointed pay master at Fort Montgomery [sic, Fort Montgomery] then Captain Woodward took the command, then marched to Courtland Manner, or Phillips then -- transferred to Captain Brown's company was in Captain Brown's company until November, under Colonel Hammon, then transferred to Captain Levingsworth Company of Continental troops, to take prisoners to Hedford [?] went to Litchfield, and was there discharged some time in November, then enlisted in the same month at Bedford under Captain Mills for 6 months, the Colonel's name not now recollected, staid that time as guards at Bedford, then he went to New London and entered on board the *General Putnam*, a 20 gun ship, under the command of Captain Thomas Allen, for 6 months Cruise in the spring of the year 1778, and during said Cruise took a 16 Gun Brig, and four sail out of a fleet bound to Newfoundland with provision and cloathin, and afterwards another Brig bound to Quebeck [sic, Québec], returned to the court of New London,

and was there discharged when the term was expired, and I then returned to Bedford in Westchester County, sometime in the fall of the year 1779 he was called out in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Sacket [could be Lacket], to defend the town of Bedford, having received information that the British was coming against the town, the company was stationed 2 miles from the town, and he stood under arms all night, at the break of day in the morning at Captain called on him and ordered him to call in a Picket, he and two other men went and on their way stopped a horseman, supposed to be one of the British, but it proved to be an American, and sent him back to give a signal where the out guards lay he gave us a signal, we then had five men, we attacked the British guards, and their horn blowed for a retreat, we followed them 2 or 3 miles to Esquire Lyon's House, where we cross cut them about the time they set fire to the house, we passed through the house while on fire, and met them at the door, we fired 5 guns at them and they retreated, and then he returned home again. That from that time to the close of the Revolutionary war, he continued in the service under different Captains, their names not now distinctly recollected, as he then resided near the lines he was very often out on duty but the number of times he was out or the length of time he was out under each engagement he is now unable positively to declare, that at one engagement under Captain Archer he went to Morisena with 36 Horseman attacked a camp of about 2000 men killed a number of them and took eleven prisoners, and he does confidently believe that he served more than one year after his service under Captain Sacket as aforesaid, that he has no documentary evidence of any of his services, as he does not recollect ever to have received a written discharge, and that he does not know where to find any living witness to prove any of his services by, that since the war he has resided at Bedford at New York at the Delaware and for the last 30 years in the town of Haverstraw, where he is well-known, and to many of the Citizens thereof he can apply for testimony to prove his Character and veracity by --

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 -- that Matthew Benson, James Sherwood, John Felter, John S. Swann, and many other persons can testify to his [indecipherable word or words].

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court
S/ David Pye, Clerk

S/ Henry Ranson



[James Sherwood, a clergyman, and Matthew Benson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of New York Rockland County: On this 15th day of July, 1833, personally appeared before me, Daniel Johnson, one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, in and for said County, Henry Ranson, the person who has subscribed and sworn to the annexed declaration, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amendment to his declaration. That he served 3 months in the company commanded by Vance. That he served one month under Captain Bayley. That he volunteered and served 3 months under Captain Thurston. That he served 6 months under Captain Thomas, Townsend, Woodward, Browns, Levingsworth. That he served 6 months in the company commanded by Captain Mills. That he served 6 months on board the *General Putnam* under Captain Allen. That by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services under Captains Sacket, Archer, St. John. That he was born in the City of New York on the 5th day of July 1756 and that he has no record of his age but by tradition from his parents, but

according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: for one year and one month I served under the said captains but how long under each he cannot say: for which service I claim a pension.

S/ Henry Ranson

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid
Before me S/ Daniel Johnson, Judge

State of New York Westchester County: On this 27th day of November 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned Justice of the peace of said [County] Samuel Miller¹ of said County aged 76 years who being first duly sworn according to law did depose and say that he was well acquainted with Henry Ranson now resident of Rockland County during the Revolutionary war knows that he served under Captain William Woodward in the year 1777 and also further says that he volunteered under said Woodward to go on an expedition from the White Plains to Monmouth to Dislodge a company of the British and that he Deponent and said Ranson, John Brown and a Sergeant Major was sent by Captain Woodward as an advance guard and that said Brown was killed by the British in said service and also says that he frequently saw said Ramson under arms in the Service of the United States during the War and believes that he was a faithful soldier and true patriot.

Sworn and subscribed before me the Date first above written.

S/ Samuel Miller

State of New York Westchester County: On this 2nd day of December 1833 personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, Abijah Harris² a resident of said County aged 78 years who being first duly sworn according to law, did depose and say that he was well acquainted with Henry Ranson (now a resident of the County of Rockland) during the Revolutionary War -- knows that he served under Captain Moses St. John in his Company of Infantry in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Thomas, saw him in said company at Peekskill which was there to relieve a Fort Montgomery at the time the British took possession of it, but the precise time he then served cannot state, knows that he served under Captain Sackett and Colonel Thomas Regiment in the town of Bedford in the month of June 1779 for the space of one month; knows that he served under Captain Jacob Vermilyea in the fall of the year 1781 and went with a Scouring Party to the lower part of the County but the time then served cannot state; knows also that soon after they returned to Bedford he went with a scouting party under the Command of this deponent to the lower part of the County -- knows that from the year 1777 that the said Ranson was reputed to have been an active man in the service of his Country during the Revolutionary War and further this deponent saith not.

Subscribed and sworn to this 2nd day of December 1833 before me

S/ Abijah Harris

S/ Jaber Robertson, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for two years in the North Carolina Continental line.]

¹ Probably FPA S23326

² FPA S32286