

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John W. Harper S2599

f25VA

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 'indcipherable' 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.]

The State of Ohio Highland County SS

On this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas of said County now sitting John W Harper a resident of Liberty Township in said County aged 73 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated:

Questions by the Court:

1<sup>st</sup> Question. Where & when were you born? Answer. I was born in Montgomery County in the State of Maryland on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1760.

2<sup>nd</sup>. Have you any record of your age? Answer. I have none.

3<sup>rd</sup>. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

Answer. I lived when called into service in Berkley [Berkeley] (now Jefferson) County in the State of Virginia I lived in Berkley until the year 1820 when I removed to Highland County Ohio where I have ever since lived.

4<sup>th</sup>. How were you called into service?

Answer. I was drafted.

5<sup>th</sup>. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental & militia regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your service.

In the month of October A.D. 1781 I was drafted in the Virginia militia at Charlestown in Berkley County Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Abram Morgan. I do not recollect the name of our Colonel, but the whole force of troops raised in my neighborhood was commanded by General Daniel Morgan. We remained in Charlestown a few days & then marched to Yorktown Virginia where Lord Cornwallis with his Army was besieged by the American Army. Our object was to assist in the siege of said town but when we arrived Cornwallis had surrendered [October 19, 1781]. We marched sometime after our arrival to guard some of the British prisoners through Charlestown Virginia & Fredericktown Maryland to the town of York in the state of Pennsylvania where the prisoners were delivered over to the Pennsylvania militia. After which I received a written discharge in the month of May 1782 at York from my Captain & returned home – after serving eight months. I have lost the discharge above mentioned. I was well acquainted with General Washington & knew General Gates &

Stephens & several of the General officers of the American Army.

[Q] State the names of some persons in your present neighborhood who can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

John Roads, John Smith, Samuel Bell, Alton Trimble, Thomas Mullenix, George Pulse & many others will testify. There is no clergyman in my neighborhood.

The said applicant states he has no documentary evidence, nor does he know of any person by whom he could prove his service –

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension but the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ John W Harper, X his mark

[Adam Brown & Thomas Mullenix gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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