

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Hammock S2601

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Nov 2012.

State of Tennessee Circuit Court
Grainger County

On the 18 day of April 1836 personally appears before the Judge of the Circuit Court for the County of Grainger & state of Tennessee John Hammock a resident of the County of Grainger & state of Tennessee aged Eighty one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 that he entered the service of the united states on the first of May 1778 under Capt. John Donelson for a three months tour which he fully served and & I was discharged by Captain Donelson at the expiration of the time for which he engaged & served under the said Donelson there were no General or field officers that he did not reach home untill about the middle of August he states he lived in Pitsylvania [sic: Pittsylvania] County state of Virginia at the time he entered the service he was engaged this time of service in protecting the fronteer against the Shawnee tribe of Indians & did not belong to any Regement he states he was not in any battle but frequent skermishes He states that in the year 1781 in May he again entered the service of the united States under Captain White and was engaged in guarding British prisoners from Hallifax [sic: Halifax] in Virginia to Winchester in said state he continued in service from the 1st of May untill the last of August he states he served in all six months & a half 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 any of any State

State of Tennessee } On this 13th day of October 1838 personally appeared before me John Hammock
Grainger County } a resident of the state afforsaid and county of Grainger who being first duly
sworn on the holy evangelist of almighty god and according to law doth on his oath make the following
declearation in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 he States that he
entered the service of the united states in the troupes of the State of Virginia for the indian service he
states that he was born the 10th of April 1755 and that on the 10th of April last he would be eighty three
years old; I entered the service under Captain Donalson in the Malitia service in Pitsylvania County
Virginia was one of the drafted Malitia; Captain Brice Martin and Captain Lyon each commanded the
two other companies that composed the detachment Captain Donaldson had the command as there was
no field officer ever took the command, as we understood there would be; We was marched from
Pitsylvania Court house on or about the the first of May 1778 and was marched across the mountains to
a place call'd Hatfield fort [near Pearisburg now in Giles County VA] to defend the fronteer from the
invasion of the Shawnee Indians on New River where we remaind to scour the Country and keep a look
out untill our term of service expired and was again marched back by Capt'n Donalson to Pitsylvania
Courthouse and discharged I rec'd. no written discharge; and the reason was this when we got back we
was all so glad that we had arrived safe that the Captains told us to go home and meet him on the next
Satterday and receive our discharges it so happened I did never see him after this is the reason I cannot
produce it to this day. we started or was mustered into service untill discharged was four months.
Again I was drafted the first of May 1781 for a three months tour of duty I then resided Pitsylvania
County virginia I was in Captain Whites Company of drafted malitia and marched to Halifax
courthouse and remained there some days when we received the prisoners taken at the Cowpens [17 Jan
1781] Haw river [NC] & perhaps some others from the south we was ordered to guard the prisoners to
Winchester Virginia at the Barracks at that place and continued in the service untill the last of August
guarding the British prisoners & tories untill the last of August the same year; 1781. my time was then

out and I was discharged at winchester, being four months in the service this tour I recd no written discharge for this tour but got a written order to draw rations untill we arived at home making in all eight months we was to meet the Captain after we got home to git our written discharges It so happened that I never saw him after; while I was in this service Captain White had the command but I was informed that Col'l. Allen a Malitia Col'l. had the chief command but he was seldom there; as well as I recollect I was born in Albemarle County in virginia and lived there untill I was twenty one years old; I then moved to pitsylvania County and lived there about fifteen years I then moved to greenbrier county where I lived fifteen years from that I moved to this Count in the State of Tennessee, where I have lived since say thirty three or four years I am very frail of memory and much afflicted in body from a rupture a hernia testes or inguinal; so that I am always in danger from traveling about so that I could not now get to the courthouse to make this decleration: he would state also that he made application in the year 1833 or 34 through the agency of Gen'l. John Cocke he told me that my petition was rejected for some cause I again made one or two unsuccessful attempes in the year 1835 & 36 but I suppose those who I employed did not understand the business or did not want the trouble so it is I have made three attempts preveus to this and have never succeeded to get any thing. This explanation will suffice why I have not applied sooner; for the benefits of the law of the 7th of June 1832; after I was enformed that my papers was returned the first time, I was informd I would have to make proff of my service at that time I did not where to find the witnesses and was unable both in body and purse to hunt them up though in the lapse of time since I have heard of enough proof to place my case beyond suspesion & which is herewith submitted the deposition of Whorton Nunn [Wharton Nunn, pension application W974] and others that will accompany this decleration I hereby relinquish every other claim or application to a pention Except the present and declare that my name is not on any pention roll of the united states and is not on any Roll of the states and have no agent except Dr Alfred Noll of Tazewell to attend to this business for me he is fully empowered to do so Sworn to and subscribed to this day and year first above written

John hisXmark Hammack

The following questions was put to John Hammack the applicant to be placed on the revolutionary pention Roll as set forth in the forgoing decleration the original proceeding of which was taken this day hereafter to be written and the same of the original taken before me and the answers recorded

Question 1} Where & what year was you Born

Answer in the year 1755 Albermarle County and State of Virginia

Question 2} have you any record of your age if so where is it

Answer I have no record here but was recorded in the State of Virginia

Question 3} Where were you living when you entered the service; and where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live

Answer I entered in Pitsylvania County in the state of Virginia each time I lived there several years after the war perhaps fifteen and then moved to greenbrier County in Virginia and lived there perhaps twelve or fifteen and then moved to grainger County in East Tennessee where I have lived ever since thirty or thirty three years

Question 4} how were you calld into service where you draffted did you Volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Answer I was draughted each time first tour under Capt'n John Donaldson and the second time in 1781 under Captain White

Question 5th State the names of some of the officers who were with the troups that you served with such continental and malitia redgments as you can recollect and general circumstances of your service

Answer Capt'n Brice Martin and Captain Lyon in the first tour We received the prisoners of a detachment of Mag'r Lee who belong to Gen'l [Daniel] Morgan or Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] division and Major Allen a Malitia Col commanded at the barracks as I was informed

Qus 6th} did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has

become of it

Answer the first tour I got a written discharge from Captain Donaldson but lost it and what money I had. the second tour I received No discharge but was to get it after I got home but I never saw Captain White after I recd an order to get provisions on the way but that got lost as I did not take particular care
Qust 7th) State the names of persons in your present neighborhood and who can testify at to your character for veracity and their belief of your revolutionary services

Answer John Colven Alexander Hamilton John Caps [John Capps] John Bullard Boyer Bullard John R Mcdowell Nathan S Macdowell and all of my neighbors. John hisXmark Hammack

State or Tennessee } Personally appeared before the subscriber a justice of the peace for said
County } County Sally Romine who first being duly sworn on the holy evangelist of Almighty god to speak the truth and nothing but the truth touching the revolutionary services of of John Hammock deposeseth and sayeth that she is sixty seven years old or sixty eight or thereabouts that she has been acquainted with John Hammock ever since she was a small child that when she was very small she heard her father and others say that he went out against the indians the first tour he served but who the Captain was she does not recollect that must have been in the year [blank] for soon after he returned he was married to my sister; when he served the last tour two or three years after he was married and had a family I recollect that he was draughted he refused to go and they put him in jail a few days untill they was ready to march; but my father went his security for his behaviour and for his serving his tour and took him out of jail and when they marched he went on and served his tour of duty and come home when his time was out this was in the year 1780 or 81

Question first} do you know how long either of the tours of duty was

Answer I do not recollect but think they were three or four months each

Question two} how long do you think he was gone the last time he went into service and whether it was not in the summer of 1781

Answer I do not recollect but from my age it must have been about that time and he served his tour out as I understood further this deponant sayth not Swon to and subscribed to this 23rd of October 1838
Sally herXmark Romine

State of Tennessee }
Claiborne County } Personally appeared before the subscribers a justice of the peace for said County Whorton Nunn who first being duly sworn on the holy evangelist of almighty god to speak the truth and nothing but the truth deposeseth and sayeth that he is about eighty seven years old and that he was acquainted with John Hammock a malitia man was originally from Pitsylvania County in Virginia but more particularly acquainted with him in the summer of 1781 while he was in the service under Captain White a Malitia Captain stationed at Winchester Virginia guarding the prisoners at Winchester Barracks; the prisoners was brought from Haw River & Cowpens as well as I recollect; I had returned that spring to Winchester from the Nothern army under Captain Casey and had been gone three years in the army & was much about the Barracks

Question how long do you think he served Answer he was in the service the rest of three months after I come home

Question 2} do you know who had the command of the Barracks or garison

Answer Col Allen a Malitia Col'l had sometimes the command but I do not recollect who had the chief command as there was sometimes one field officer & then another.

Qustion do you know the John Hammock that lives in grainger County is the same that served under Captain White at Winchester

Answer he is the same I have seen him since he lived in this County & further this deponant sayeth not Swon to and subscribed to this 13th of October 1838 Whorton hisXmark Nun

NOTE: On 23 Oct 1838 Betsy Henderson, about 80, deposed that she was raised in Pittsylvania County, and that John Hammock was engaged to her sister, Nancy Maples, when he was drafted into his first tour of duty against the Shawnees, and that after their marriage they moved to New River. While returning to Pittsylvania County to bring some property to New River he was drafted for the second tour, and he initially refused to serve because he was not a resident of that county. He then moved to Greenbrier County in present West Virginia before moving on to Grainger County.