

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Hill [John P. Hill] S2615

f82NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/15/08 rev'd 12/28/15

[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.]

[Transcriber's Note: This file may include applications by more than one man named John Hill or John P. Hill, living in Tennessee at the time of his application.]

[p 41]

State of Tennessee, Williamson County: Court of pleas & quarter sessions October Term 1835

On this 15 day of October 1835 personally appeared before us John Hughes, L. Eastepy [?], & William Maney Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions held for the County of Williamson State of Tennessee at Franklin in said County John P. Hill a resident of said County aged 75 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 provision of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. I was born in Virginia Charles City County in the year 1759 in July where I resided when I first entered the service of my country in the revolution. I enlisted as well as I now can recollect on the 15th of October 1779 in Captain Clarke's Company attached to Colonel Robert Mumford's Regiment in which Reuben Humphreys was a Major. We marched from Williamsburg to the Eutaw Springs [Battle of Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781] where we had a severe battle with the British. After the battle we marched to various places many of which I cannot now recollect. I recollect of the Cowpens among other places. When Cornwallis after maneuvering had entrenched himself at little York we marched to that place, and I was in the battle I was also in the battles of Germantown [October 4, 1777] and Brandywine [September 11, 1777] – after the battle of Yorktown [which concluded October 19, 1781 with the surrender of Cornwallis] I was discharged. My excuse for not coming forward sooner with my claims is that at first I thought I was able to work for my living and had considered that I would not apply to government for a bounty, but recently I have been much afflicted with the Rheumatic pains and have been much solicited by my friends to apply for a pension. Also I labored under the apprehension that unless the applicant could produce his discharge (and I have lost mine) he could not succeed: and it was but lately that I was correctly informed on that subject. I lost my discharge as I came to this County. After the war I moved to Henrico County in which Richmond is situated. I removed from thence to Sussex County Virginia where I lived till the year 1800 when I moved to Williamson County where I now live and have lived ever since. I have no documentary evidence. My age was recorded in my father's family Bible, which I have not. Neither do I recollect any regiments or officers except those I have mentioned. I served under them during my whole tour of two years. I can state George Mayfield, Alexander Smith, James L. Smith, William Wolk, & John Frost, Felix Grundy and Robert C. Foster who are acquainted with my character for veracity and to whom reference can be had as to the probable truth of my statement and my character as a soldier of the revolution. I hereby relinquish every claim to annuity all pension whatever except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to in open court 7th April 1835

S/ John Hill, X his mark

[E. J. Dodson, a clergyman, and Jubez Owen gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 3]

State of Tennessee, Sumner County: SS

On this the Seventh day of September 1846 personally appeared John Hill in open Court before the Court of the County of Sumner & State of Tennessee now sitting, the said John Hill a Resident of the County of Sumner and State of Tennessee aged 87 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 entered the service of the United States of America under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in the County of Charles City in the State of Virginia in one mile of the Court House, and there made his Residence until the Spring of 1780, when he left his Parents and determined to Join the Army of the United States, for this purpose he traveled on foot through the State of North Carolina to the edge of South Carolina, some 12 miles from the Cowpens where in the month of June 1780 he volunteered and joined the company of Captain William Clark in Regiment commanded by Colonel Robert Mumford both of which officers were Virginians, he was acquainted with Captain Grissum and Colonel Gains; that he continued in said Service and was in the Battle of the Cowpens fought by Morgan [Daniel Morgan] versus Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] on the 17th day of January 1781, he continued in the Service and marched with his said Corps, was with them and fought at Guilford on the 15th day of March 1781 with his said Corps he continued and served and marched to Black River where the Army stopped a while; afterwards marched and crossed James River and stopped at Mixen's [?] warehouse where we remained some time; he recollects where in the March in pursuit of Cornwallis, whom the soldiers familiarly called the "Old Fox," that General Greene [Nathanael Greene] on this road found at different times letters purporting to be from Cornwallis in which he threatened that if Greene did not quit pressing him so close, that he would Slaughter the Women and Children on his March, that after leaving Mixen's warehouse he with his said Corps continued his said Service and marched to Yorktown and was at the Siege of Yorktown, and was present when Cornwallis surrendered to Washington [October 19, 1781]; he saw Cornwallis deliver his sword to Washington and heard the conversation that passed – that Washington when returning the sword to Cornwallis he said to him "to wear his sword that he was worthy of it."

Declarant further states that he was among the number detailed to Guard the Prisoners at Yorktown after the Surrender which was the 19th of October 1781 and continued in said Service until April 1782 when he was regularly discharged and received his Certificate of discharge from Colonel Robert Mumford by whom it was signed. Declarant further states that after his discharge, he returned home in Virginia; where he preserved his said Certificate of discharge until 1799 when he prepared to move to the State of Tennessee, and before leaving he had in his possession a number of old papers and among them was his said Certificate which he considered useless not worth packing with him so far; and he burned it up, which accounts for his not presenting his said Certificate itself – that he moved from Virginia to Davidson County & State of Tennessee where he lived until the Creek War when he volunteered his services, and joined in Nashville the Company of Captain Gibson [could be Gideon] in the Regiment 2nd of Infantry, he served through the Creek War & returned to his home, he afterwards volunteered & joined the Company of Captain John Dalton and descended the River under Carrol [?] to New Orleans and was in the battle of New Orleans, he returned home and lived in Davidson and Williamson Counties until October 1844 he moved to Sumner County his present residence. That he is personally known in Davidson County to William Phillips, John Hogan, Jesse Maxfield, James Perkins, John Thompson, John Nichol (Nashville), General Robert Armstrong, E. H. Faster [?] & John Bell &

others, to all and each of whom he refers for his Character.

That his name is not found on the Pension Roll of any State in the Union and on no pension Roll whatsoever, -- that he hereby relinquishes all and every claim whatever to any pension or annuity except the present.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court September 7th 1846

S/ Wm. S. Munday, Clerk

S/ John Hill, X his mark

[Richard Johnson, a clergyman, and Richmond see Tynee [?] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The Court by the Chairman then propounded to said John Hill and open Court the following Questions:

1st: When and in what year were you born?

Answer: in Charles City County Virginia in 1759, I have no record of my age.

2nd How were you called into service?

Answer: I volunteered during the war

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: I was living in the County of Charles City Virginia where I lived until I moved to Davidson County Tennessee where I lived in Davidson & Williamson County until 1844 when I moved to Sumner County, my present Residence.

4th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served

Answer: I knew General Greene, Morgan, Colonel Mumford, Colonel Gains [could be Goins], Captain Clark and Grissum.

5th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Answer: I did receive a discharge signed by Colonel Robert Mumford, I destroyed it supposing it to be valueless when I left Virginia for Tennessee in 1799.

[p 28]

State of Tennessee Sumner County: October Term of Circuit Court

On this the 24th day of October 1849 Personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Court of Sumner County sitting at Gallatin, it being a Court of Record &c, John Hill, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, he being a resident of the State of Tennessee & of the County of Sumner, above mentioned.

He states that he was ninety years old last July and in consequence of the loss of memory cannot swear positively too many things & facts that he is informed it is material for him to swear to, but swears to the best of his recollection.

He states that he enlisted in the Army of the United States as private in the year 1776 or 77, the former he thinks. That he enlisted under Captain Sharp ___ regiment of North Carolina Continentals for the term of during the war, and served out the term of his enlistment up to the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [October 19, 1781].

That during the time he belonged to more than one division of the Army, part of the time he was under the command of General Morgan & part under that of General Green. That he enlisted in the State of North Carolina near its southern line or boundary. He further makes oath that he was in the engagements between the American & British forces at the following places, 1st at Cowpens. That he went from Cowpens towards Guilford & before reaching that place, was placed under the Command of General Green, That he was in the battle of Guilford, and that afterwards he was in the Battle of Eutaw Springs, and at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. And that a short time after which he was discharged, which discharge he has long since lost, not knowing it would ever be of value to him.

That after his discharge he went to Charles City County Virginia & remained there until 1797,

when he moved to Tennessee. He further states that he served as a volunteer under Captain Giden, Regiment commanded by Colonel Williamson and having served out his term of enlistment Returned to Tennessee. His services being again called for he volunteered a 2nd time under Captain John Daulton Regiment commanded by Colonel Alcorn Division commanded by General Jackson. That he was at the battles of the Horse Shoe & at New Orleans. After his latter discharge he returned to Tennessee where he has remained since. He relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or an annuity except the present, he declares that his name is not on any pension roll of any agency in any state Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid
Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court October 24th, 1849
S/ Pascal Head, Clk

S/ John Hill, X his mark

[p 31]

State of Tennessee Sumner County: February term 1848 of the County Court of said County

This day personally appeared before me Elijah Boddie Chairman of the County Court of said County in open Court John Hill a resident of said County and who being sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in addition to two others which he has heretofore made in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed on the ___ of June 1832 and all other acts and Resolutions of Congress applicable to the facts in his case. He states that he first enlisted in about 18 miles from the place where the Battle of the Cowpens was fought he enlisted under Captain Clarke for 3 years as for the battles or service which he performed while us enlisted see his former Declaration after he was discharge from this Service he enlisted also in the State of North Carolina as he believes under Captain Sharpe who was a Regular Officer in the United States service during the latter part of his service under Captain Sharpe he acted as Corporal and claims pay as such. He omitted to State this in his former Declarations because he is old and his memory is bad but when the name of Sharpe was first mentioned he had a distinct recollection of his old Captain and of his own service under him as Corporal his recollection of the person of Captain Sharpe that he was a lean spare man with quick fine action. He further states that he was Eighty Eight years old 4th day of last July
Sworn to and subscribed in Open Court

February 7th, 1848

S/ Wm S. Munday, Clerk

S/ John Hill, X his mark

[p 7]

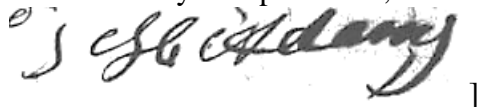
State of Tennessee, Sumner County

On this the 2nd day of September 1850 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful County Court of Sumner acting at Gallatin it being a Court of probate Jurisdiction John Hill who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of an act of Congress passed in 1832 and all other acts and Resolutions of Congress applicable to the facts of his case – he being a resident of the County and State aforesaid he states that he was 91 years old last July and in consequence of his age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to many facts that he is informed that is material for him to swear to but swears according to the best of his recollection leaving blanks where his memory does not serve him. He further states he is an illiterate man can neither read nor write he states that he enlisted in the Army of the United States either in the year 1776 or '77, the former he thinks, that he enlisted as a private under Captain Clarke – Regiment of North Carolina Regulars for the term of and during the war and served out the term of his enlistment and was honorably discharged. The above Captain Clarke was promoted and he was then under Captain Sharpe. He was at Yorktown when Lord Cornwallis surrendered. That during his term of Service he belonged to more than one Division of the Army part of the time he was under General Morgan and a part of the time under General N. Greene. He disremembers [sic] the County in

which he enlisted but thinks it was in the State of North Carolina near the South Carolina line and not far from the battlefield of the Cowpens – he further makes oath that he was in the engagements following Viz.: he was at the battle of the Cowpens and thinks he served under Colonel Washington, that he went from the Cowpens under the command of General Morgan in the Direction of Guilford before reaching the latter place he was placed under the command of General Nat Greene he was in the battle of Guilford in 1781 and he was also in the battle of Eutaw [Springs] and was at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis as before stated at Yorktown ~~but a short time after this he was discharged which discharge he has long since lost by having his house burnt in the state of Virginia.~~ He states that he was in actual service in the United States Army for the term of 4 years part of the time as private and part as first Corporal. After his discharge he went to Charles City County Virginia and remained in Virginia until 1797 and then moved to Tennessee and he further states that he served as Volunteer under Captain Gideon 2nd Regiment of Tennessee Of volunteers commanded by Colonel Tom Williamson under General Andrew Jackson. That after his term of enlistment had expired he returned home and his services being again called for he volunteered under Captain John Denton [could be Dutton or Dalton] Regiment commanded by Colonel John Allcorn and was at the battle of New Orleans after which he returned to Tennessee and is now a citizen of Sumner County in that State. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or an annuity except the present. He declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State. He further states that when he was about to move to Tennessee he examined all his papers and destroyed those which he thought would never be of any value to him, among these was his discharge. This was about 55 years ago.

S/ John Hill, X his mark

[p 10: Samuel H. Adams, 50, a son in law of John Hill, gave a supporting affidavit. He says his father in law's nickname was "Petersburg" and that a man named Matthews [first name not recollected], a Revolutionary War pensioner, claimed to have served with John Hill in the war.



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[p 12: File also contains an application dated June 7th 1847 filed by Hill, 87, in Sumner County stating the above facts with the following refinements: He thinks he enlisted in North Carolina under Capt. William Clarke at a place about 18 miles from the Cowpens battlefield; he thinks Clarke was promoted to Colonel after the Battle of Guilford CH; that he resides near Hartsville, in Sumner County.]

[p 15]

State of Tennessee, Sumner County

On this the 15th day of January 1851, Personally appeared before me William Wood¹ aged 88 years who first being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following affidavit or Statement. He states that he is well acquainted with John Hill who resides in Sumner County and who is now an applicant for a revolutionary Pension. He states that he was with John Hill at the battle of the Cowpens, on the battlefield he saw said Hill pursue a British soldier – some 60 or 75 yards. He the said Hill stuck his Bayonet in the back of the British soldier by throwing his musket at him this wound was slight and the British soldier continued to retreat. He further states that he himself was wounded by a cannon ball upon the left leg. A ball striking the outside of the calf of the leg which he was confined with said wound and the said John Hill dressed the wound repeatedly. This wound he received at the battle of Guilford. He further states that he was with John Hill about three years during the revolution, during the whole of which time the said Hill was acting as a soldier in the United States

¹ [William Wood R11809](#)

service. I was with said Hill at the battle of Yorktown and knows that he was there – and was commanded by Captain Sharpe, who was an Officer in the Regular Service of the United States. He further states that said Hill was Honorably discharged after peace was made.

Test: S/ Jos Smith, JP

S/ William Wood, X his mark

[p 20: Applicant made yet another application at age 95, in Sumner County, on December 5, 1853, in which he seeks an increase in his pension based on service as a 2nd Lieutenant for 12 months and as a Captain for 2 months.]

[p 53]

State of North Carolina
Office of Secretary of State

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that John Hill a private Soldier in Captain ___ Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the 17th day of March 1776, for the term of three years, was discharged 1st February 1780. That John Hill a private in Captain Sharpe's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service 5th April 1781 for 12 months, Corporal in January, left the service 5th April 1782.

Given under my hand this 13th day of January 1848
S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[p 80]

State of North Carolina
Office of Secretary of State

I, William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster-rolls of the Continental line of this State, in the Revolutionary War, that John Hill a private Soldier in Captain Sharpe's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the 5th day of April 1781 for the term of twelve months, was a Corporal in January, left the service 5th April 1782

Given under my hand this 20th day of November 1849
S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[p 81]

State of North Carolina, Office of Secretary of Statements

I William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that John Hill an Ensign in the 10th Regiment entered the service on the fourth of April 1781, was made Lieutenant on the fifth of July 1781. A land warrant was issued for his services on the 20th of April 1784, for 2,560 acres of land, No. 544, drawn by Major Blount.

And he was under my hand this first day of March 1854
S/ Wm. Hill, Secretary of State

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40.69 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in 25 days and as a Captain for 2 months and 5 days, all in the North Carolina militia.]