

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Francis Hughes S3075

fn32NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 6/18/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Greene County

On this 21st day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas &c for said County Francis Hughs aged Seventy four and resident in said County 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 made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832 that during the Revolutionary war he resided in Burke County North Carolina, and in the month of June 1776 he volunteered as a Ranger in the said State of North Carolina and was put under Captain Penland and of General McDowell's [Charles McDowell's ?]command, and ranged for the term of two months and half against the Cherokees and Creeks who were in hostility and was verbally discharged & returned part of the way home & in his return met the troops under General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and there marched to the Cherokee Nation and volunteered under said Rutherford and went under said Rutherford to the Nation & in the Overhill Towns the Indians embodied & an engagement was had with them, that the Indians were defeated, & eighteen of the Indians were killed, that he continued on said expedition in the Nation for four months & when the Indians were driven back was discharged by Genl. Rutherford which he has lost in the lapse of time, said tour commenced in August 1776 and ended in December of the same year being four months.

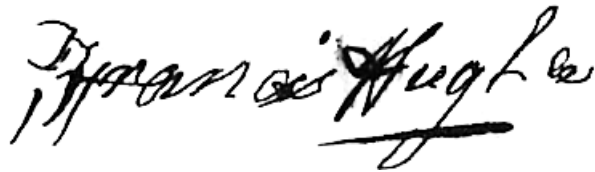
Again in 1777 in January he volunteered under Col John Sevier to retake the Western settlements on Watauga [River] and with the men under Sevier commenced building a Fort for defense at Gallakers [sic, Gallagher's ?] on Nolichucky River (now Tennessee) and there guarded, spied and worked on the Fort for twelve months under the act of North Carolina commonly called the new levies at the expiration of which time the men were discharged by Col Sevier to raise support some of whom worked whilst others spied & guarded to keep off the surrounding Indians.

Again he volunteered under Col Sevier in September of 1780 to go on the expedition against Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] to King's Mountain, under Captain Sam Williams and marched (with Colonel Campbell's forces from Virginia) across the Yellow Mountain & into North Carolina & there met the Militia under Col McDowell [Joseph McDowell ?] & were lead [sic, led] on into the engagement by said McDowell (who had the chief command) & in the month of October had the memorable battle of King's Mountain in which Ferguson was killed & all his men killed or taken prisoners & the prisoners guarded to the barracks for exchange, that after being three months in said service in said expedition he was discharged, verbally, by Col Sevier and returned home.

That after his return home he again volunteered for a campaign under Col Sevier in the winter of 1780 against the Cherokee Indians & marched to the borders of the Cherokee Nation, & hearing that the Indians had retreated to the interior of their Country returned home after being one month in service & was verbally discharged & returned home which five several tours amounted to twenty one months & fourteen days and which he most distinctly recollects. He also served much more but cannot state the times & periods being irregular.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State, that he had record evidence of his age in the family record which from his unsettled situation is not now in his possession, nor does he know where it is, that he was living in Shenandoah County Virginia in 1759, though he cannot recollect the month (the record being mislaid) that the Revd Felix Earnest, John Clark & Nathan Gann have some knowledge of his revolutionary services, but that the former resides in Washington County & the latter in Greene [County]; though he is so infirm as to be unable to travel to Court that he has no documentary evidence having lost his discharges.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this day & year first before written.
S/ M. Payne, D. C. S/ Francis Hughes



[fn p. 28]

State of Tennessee Washington County

On this 12th day of August 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County Nathan Gann¹ the deponent and after being first duly sworn by me made & subscribed the following statement on oath, to wit that he was a soldier in the expedition against the British at Kings Mountain & has been pensioned for that with other services; that Francis Hughes who is now personally present was also a soldier in the said expedition, & so far as regards that portion of his services set forth in the foregoing declaration knows the truth thereof and hereby testifies to the performance of the same by the said Francis Hughes which was for 3 months tour – that being the only tour which he served with said Hughes he can say nothing more in reference to his said services.

S/ Nathan Gan

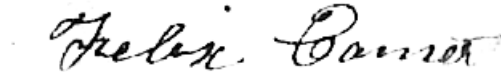


¹ [Nathan Gann \(Gan\) S1820](#)

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State of Tennessee Greene County: This day personally came Felix Earnest² of said County a preacher of the gospel before me Appellers [?] acting justice of the peace for said County and made oath that Francis Hughes of said County was in the year 1780 in the Battle at Kings Mountain during the Revolutionary War and that he was acquainted with said Hughes at that time and then since and that he saw the said Hughes in the service at that Campaign. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of August 1833

S/ Felix Earnest



[fn p. 30]

State of North Carolina Buncombe County

I John Waddill³ in the County above mentioned do hereby certify that I was acquainted with Francis Hughes while acting as Ensign under Colonel John Sevier in the year 1777 in spying and ranging in Tennessee against the Cherokee Indians. I forted with said Francis in said year and his service in the following year 1778 was continued and I also knew said Francis to be in service during the months of August & July 1780 I was a near neighbor of said Francis in Washington County Tennessee (now Washington) and am [indecipherable word or words] in my recollection in witness I have hereunto subscribed my name and seal this 4th of September A.D. 1833



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$51.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months and 15 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

² [Felix Earnest W7066](#)

³ [John Waddill R10977](#)