

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Hamm S31095

fn22NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/4/11

[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 Kentucky Logan County: SS

On this 6th day of May 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Logan County in the State of Kentucky now setting John Hamm a resident in the said County of Logan in the State of Kentucky aged eighty-three 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 made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. This declarant was born in Caroline County in the State of Virginia in the year 1750 as he has been informed by his relations. He has no written record of his age. His father removed when he was a small boy to Chatham County in the State of North Carolina.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 or 1777 to the best of his recollection the precise time he cannot at this remote period state at Chatham Court House in said State of North Carolina with one Martins [?] and served in a Regiment commanded by Colonel Sumner, the name of the Captain who commanded the Company to which he was attached was James Emmet [Emmitt] the name of the first Lieutenant was John Clendenin and the name of the orderly Sergeant was Thomas Massey. From Chatham Courthouse the Army to which he was attached marched to Cross Creek from thence to Wilmington. The British having left this neighborhood, the Army then marched to Charleston in the State of South Carolina. We reached the latter place a few days after the battle at Fort Moultrie, General Clinton he thinks commanded the British Army in [the] South about this time. After remaining here some short time we marched to Savannah, from here he was ordered to St Augustine, but did not reach that point before orders were received directing us to guard some cattle which were procured for the American Army on an Island the name of which he cannot distinctly recollect. Colonel Sumner was not in command here but the name of the Colonel he cannot recollect, from the great lapse of time & decay of memory: He here was stationed for some time and from here he was marched to Halifax in North Carolina and here he remained until the time of his enlistment expired which was for eighteen months. He received a written discharge for his said eighteen months service

from an officer whose name he cannot now recollect, but said discharge is lost or mislaid so that he cannot now avail himself of it.

Soon after he received his said discharge he removed to Pendleton County in the State of South Carolina, and he had no sooner reached his place of destination that he was called into service of the United States as a militia man and so continued until the termination of the war frequently being called upon to defend the frontiers from the invasion of the Indians of the Sween [sic? Shawnee?] tribe, and the interior from the depredations of the Tories, in a skirmish with the latter he received a severe wound across the crown of his head and was left by them as dead. He thinks he is safe in declaring that he served two years and a half in the militia service in South Carolina, but he is so old & his memory so far gone that he cannot designate the various officers under whom he served and the various Campaigns he served and, he is confident he had no time, and did not engage in any civil Occupation during the said term of two years and a half but was for that time variously employed in the service of the United States. This declarant recollects further that a Colonel James Thackston was also attached to the Regiment to which he belonged in the State of North Carolina. He served as a private during the said term of eighteen months in said State of North Carolina. He knows of no living witness by whom he can prove any part of his Service except George Herndon whose affidavit is hereto attached.

He has resided in Logan County in the State of Kentucky upwards of thirty years. John Rankin a Minister of the Gospel and Joseph Small a citizen of Logan County in the State aforesaid will testify to my character and reputation of having served in the War of the Revolution. 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. Subscribed & sworn to the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Hamm, X his mark

[John Rankin, a clergyman, and Joseph Small gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky Logan County: SS

The Affidavit of George Herndon of Logan County in the State of Kentucky taken at Clerk's office of Logan County in the town of Russellville on the 20th day of April 1833.

This Affiant being now in the 71st year of his age saith he became acquainted with John Hamm now a resident of Logan County in the State of Kentucky who is about to apply for a pension, whom he supposes to be upwards of eighty years of age when this Affiant was six years old in the County of Chatham in the State of North Carolina. He further saith that to the best of his recollection he saw said John Hamm in the said County of Chatham in the State of North Carolina in the winter of 1776 or 1777 after he said Hamm had enlisted for eighteen months in the Service of the United States. Said Hamm was at the time above stated at the house of one John Stewart, and was relating to said Stewart his adventures since his said enlistment and also his march from Chatham Courthouse to Wilmington, Charlestown and particularly – account of the battle which had been fought on Sullivan's Island some short time before he reached that place. Mr. Hamm was on furlough when this Affiant heard the said conversation. He thought it was but a very short time before he again returned to his duty. This Affiant knew the time that Captain Emmett's Company was enlisted of which said John Hamm was reputed in the neighborhood to be a member. To wit in the spring of the year preceding the Winter in which he saw him as before stated at the house of said Stuart. This Affiant has no doubt from his knowledge of said Hamm and the general understanding in the neighborhood, that he performed his term of enlistment for eighteen months as stated by said Hamm.

This Affiant further saith that some short time after said Hamm returned home after his term of enlistment had expired he said Hamm removed from his native residents to the State of South Carolina.

This Affiant further saith that he never saw the said Hamm from the time he removed to South Carolina until he saw him in Russellville in Logan County in the State of Kentucky, which he thinks is upwards of 30 years ago. Since which time said Hamm has resided in said County of Logan in the State of Kentucky.

This Affiant further saith that Hamm sustained the character of an honest man and a true Whig when he was acquainted with him in North Carolina, and also ever since he renewed his acquaintance with him in Kentucky.

This affiant relies implicitly upon any Statement said Hamm may make in reference to his Services in the Revolutionary War.

S/ George Herndon

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that the name of John Hamm does not appear on the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, neither does it appear in any of the settlements of Army accounts, and yet from his declaration I am induced to believe he served, and that his removal to the South may have prevented his applying to any of the Boards of Commissioners for a settlement of his account.

Given under my hand this 5th day of June 1833

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line and South Carolina militia.]