

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Hiley S31744

fn18PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/3/11

[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 Indiana Perry County: SS

On this 12th day of November 1833 personally appeared in open court before James Reily Esquire, Probate Judge of the County of Perry, being a court of record, now sitting, Abraham Hiley a resident of said Perry County, aged seventy-six years last February, 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, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated – (First) That he volunteered as a private Soldier, in the month of December 1776 under John Cressop Captain of a Rifle company, who volunteered himself, and raised a company of volunteers of which this declarant was one in the company. That he volunteered in Fayette County in the State of Pennsylvania, and was marched from said County to Hagerstown in the State of Maryland where the parents of said Captain then resided, and where we halted about two hours, for the purpose of the Captain's obtaining necessary clothing for the Campaign, and from thence we marched to Lancaster Pennsylvania and from thence we marched to within about ten miles of Trenton, where we joined the Army, which was commanded by General Washington – and was attached to the first Regiment of Rifle Militia, commanded by Colonel Joseph Haynes – the next day after joining the Army, we crossed the River, and attacked the town of Trenton, which towns we took possession of, without much resistance, and with it we took eleven or twelve hundred Hessians, or thereabouts, together with [indecipherable word] stand of arms, and recrossed the River Delaware, the same day – from thence we marched to Morristown, and at that place, the smallpox broke out in the Army, and we remained there until spring; during which time, he was engaged in nursing those who were sick with the smallpox, after which time he was regularly and [indecipherable word] employed in foraging parties – Some time under Captain Crissup, and sometimes under Joseph Jones, the Lieutenant of said Company, which service he continued in, until late in September following, when we were called in, to join the Army – we marched to Germantown, was in that battle, and in which battle Captain Crissup was wounded, and Colonel Haynes was killed. Shortly after the battle of Germantown, he was again sent out in a foraging party under Joseph Jones, the Lieutenant who was promoted to a captaincy after Crissup was wounded and continued in the aforesaid employment until sometime in the winter following, when he again joined the Army at Valley Forge where he lay all winter and was discharged by Joseph Jones for the last of April or first of May in the year 1778 by a written discharge at Valley Forge from which place he returned home. In the foregoing tour of service, he served from the first week in December 1776, until the last of April or first of May 1778 making one year four months and twenty-three days. –

(Secondly) – That he entered the service of the United States early in the month of

February 1780 [sic, 1781], as a volunteer, and a private under Captain Michael Catt in Fayette County Pennsylvania, he then marched to Guilford Court house, where he joined the Army commanded by General Greene, was attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Howard [John Eager Howard], was in the battle [March 15, 1781] of Guilford courthouse, he was on the second line in the commencement of the battle, after the battle and the enemy retreated, we followed them about 50 [?] miles, from thence we marched to Camden South Carolina, from which place we were compelled to retreat [Battle of Hobkirk Hill April 25, 1781], and we crossed the Saluda River, after which he was steadily employed in foraging parties and scouting, sometimes under Captain Catt and sometimes under James Scott his Lieutenant, and in one or two instances was under General Marion, until sometime in the fall of 1780 [sic, 1781], at which time he again joined the Army commanded by General Greene and was again attached to Howard's Regiment and in a few days was marched to Eutaw Springs, was in that Battle, at which battle Captain Catt was slain, and this deponent was severely wounded and shortly after was discharged, by a written discharge, by James Scott. In the second tour as aforesaid he served ten months.

(Third) he entered the service of the United States in July 1781 in the County of Fayette aforesaid as a substitute for one Philip Catt – brother of Captain Catt, who was drafted for three months to march against the Indians – was commanded by Thomas Stokely¹ of Washington County Pennsylvania, we undertook to march to join the Army commanded by George Rogers Clark, at the falls of the Ohio, and when descending the Ohio, in open boats, we were attacked,² by the Indians, a little below the Miami River, at Lougherys creek [Lochry's Creek], where the company was either all killed or taken prisoners, by the Indians,³ this declarant was then and there taken a prisoner and remained with the Indians about three years and two months in the 3rd tour as aforesaid he served one month, making in the first, second and third tours as aforesaid, two years, three months and twenty-three days –

That he was born on the 27th day of February 1757, in Hampshire County State of Virginia, his age was recorded in his father's Bible, after the death of his father, said Bible was given by his mother to his brother, and he supposes it is now in his possession. That when he was called into service, he resided in Fayette County State of Pennsylvania – in the year 1788, he emigrated to the then North Western territory, near where Cincinnati now stands, and the now State of Ohio, he resided there about nine years, from thence he removed to Breckenridge County in the State of Kentucky, where he resided about six years, from thence he removed to the Territory (now State of Indiana, Gary County, where he has resided ever since and where he now resides – That he received written discharges for the first and second tours, which discharges were burned in Breckenridge County Kentucky with his house was burned in the year 1802, he has no documentary evidence whereby to prove his services, nor does he know of any person now living by whom he can prove his services – he gives the names of David Quick, Presley Hall, Turance Connor and John J Lang of his neighborhood to whom he is personally

¹ [Thomas Stokely W4079](#)

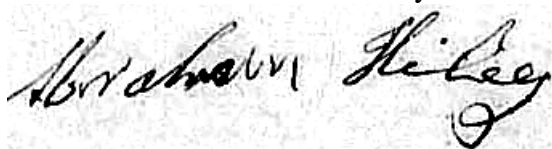
² Veteran's claim to have been at the engagement known as Lochry's Defeat is very puzzling. That engagement is known to have occurred on August 24, 1781. No one who engaged in that battle could possibly have also been at the battle of Eutaw Springs on September 8, 1781 in South Carolina. As the veteran himself states in his application, all of the participants in the battle on August 24, 1781 were either killed or taken prisoners by the Indians and held for long periods of time thereafter. I am unable to offer any way to reconcile the veteran's claim to have been at both Lochry's defeat and the battle of Eutaw Springs.

³ There is an excellent account of the engagement known as Lochry's Defeat posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/topics.Military.amerrev.general/803/mb.ashx>

known, and who can testify to his character for truth and veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes his 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.

Sworn and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid

S/ Abraham Hiley

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Abraham Hiley". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[David Quick, a clergyman, and Presley Hall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 16]

State of Indiana Knox County SS

Be it remembered that on the 8th of February in the year of our Lord 1834 personally came Phillip Catt⁴ before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County who being duly sworn deposes and says that he this deponent was drafted in Fayette County in the state of Pennsylvania sometime in the month of June or July in the year 1781 to perform a Tour of militia [duty] in what was then called Clark's Campaign, and that he hired Abraham Hiley to take his place, and that the said Abraham Hiley entered the service of the United States either in the month of July or June as aforesaid in the year 1781 and shortly after marched with some troops to join General George R Clark then at the falls of the Ohio River, that the said Abraham Hiley remained absent 3 or 4 years, and that this deponent heard from his brother John Catt and Milcher Baker both of whom were attached to said expedition and both of whom are some since dead that the said Abraham Hiley was taken prisoner by the Indians and remained a prisoner 2 or 3 years and further saith not.

Sworn & subscribed to before me February 8, 1834

S/ Martin Robinson, JP

S/ Phillip Catt, X his mark

[fn p. 12: Finding dated November 19, 1845 by the clerk of court for Perry County Indiana that Abraham Hiley was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$80 per annum; that he died a resident of Perry County Indiana May 31st, 1836; that he left a widow named Mary who also departed life as a resident of Perry County in 1837; that the veteran and his widow left a son whose name is Abraham Hiley who is of lawful age and still living in the County of Perry and is the only child and heir of the veteran and his widow.]

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

⁴ FPA S16072