

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hinsley S31746

fn24NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/5/11

[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 Georgia Carroll County: SS

On this 3rd day of March 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Inferior Court of said County of Carroll now sitting Thomas Hinsley a resident of Carroll County State of Georgia aforesaid aged seventy-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 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.

He says that he resided at the time he entered the service in Chatham County in the State of North Carolina and entered the service he thinks in the month of September 1776 under Captain Stephen Senter Lieutenant Stroder that they had no Colonel during this tour that the highest officer in command was Captain Senter. That he and the company that he was with turned out volunteer for a tour of three months to guard a place on the Cape Fear River to keep the Tories from crossing the River & That they marched to the ferry on the River and were stationed there until his time expired and he was discharged. He was in no battle during this first tour he says that about that time or shortly after General Caswell had a battle with the Tories commanded by General McCloud.

He says that he entered a second tour of three months he thinks shortly after Christmas in the year 1777 but he is not positive but it may have been in 1778 under Captain Goldson [probably a reference to Charles Gholson or William Goldston] Lieutenant Daniel. That the highest officer in command during this 2nd tour of three months was Major Griffin [Griffin]. He says that he turned out volunteer. That they marched from Chatham County to a place called McClaynes [?] in Cuberland County [Cumberland County] when they had a little scrimmage with chiefly Tories commanded by Colonel Fannen [David Fanning] and that they broke up the Tories rendezvous and that they took nine of the Tories prisoners and that Captain Goldson was there taken prisoner by the Tories while he was out as a spy but he made his escape from them and found his way back to the Americans by the seven stars. He says that they were in no

considerable battles during this tour. That his time expired and he went home and stayed there a few weeks and there came a call for men volunteers if they could be got and that he turned out volunteer for another tour of 3 months. The time he cannot recollect but thinks it was 1779 under the same officers that he was under the preceding tour to which Captain Goldson and Major Griffin. He says that they marched from Chatham County to Blaydon County [Bladen County] and down into South Carolina and about through the country but was in no battles during this tour and that during this and the preceding tour he belonged to the horse company and when his time expired he returned home and stayed there he cannot recollect how long but thinks but a few months until times became pretty hot.

4th Tour. He says that there came a call for a considerable number of men to be raised and that he turned out and volunteered for a fourth tour of 3 months under Captain Clark Colonel Mabin [Robert Mebane] and General Butler [John Butler] and that he himself was Lieutenant during this tour. He says it was in the spring that he entered this 4th tour but cannot recollect what year or month but thinks it was 1780. That they marched up the country to Lindley's Mill [September 13, 1781]¹ when they had a battle with the Tories commanded by Colonel Fannen who had before that a short time broke up the legislature at Hillsboro and taken the Governor prisoner. That they reinforced and followed Fannen and his Army down the country to a place called the Brick house near Wilmington when they had another scrimmage with Fannen and that they kept the ground &c without losing any men but Fannen got off with the prisoners. That they marched from there up the country and their time expired. He says there General Butler acted cowardly in this battle &c

5th Tour. He says that he turned out volunteer for a fifth tour of three months sometime after the preceding tour does not recollect how long thinks it was in the winter season he thinks in 1781 under the same officers (except General Butler) to which Captain Clark, Colonel Mebin, General Rutherford and that he still retained the office of Lieutenant. That they marched first to Cross Creek where they joined General Rutherford's Army and from thence they marched to what was called the Truce Land when they had a battle and they took the Truce land which had before that time then in possession of the Tories, but before the battle at the Truce land he says that at a place called Balding² they had a battle in which their Captain Clark got killed and that he himself was then appointed Captain to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Captain Clark. That they marched from the Truce land to Wilmington and laid siege to it and kept it in that situation until the British evacuated the place all of which towers [tours] amounted to fifteen months. That he has no documentary evidence that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State

To the Interrogatories he answers

1. In Queen Anne County Maryland in 1761
2. He has the record in his possession
3. Chatham County North Carolina in the State of Georgia & now resides in the same Carroll County

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm>

² I'm guessing that this is a reference to the action in September 1781 at Brown Marsh (a/k/a, Baldwin's Old Field) http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brown_marsh.html and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/brownmarsh.htm>

Brigade. That they marched in pursuit of Colonel Fannen to rescue the prisoners and overtook him at Lindley's Mill where they had a battle and some were killed on both sides and Fannen still held onto the prisoners and they followed on to South Carolina at a place near Wilmington called the Brick house where they had another scrimmage and General Butler one of their commanders fled and was cashiered and broke for cowardice. That Rutherford then was there chief commander and they marched up the country again when his time expired to it for 3 months and was discharged by Colonel Martin but immediately turned out volunteer again and joined Colonel Washington's Regiment and still retained the office of Lieutenant and that they marched from thence down to the Brown marsh at Baldwin's the Captain of the Tory party where they had a very severe battle with the British and Colonel Mebane³ and Captain Clark were killed and the British got the Prisoners, we had back, and took twelve of our men prisoners and that he was then elected Captain to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Captain Clark and served out the balance of the tour which was about 2 months. From thence they marched to Wilmington and laid siege to it and at the time the British evacuated the town his time expired and he was discharged. That he then returned home to Chatham County North Carolina and shortly afterward went to reinforce General Marion's Army at Black River but the battle was over before he got there he was still in the office of Captain and went this tour under Colonel Fulsom [Fulsom?] This tour was not for any specific time but he thinks he was in service about 3 weeks. That he went a 4th tour of 3 months in the office of Captain and joined Colonel Alston's Regiment with Major Hadley. That he was in a battle with the Tories this battle was fought at Colonel Alston's house on Deep River in North Carolina. That they drove off the Tories. That his time expired and he was discharged by Colonel Rolston. That the 5th tour he served was a good while after his discharge by Rolston. In this tour he belonged to a scouting party and received his commission as Captain in this tour from the Governor of Georgia and served part of the time in Georgia and part in South Carolina and was under General Clark from which service they were dismissed by the United States as peace was then made with the British. He states that he knows of no person by whom he can prove his service except the service under General Clark last rendered. She has proved by the affidavit of William Woods and that he has no Documentary evidence of his service.

He states that he cannot recollect the dates of each tour or the time when he left the service but he thinks that the time he was dismissed from the tour under General Clark was in November or October 1781. He states that he was in the service nearly the whole time from 1776 till 1781 but that he the greater part of that time was out in scouting parties. That he served but 5 regular tours of 3 months each as above stated and that he was an Ensign in the first tour and a Lieutenant the 2nd and 3rd tours and a Captain the 2 last tours.

States that he was a volunteer in each tour and belonged to the cavalry – To the first interrogatory propounded to the applicant he answers that he was born in Queen Anne's County in the state of Maryland in the year 1761

To the 2nd he answers that he has and that it is at home in his Bible.

To the 3rd he answers that he was living in Chatham County in the State of North Carolina and that he moved in the year 1782 from North Carolina to Georgia and has lived in Georgia ever since and that he now lives in Carroll County Georgia.

To the 4th he states that he turned out a volunteer.

³ Robert Mebane was killed in October 1781 by a Tory named Hightower. He did not die in a battle.

To the 5th he answers that he knew General Butler, Colonel Mebane and Colonel Washington and that he recollects that Colonel Mebane commanded the 3rd Regiment of the North Carolina troops and that he was in the battle at Baldwin's McClanes Lindley's &c

6th. He answers that he received a commission from General Rutherford and one from Colonel Mebane and the first one he received from Captain Clark

To the 7th he states that Joseph Little Esquire and Jiles S Boggess the Sheriff of the County know him and he thinks can testify to his standing and veracity. 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Hinsley

[Joseph Little and Jiles S Boggess gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: Veteran died April 16, 1834.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]