

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Farel Hester S32315

MD NC [VA]

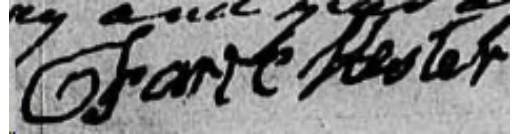
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 Aug 2015.

State of Illinois }
Edgar County } S.S.

On this 4th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the County Commissioners Court for the County of Edgar and state of Illinois being a court of record, Ferrel Hester a resident of the County aforesaid aged eighty two years who being first duely 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 1833.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated to wit that he served as a private soldier being drafted three months under Capt Bachears[?] in the fall of the year 1776 General [William] Smallwood and Major Oglesby[?] all the field officers recollected. That during this tour he was in the battle of the peolies [possibly the surprise attack on troops of Gen. Anthony Wayne at Paoli PA, 21 Sep 1777]. That he served as a private soldier being drafted under Capt McGuire two weeks to guard section[?] of Burgoins men from Taney Town [Taneytown MD] to the Potomac river. That this tour commenced on the 25 day of December 1777 [sic: see endnote]. That during the two tours before mentioned his residence was in Frederick County in the State of Maryland. That he served another tour as a private soldier being drafted for three months in a company commanded by Capt Read [Samuel Reid]. That he obtained leave to leave Capt Reads company and join a rifle company commanded by a captain Naul. That during this tour he was in the army commanded by Gen. Ghates [sic: Horatio Gates] and that he was at Ghates defeat [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780]. That he entered the army this tour early in May in the year 1780 and continued in the service till Ghates defeat on the 16 of August immediately after which time he left the army. That he served another tour as a private Soldier being drafted under Capt Reed under the Command of General [William Lee] Davidson that he was during this time in Davidsons defeat [skirmish at Cowan's Ford NC, 1 Feb 1781] on the 1st day of February 1781 and that he was by the side of Gen. Davidson when he was killed. That his residence during this and the preceeding tour was in Rowan County in the State of North Carolina in the forks of the Yadkin. That he served another tour of two months as a private soldier under the command of Capt William Law being drafted. That during this tour he was stationed at Maxwells station near the head of Clinch river in the State of Virginia [possibly the same as Witten's Fort near present Pisgah VA]. That his residence was at this time on the south Fork of the Holstein [sic: Holston] River in the State of Virginia. this was in the fall season but that he cannot recollect the month or year. That from his great age and the consequent failure of his memory he cannot state the periods of the war at which he served more particularly than he has done in the preceeding statements. that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whos evidence he can procure who can testify as to his services. That he was born in the County of Roscommon in Ireland in the year 1750 and landed in America in the year 1774. That he has no record of his age. That when called into service he lived in Frederick County Maryland that soon after the close of the war he moved to the State of Tennessee in Sullivan [sic: Sullivan] County in which State he lived about forty year from whence he move to this county where he still continues to reside. That each time he was called into service he was drafted and served as a private soldier. That he recollects the names of General Ghates Smallwood and Davidson with whom he served at various times, and that the circumstances of his service are set forth in the preceding part of this declaration. That he never received any written discharge from the service. that he is known in his present neighbourhood to William J. Mayo a clergyman and Garland B. Shelledy who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution He hereby relinquishes every claim 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 and year aforesaid:

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored, textured surface. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "James Hester". Above the main signature, there are some faint, partially obscured words that appear to be "my own hand".

NOTE: Hester's second tour probably began a year later than stated. Gen. John Burgoyne's troops captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 were marched from Cambridge MA to Albemarle Barracks in VA from Nov 1778 till Jan 1779.