

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Michael Houck S32329

fn48NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/12/11

[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.]

[fn p. 8]

State of Tennessee Monroe County: Sct.: County Court September Sessions 1832

On this 18th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of pleas and quarter Sessions of Monroe County Tennessee, now sitting at the Court House in Madisonville Michael Houck a resident of said County and State, aged seventy-seven years, as he believes, 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 was born in Bucks County Pennsylvania in 1755, as he is informed and believes, that he has no record of his age other than the account given by his parents, that in Lincoln County North Carolina where he then lived, in the month of November 1778 as well as he now recollects he volunteered for six months under Captain James Richardson, the other Company officers names forgotten, that he was mustered into service, marched to Macklanberg [Mecklenburg County] North Carolina, placed under command of Major Nelson, thence to Charleston South Carolina joined the command of General Lincoln, lay there expecting the British to attack that place, but they withdrew and went towards Savannah, we were then marched towards the latter place & halted at a place called Bureusburg [Purrysburg] as he thinks, remained there some time the British then marched to Augusta, we marched up the Savannah River on the South Carolina side to Augusta – Under General Ashe [John Ashe] as deponent thinks and perhaps some other general officers not remembered, remained at their opposite Augusta several weeks; the British then left there and returned towards Savannah, we then crossed Savannah River at Augusta and pursued them to Briar Creek, where we fought them on or about the 1st is day of March 1779 [March 3, 1779], and were defeated, and retreated, lost many killed & wounded, some cannon and our wagons &c &c recrossed the Savannah River, and about the middle of Me 1779, declarant was honorably discharged at the White House or Two Sisters [Two Sisters Ferry] in South Carolina having served out his term of service.

In the fall following perhaps last of August or first of September declarant volunteered for 3 months as a Ranger to keep the Tories & the refugees in order & harass them, entered that service under Captain Mordecai Clark, John Eslinger Lieutenant and George Seitman [?] Ensign; served out that engagement and was honorably discharged at the expiration of the term by Lieutenant Eslinger, Captain Clark being absent, the same Lieutenant Eslinger was afterwards killed at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, during this service had many skirmishes with the Tories and refugees – Spring perhaps in March declarant volunteered under Captain James Robison for 3 months, the other company officers names forgotten, joined command of Colonel Joseph McDowell and Major Singleton and marched against the Cherokee Indians, crossed French Broad River near where actual now is, thence up Hominy Creek to Pidgeon [Pigeon] River

crossed it, thence to Tuckaseegee there killed five the Indians, thence to Little Tennessee River down it on the South side and through the Country destroying corn &c and other property, return home, and were discharged at Davis Fort on the head of Catawba River. The same fall volunteered under General Charles McDowell to gather and drive cattle from upper parts of North Carolina to the American Army in the South, was employed from 5 to 7 weeks as well as he remembers, got no discharge, General McDowell told declare he would give him a Certificate or discharge at any time, and it should go as a tour of duty – declarant removed from Lincoln County North Carolina about 1782, came to what is now Burke County North Carolina, lived there about twenty years, then removed to Buncombe County North Carolina, lived there about two years then removed to Haywood County North Carolina lived there 7 or 8 years, then removed to Blount County Tennessee in October 1814, remained there until 1819, then removed into what is now Monroe County Tennessee where he has resided ever since; & does now reside. He has no discharge or other documentary evidence now in his power, nor does he know of any person by whom he can prove the services as above stated.

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 & subscribed the day and year first above written.

S/ William S. Callaway, Clerk

S/ Michael Houck, X his mark

[Thomas Henderson, Samuel Jamieson, Preston Starrett, JPs, & John Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Sct.

On this 18th day of June 1833, personally appeared the above named applicant Michael Houck aged seventy-eight years, as he believes, in open Court, before the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions of Monroe County, now sitting being a Court of Record, and being first duly sworn makes the following declaration Amendatory of his original declaration, That there is no resident clergyman in his neighborhood, but that he is acquainted and known to the Reverend Josiah Rhoton, a clergyman residing in Madisonville in said Monroe County, and is also known to James Smith, Philip Smith and others who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

S/ Michael Houck, X his mark

[Josiah Rhoton, a clergyman, gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 32: On August 5, 1839, the veteran applied for a transfer of his pension benefit to the Alabama agency having moved to Benton County Alabama giving as his reasons for doing so that he is getting old and decrepit and his wife is also unhealthy and his children mostly have moved to Alabama and he needs their protection in his old age and the more temperate climate of the South.]

[fn p. 5: On April 9, 1858 in Talladega County Alabama, Elizabeth Cady Blackburn gave testimony that Elizabeth Houck widow of Michael Houck died October 15, 1852 and that Enoch Houck is the only child living of said Michael Houck; that she was present at the death of Michael Houck who departed this life in Benton County Alabama February 22nd 1852.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, full one-year service as a private North Carolina militia.]