Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Harges S35382

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Commonwealth of Kentucky }
Greenup County } Sct

On this 30th day of July 1818 came personally John Hargus aged sixty nine years before me a one of the Circuit Judges in and For the state aforesaid, and being first duly Sworn as the Law directs, made the following statement and Declaration in order to obtain the Pension allowed by the late act of Congress to Indigent Soldiers of the revolution. To wit: That he is a Citizen of the united states, and is now resident in the County of Greenup, State of Kentucky. That on the [blank] day of August 1777 he was commissioned Ensigned [sic: Ensign], and as such Entered the Service of the continental army in the Company commanded by Capt James Hook [or James Hooke; company raised 19 Dec 1776 in Yohogania County, now in Pennsylvania], of the 13th Virginia Regiment in Continental Service Commanded first by Col [William] Crawford and afterward by Colo William Russell of Genl Mulinburgs [sic: Peter Muhlenberg's] Brigade, and that he served as Ensign in the Regiment and Brigade aforesaid or in the Continental army against the Common Enemy untill the year 1778, in July. That he resigned his commission in July 1778, at Pittsburg Pennsylvania and his resignation was accepted by Genl [Edward] Hand. That he was in service from the fall 1776, untill July 1778 and was in the Battles of Germantown [4 Oct 1777], and some small skirmishes. That he is now old and infirm and unable to support himself by manual labour, and that he is in Indigent Circumstances, and has no property to live upon and in consequence of his Indigence and Infirmities, he is constrained to ask for the Pension allowed him by Law.

Kentucky

Nicholas Circuit Court September Term 1822

John Harges produced in court his affirmation together with a schedule of his property pursuant to an act of Congress passed the first day of May 1820 entitled "An act in addition to an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War, passed the 18th day of March 1818" which is ordered to be recorded towit, "State of Kentucky, 2^d Judicial District Nicholas Circuit & County Sct. Original Claim and Schedule. – On this 23^d day of September 1822 personally appeared in Open Court (this being expressly made a court of record by the laws of this state, having been so adjudged by the other tribunals of this state, possessing unlimited jurisdiction in point of amount, always keeping a Record of its proceedings) John Harges aged about 73 years, a resident of the County of Nicholas and within the Circuit and district aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820. That he the said John Harges on the [blank] day of Aug't. in the year 1776 [sic] was commissioned Ensign in the Army of the united states, and as such entered the service against the common Enemy of his country, in the Army of the revolutionary war as Ensign, in the company of Capt. James Hook of the 13th Virginia regiment, commanded first by Colo Crawford and afterward by Colo William Russell of Gen'l. Muhlenbergs Brigade and of the Virginia line (as well as he now recollects) on the continental establishment. and the said John Harges solemnly declares that he was commissioned an Ensign in the regular service, and not in the militia (and that he swore in as an officer before Maj'r. Findley who was then a Justice of the peace at Pittsburgh) and that he continued to serve in said Corps & Regiment from the fall of the year 1776 until July in the year 1778 at which time he resigned his commission at Pittsburgh Pennsylvania, and his resignation was accepted by Gen'l. Hand. And the said John states that he belonged to Gen'l. Greens Division and he would here further remark that he was marched in Colo Crawfords Regiment from

Pittsburgh to Philadelphia under the command of Maj'r. Charles Symms [sic: Charles Simms] and was then transferred to the command of Colo. William Russell, and that Crawford raised the Regiment, and that it was a Regiment of Regulars; and that he was in the Battle of German Town, and in many other skirmishes, and that before he resigned he was out with a party of Regulars sent from the 13th Virginia Regiment & 8th Pennsylvania Regiment and some other Regim't. of Regulars, together with some Militia, in company with [Gen. Lachlan] McIntosh, who commanded as Gen'l. on an expedition to Fort Lawrence [sic: Fort Laurens], on the Tuscararas river [sic: Tuscarawas River in Ohio], and we while out Built Fort McIntosh at the mouth of Big Beaver [at present Beaver PA] that empties into the Ohio below Pittsburgh; and after the said John resigned his commission he was out on Waynes expedition against the Indians [Gen. Anthony Wayne's 1794 campaign against Miami and Shawnee Indians of Ohio], and was continually in the service of his country until the termination of the Indian War in the Western Country, and he the said Ensign John Harges does most solemnly swear and declare that he was actively engaged in the service of his country and in fighting the Battles of the same, either in the regular service or Militia, and on Scouting parties against the Indians for the Term of 18 years or thereabouts. And he also states that during the times he was in the service of his Country as an officer or soldier he endeavored to discharge his duty, and he has abundant reason to believe that he had the confidence of his superior officers and the soldiers. And at present he has no other evidence of his said service now in his power except the deposition of John Smith [pension application S9767], Robert Caldwell [S35814], Andrew Zorn [Andrew Zorns or Zornes, S35759] which are hereto annexed, and respectfully submitted to the Hon'ble Secretary of War, Togather with his original papers. And the said John Harges further states that he made his original declaration of his said services before the Hon'ble Benjamin Mills Circuit Judge on the 30th day of July in the year 1818. The said John Harges then and at that time resided in the County of Greenup. But has not yet received his pension Certificate, his papers were detained in the war office from the year 1818 until the 30th day of July 1822 when they were sent to the said John, and he has not had them but about two weeks. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed towit, one plow @ \$4. one axe @ \$2. one hoe @ \$1.50 cents, one log chain @ \$8. one oven @ \$2.50. one kittle @ \$3. Two old salt kittles @ \$1 each to \$2 one pott @ \$1.50 cents some few old knives and forks and old plates, taken all togather at most worth \$4. amounting in all to the sum of \$28.50 cents. And this is all the property either real personal or mixed I hold own or possess under the heavens. And I do justly owe the following Debts which I have incurred for my support, which Gentlemen have been induced to credit me for under the impression that I would get my pension allowed me towit, I owe on my note to David L. Ward of Louisville the sum of \$25.86 cents and Interest on the same to Thomas Thomson \$24. and Interest, Henry Galbert the sum of \$17.25 cents and interest, and I do owe many other debts for my past support, which when all taken together amount about the sum of \$150 including interest. My occupation is that of a farmer, but from my extreme old age I am unable to work to pursue it I have neither Land nor horse to farm with, My family consists at present and has for many years back, of my wife named Catey aged 85 years, and she is unable to work being helpless from her old age and bodily infirmities and neither she or I are able to contribute by labour or otherwise to our support, we live and have lived on the Bounty of our Neighbours, having no children to assist us. Subscribed by me John Harges late Ensign in the 13th Virginia Regiment, Army of the Revolution in the United States Service.

[Robert Caldwell deposed that he had served as a private in a company with Harges. Andrew Zorns deposed that "he Travelled with him near Twelve months and did Lay one winter with Ensign Hargess at the Vally forge," which would have been the winter of 1777-78, and that "Hargess was an active officer, and was much beloved by his acquaintances in the Army that he was more notorious than any other officer of his Grade that was in the Army... that he was a brave officer and Fine friend to his country." Stephen Robertson or Robinson, pension application S35637, deposed that Harges "was much beloved by the soldiers in the army, and discharged his duty well and that a Better Soldier never Lived in any country." John Smith deposed that Harges "acted some times as an Indian Interpreter." John Tinney, pension application W9521, also deposed in support of Harges.

[Harges gave the following statements in support of the pension application of John Smith:] State of Kentucky, Lawrence County to Wit

This day [24 Nov 1834] personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, John Hargess a old revolutionary soldier, and after being duely sworn, deposeth as follows; That during his service as Ensign in the 13th Regement of Penselvania, He became aquainted in the year 1778 with Captain John Smith of the 5th Regement and served with him at the battle of Stoney point [sic: Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779], where Captain Smith was severely wounded, which compelled him to retire some months from the service. The deponent further states, that sometime in the fall of 1778 or spring of 1779 again met with Captain Smith, then a Leuetenant in the service of Virginia, he believes in the 7th Regement commanded by Colonel Campbell and Boyers company; they marched together from near Boyds ferry on the Roanoke, South, and were both present at the battle of Uutaw Springs in the year 1781 [sic: Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781], after which their Regements were seperated; deponent remembers that Leutenent Smith was highly spoken of for his great bravery and good conduct in the battle. deponent cannot recollect precisely the whole period of his acquaintence with Capt'n Smith but believes that it exceeded four years.

John hisXmark Hargess

The statement of John Hargiss one of the old Revolutionary war pensioners do state on Oath of what I know of John Smith being in the Old War I here do state that I was acquainted with said Smith in the Old Revolutionary War and in the year of 1777 he entered the service in the 13th Regement in Pennsylvania and was Captain in the said Regement until 1779 after the battle at Stoney Point where he Rec'd. three wounds two on the forehead and one on the face from thence he went where I do not know then in the year 1780 I saw him again in the service in the virginia Continental Army under the command of Capt Boyer and Colonel Campbell and after the battle at the Eutaw Springs after the battle I no not what become of him until I saw him the said Smith here in Kentucky and I am bound to credit the said Smith for his valliantry as an Officer and a good soldier in the United States Army – and I do state that my age is now 89 years and drawing a pension from the United States of American for the sum of \$240.00 pr year. Witness my hand this 8th day Marcy 1834.

John his Xmark Hargiss