

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Helm S38824

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/11/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Fentress County: November Sessions 1826

Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions

On the 9th day of November A.D. 1826 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of record for the County of Fentress in the State of Tennessee, George Helm aged seventy-five years resident in said County of Fentress who being first sworn makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the Act of Congress of the 18th May 1818 and first of May 1820. That he the said George Helm entered into the service of the United States of America in the revolutionary war for the Term of three years in the state of Virginia Frederick County about the __ day of 1776 in the company commanded by Captain Abraham Shepherd. That he marched under Captain Shepherd to near New York when they joined the Regiment which was commanded by Colonel Rawlings which was called Colonel Rawlings [perhaps Moses Rawlings] rifle Regiment that said Regiment marched from there up North River to Fort Lee, from Fort Lee the Regiment crossed North River to Fort Washington at which place on or about the __ day of November 1776 [November 16, 1776] he was taken prisoner. At taking Fort Washing [sic] where he remained seven or eight weeks when he was paroled upon his parole of honor and returned home and about twelve months thereafter he was exchanged about eleven months after he was called upon to join the Regiment again at Fort Frederick in the State of Maryland. That he marched from there to Fort Pitt and from there to Fort Lawrence [Fort Laurens] where the Regiment continued until the provisions were exhausted when the Regiment returned again to Fort Pitt in the State of Pennsylvania where he was discharged. The precise dates of his marches and arrivals he cannot now recollect. That he served out his full time of three years and was discharged at Fort Pitt as aforesaid. He states that he sold his bounty land a and for the purpose of enabling the person to whom he made the sale to procure a title to give him his discharge and has never seen it since and is therefore unable to produce it.

That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a Pension except the present that his name is not on the Roll of any State –

The reason why he has not sooner made application for a Pension is that he has lived many years in a remote part of the State of Tennessee in the County of Fentress remote from where information could be easily procured on the subject and has until lately remained entirely ignorant of the Acts of Congress and the means necessary to enable him to procure a Pension And in pursuance of the provisions of the Act of Congress 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 whatever disposed of my property or any

part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons 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. I have no property except my wearing apparel, two beds and some household furniture worth very little and one cow and note of hand for a \$4 Cow brute [?] to be paid to me sometime hence that I am old and very infirm and am unable to earn by labor a living and support. That I have no occupation. That I am in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support myself and without the aid and assistance of my Country. That I have a wife old and infirm as myself and nine children six boys and three girls all of whom have left me many years ago, and have none of my children living with me, that about the 18th day of March 1818, I had a lease of a small piece of land of about seven acres which Lee's has since expired. I have [had on March 18, 1818] one horse worth about \$40, two cows and calves and about 15 or 16 head of hogs I sold the horse one of the cows and the hogs for to procure the means of support which is nearly exhausted this is the only change which my Estate has underwent since the 18th of March 1818.

S/ George Helm Sr.

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

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Auditor General's Office
Annapolis, 11th May 1827

I certify that it appears by the Muster Rolls remaining in the office, that George Helm enlisted as a Private in Rawlings's Maryland Regiment on the __ day of __ and was discharged on the 9th day of August 1779.

S/ Thomas Karney, Auditor General State of Maryland

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 20, 1827 for service as a private for 3 years in the Maryland Continental line.]