

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Christopher Hill S38828

A 764/779

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

9/21/23

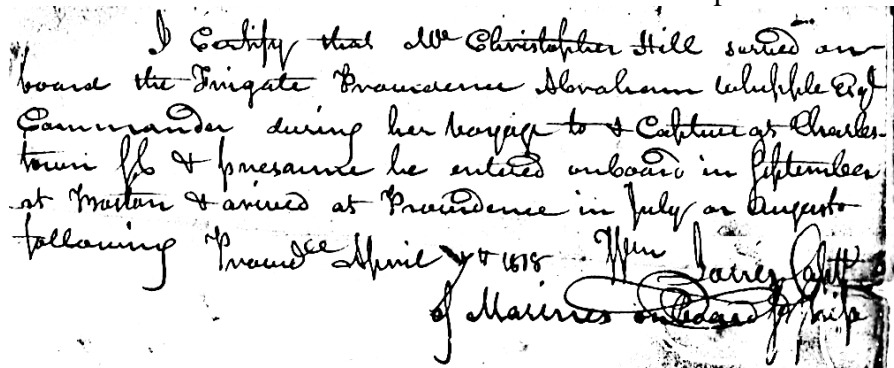
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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' or 'undeciphered' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[image 767]

I Certify that Mr. Christopher Hill served on board the Frigate *Providence*<sup>1</sup> Abraham Whipple<sup>2</sup> Esquire Commander during her voyage to & Capture at Charlestown SC<sup>3</sup> & presume he entered on board in September at Boston & arrived at Providence in July or August following. Proved April 7<sup>th</sup> 1818

S/ Wm Jones Capt.

those Marines on board Said Ship



I Certify that Mr Christopher Hill served on board the Frigate Providence Abraham Whipple Esq Commander during her voyage to & Capture at Charlestown SC & presume he entered on board in September at Boston & arrived at Providence in July or August following Proved April 7<sup>th</sup> 1818. Wm Jones Capt of Marines on board said ship

<sup>1</sup> Providence, 28 guns, 1777-1780. GWA: 701, ND3:90, 902, ND4:1194, ND5:367, 1172, ND6:1399, ND7:1304, ND8:28, ND9:922, ND10:823, Capt Samuel Tomkins, mid 1776. Connor: 167 fn (1878), Buel: 87, Smith:80, 170, 245, 249, ND11:723, DaviesXIII:71, Fowler:107-110, Continental Navy frigate, 28 guns, Capt Abraham Whipple in 1777, operated in English waters in 1778. FW3: 836, Smith: 247, SchV: 54, Blatchford: 101, this frigate was placed at the harbor entrance to protect Charleston in 1780, but was later captured there 12 May 1780. C333-334, it had been the flagship for Capt Abraham Whipple. Manley: 95, it was put in service in the British navy, then sold 14 Mar 1784. Ford 1778: 29, 1779:1342, Ford1780: 584. JA5: 126, 6: 358, 7: 150, 8:28, 9: 224, others. Davies XIII: 71ii. Volo: 90, 91, 132, Silverstone: 3. Paullin: 516, served 1775-1779. Chapelle: 73, 96. Coggins 203, <https://www.awiatsea.com/Hough/Hough%20List%20P.html>

See also: [https://threedecks.org/index.php?display\\_type=show\\_ship&id=2421](https://threedecks.org/index.php?display_type=show_ship&id=2421)

<sup>2</sup> <http://gaspee.org/AbrahamWhipple.html> Whipple served as Commadore of a fleet consisting of the Frigates *Boston*, *Charleston* and *Providence* as well as the sloops of war, *Ranger* and *Queen of France*. See, [W23633 William Blunt](#); [W22231 George T. Sloan \(Sloane\)](#) and [S32836 William Hill](#)

<sup>3</sup> Battle of Charleston [city fell to the British May 12, 1780] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/> & <https://allthingsliberty.com/2020/10/britains-last-throw-of-the-dice-begins-the-charlestown-campaign-of-1780/>

[image 768]

I Christopher Hill, both Providence in the District of Rhode Island on solemn oath do declare & say – that in the month of September A.D. 1779 I enlisted as Gunner’s yeoman, on board the Frigate *Providence* a vessel of war then in the Service of the United States commanded by Abraham Whipple Esquire, said Frigate was in Boston when I enlisted but was ordered by the Congress of the United States to go to Charleston South Carolina to defend that place against the Enemy – We arrived at Charleston after a Cruise around Bermuda & continued there during the Siege of that place & was captured in May following when Charleston was taken by the Enemy – I was put on board a prison ship – remained there about five weeks & then sent to Philadelphia in a Cartel from thence I returned home to the State of Rhode Island – I never received any written discharge – I was in that service more than nine months further depose [?] that I am now in reduced circumstances & stand in need of the assistance of my Country for support

Christopher Hill



[Attested April 7, 1818 by David Howell, District Judge]

[image 778]

I hereby Certify that Christopher Hill was on board the Frigate *Providence* A. Whipple Esquire Commander in the Gunner’s department her last Cruise & at the time when she was captured at Charleston S.C. and that according to the best of my recollection and belief, he the said Hill entered on board said Frigate at Boston sometime in September 1779 and returned to his home in July 1780, that he arrived at Philadelphia latter part of June, where our men received orders to draw Provisions at the United States Stores on their way home – That the said Hill went from the neighborhood wherein I lived and returned there.

Providence April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1818

S/ Wm Waterman<sup>4</sup> lieut. Marines



[image 774]

This may Certify that Christopher Hill Entered On board the *Providence* Frigate Commodore A. Whipple in Boston September 24<sup>th</sup>, 1779 as one of the gunner’s Crew Cruised on the Coast of Carolina that winter when the British laid siege to Charlestown he was Ordered into the Exchange Battery under my Command where he continued until May 12<sup>th</sup> 1780 and became a prisoner of war to the British Army & Navy on that Day we surrendered being under the Command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] he among the other Prisoners Embarged for Philadelphia was Exchanged July 11<sup>th</sup> 1780

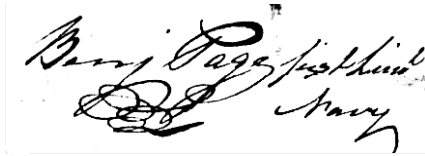
Newport May 12<sup>th</sup> 1818

Benjamin Page,<sup>5</sup> first Lieutenant Navy

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<sup>4</sup> W25893

<sup>5</sup> S3629



[image 771]

United States of America Rhode Island District  
County of Providence US Circuit Court, November Term, A.D. 1820.

On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 1820, personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record with in and for said District Christopher Hill aged 59 years, residing in the town of Providence in the said County & District – who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows:

That he served as gunner's yeoman, on board the Frigate *Providence* commanded by Abraham Whipple, more than nine months that he made a previous declaration on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April 1818, and that he received a certificate for a pension, being No. 1926 – And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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

Christ Hill

A Schedule of Property and Income (necessary clothing and bedding excepted) of Christopher Hill viz. 9 Old Chairs, 3 old Tables, 1 Looking Glass, 1 pair bellows, 1 pair Shovel & tongs, 1 candle Stand, 2 tin Pots, 1 tin grate, 6 crickets, 1 large Chest, 1 case drawers, 1 pair andirons, 1 house brush, 1 writing desk, 1 stool, 1 warming pan, 2 old axes, 1 sieve, 1 mortar & pestle, 1 brass kettle, 3 tubs, 5 old barrels, 1 broken wheel barrow, 1 tin kettle, 3 lamps, 2 pair Candle Sticks, 1 tin waiter, 1 silver [undeciphered word] spoon, 3 iron tea spoons, 3 iron table Spoons, some little Iron, 1 crockery ware, hardly to keep house with. – And the said Christopher further saith, that he is a School Master by profession and now follows that business, from which he obtained something towards his support but he is subject to such bodily infirmities as to render his life very precarious, as well as his present employment – that he has a Wife aged 41 years a very weakly woman & a granddaughter age 6 years dependent on him for Support – Under these circumstances he feels himself entitled to his pension –

Sworn to and declared in Open Court on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of November 1820

Christ. Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 7<sup>th</sup>, 1818, for service as a Gunner's yeoman on board the Frigate Providence under Commodore Whipple.]