

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Robert Hansley (Hensley) S4323

fn66NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 4/9/11

[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.]

State of Tennessee, Hawkins County

On the 1st day of April in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appear before the circuit court for the county and state aforesaid at the March term of said court 1834 Robert Hensley of the county of Hawkins and the state aforesaid and saith that he was born on the 29th day of July 1759 it being leap year in the county of Bucks in the state of Pennsylvania as he was informed making him at this time aged about seventy five years and further that he has lost the records of his age and has none now in his possession. Being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following Declaration in the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832: That he volunteered under the immediate command of Captain George Maxwell of the County of Sullivan in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelby and was in the Service of the United States for the term of six months during the revolutionary war; that he was in the battle of King's Mountain when Col. Ferguson was defeated; after the battle with the American troops to Salisbury with the prisoners in charge; after the expiration of his six months service as a volunteer in Col. Shelby's Regt he substituted in place of Dyer Hudson into a company of Militia commanded by Captain William Cloud in the County of Stokes in the State of North Carolina, on or about the 1st of May 1781, for the term of six months, from which place he was marched in Col Hughes' regiment to Broad River on or near the line between North and South Carolina; after being in service about three months, Captain William Cloud took sick & returned & the applicant was put under the immediate command of Capt Jonathan Hawley, after being on Broad River about two months under the orders of Genl Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], a detachment of Col Hughes' Regiment was ordered to the head of New River in pursuit of Tories, from thence into Patrick County in Virginia, from thence the detachment was ordered to join the Army under Genl Greene, when on the way to join him, news was received of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis; on receiving the intelligence of his surrender this applicant was marched back to Henry County Virginia and discharged by Captain Hawley after serving six months on said tour of duty.

This applicant immediately returned to Sullivan County on the waters of Holston [River], and on his return, he volunteered under Capt. or Lt. Fulkerson to guard the Indian Frontier, and was marched to Asher's Station on Big Creek near Holston River. Shortly after his arrival at Asher's Station Capt Elijah Chisholm too command of the Fort and this applicant remained at that place until the full time of six months and discharged by Captain Chisholm.

After the expiration of which time, he again volunteered in the Spring of 1782, under Captain

John Blair, and was marched to Campbell's Station fifteen miles below Knoxville, where he remained the full term of six months. From the time he volunteered, frequently out a few days at a time scouting as far as Nine Mile Creek, in the direction of the Cherokee Nation of Indians. After the expiration of his term of service applicant was discharged by Capt John Blair, and returned home after serving altogether two years.

And this declarant further states that the discharges he received are lost, and that he has no documentary evidence of his services; that there is no living witnesses by whom he can prove his services that are known to him, but Henry Blevins whose testimony is herewith attached marked A, and William Wallings whose testimony is also attached marked B. Captain John Blair and every man that served with him in 1782 is deceased or removed to some unknown part of the Country to this declarant. He further states that he was not during the several terms of service amounting to two full years engaged in any private business of his own or for any other person but was employed in the actual service of the United States, and called into the service by competent authority of the United States.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any state, & declarant states he lives neighbor to Capt John A. Rogers & Robert McMinn & is well acquainted with them whose testimony is hereunto annexed. He further states there is no clergyman nearer him than seven miles & that he has but little acquaintance with him. He states he has lived in Hawkins County ever since the revolution, say upward of fifty years.

S/ Robert Hinsley, / his mark

Sworn to in open court, the 2d April 1834.

S/ W.B. Mitchell, Clk.

State of Tennessee Hawkins County Circuit Court, March Term 1834

Personally appeared in open Court William Walling,¹ who is now a Pensioner, who was duly sworn, after which he stated that he was a private soldier in the company commanded by Captain James Elliot and the Regiment of Colonel Isaac Shelby, that he was in the battle of Kings Mountain at the time Colonel Ferguson was defeated, that he has heard the declaration of Robert Hinsley read and conversed with him on the particular incidence of the Campaign, and am satisfied he was with the Army and in the battle of Kings Mountain and also with the prisoners after the battle, but from old age and loss of memory I cannot recollect distinctly his person. This affiant states Henry Blevins was also a private in the same Regiment and was out on the same Campaign, and a person who is entitled to as much credit as any man, I have known him ever since he can remember.

S/ William Walling, X his mark

Sworn to in open court the first April 1834

S/ W. B. Mitchell, Clerk

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: Circuit Court, March Term 1834

Personally appeared Henry Blevins² aged 74 years last old Christmas day, in Open Court, and made oath that George Maxwell referred to in the declaration of Robert Hinsley was a Captain in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Isaac Shelby at the battle of Kings Mountain during the revolutionary war, that he has reason to believe the facts stated in the declaration of the said Robert Hinsley are true & further that he has some indistinct recollection of said Robert Hinsley being in that Campaign, and this affiant further states that he well recollects of serving a tour of duty with said Robert Hinsley at Asher's Station on the Indian frontier near the mouth of The Creek, or the junction of said Creek with Holston River. After his return from Kings Mountain how long said Robert Hinsley served, this affiant cannot recollect.

¹ [William Walling S1935](#)

² [Henry Blevins \(Blevens\) W1703](#)

S/ Henry Blevins, X his mark

Sworn to in open Court this 1st April 1834
S/ W. B. Mitchell, Clk.

State of Tennessee Hawkins County

On the 13 day of May 1834, Robert Hinsley who is applying for a pension under the Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832, and after being sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God to declare the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, Declares, in addition to the facts and statements contained in his declaration made before the Honorable Circuit Court for the County of Hawkins on the 2nd day of April 1834, That he was a private in the company of volunteers commanded by Captain George Maxwell, of Colonel Isaac Shelby's Regiment, and was with said command when joined by Colonels Campbell, Cleveland & Sevier at or near Gilbert's Town, from which place the whole marched in the direction of Kings Mountain, and soon ascertained that Colonel Ferguson was encamped on the base of the mountain. Colonel Shelby's Regiment to which this declarant was attached took a circuitous route and came on the rear from where the attack was made this declarant further states that after the battle was over he continued with the Regiment for some short time, when Colonel Shelby, Captain George Maxwell and most of the command under Colonels Campbell, Shelby & Sevier went across the mountains home and was discharged. This declarant states that he volunteered to guard the prisoners when the most of the other troops returned & went on to Salisbury, Salem & on to Virginia, which continued him in service three months longer than was intended at first starting and that much longer than greater part of Colonel Shelby's command served on that tour. He was discharged after serving six months which discharge he has long since lost, and this declarant further states that he is satisfied he is not mistaken as to his becoming the substitute of Dyer Hudson in a company of militia from Stokes County North Carolina about the first day of May 1781, in the company commanded by Captain William Cloud,³ or Captain or Lieutenant Jonathan Hanley, as stated in his former declaration. The declarant further states that he has been informed since he made his former declaration that Captain William Cloud is yet living in the County of Grayson Virginia, or Surry North Carolina, and is on the pension roll; it will appear from his declaration whether such service was performed as this declarant has stated. He is the only person if living, that he is advised of, or known to be living that he can prove his services by on the second tour of duty referred to in his declaration. The third tour he does not know of any living witness that can prove how long he served but refers to the deposition of Henry Blevins who proves his being in the service of the United States guarding the frontier at the mouth of Big Creek at Asher's station, most of the time commanded by Captain Elijah Chisholm by whom he was discharged by reference to Henry Blevins' declaration on his application for a pension, it will be seen how long he was in service at Asher's station. He may be mistaken as to the time, but is satisfied he was in the service for six months on said tour. This declarant states that the 4th and last tour under the command of Captain John Blair was in 1782, that there will was no field or general officer stationed with the command at Campbell's Station, it was a Captain's Command stationed at that place for the purpose of guarding the Indian frontier and keeping out a detachment of scouts in the direction of the Cherokee nation to watch the movements of the Indians, he states that he does not know a single man of Captain Blair's Company now living by whom he can prove his services. Captain Blair is also dead, he states from old age he may be mistaken but he thinks and believes he is not, this Declarant further states that during the time for which he entered into the service of the United States that he was not engaged in any private business of his own, but that his whole time and service was given for the use and benefit of the United States. He states again that the whole time he was in the United States service during the American Revolution and guarding the frontier in 1780, 1781 & 1782 was altogether two years. He states that his declaration to which this intended as an

³ [William Cloud W5247](#)

explanation is the only declaration made by him for the purpose of procuring a pension, and he does here again relinquish all claim to any pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on any pension roll of any agency of the United States or any particular state

S/ Robert Hinsley, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one year & 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia. The veteran was subsequently accused of perjury in connection with obtaining his pension; his pension payments were suspended; he was tried for perjury in the Tenn. Federal court and found not guilty, but his pension was never restored.]