

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Hickman S4371

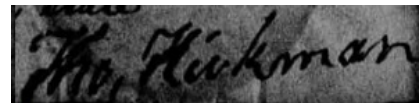
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Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 23 Dec 2014.

State of Tennessee } Court of pleas and quarter sessions for the County & State aforesaid
Davidson County }

On this [blank] day of August 1832 personally appeared before the court aforesaid Thomas Hickman a resident of said county & state aged about 69 years on the 15th day of October last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the War of the Revolution in the year 1780 for a 3 months tour of duty in the capacity of Insign [see endnote] in Captain William Meredith's Company in Col. Martin Armstrong's Regiment and in Gen'l. Rutherford's Brigade. That they marched through Salisbury, and down the Pedee [sic: Pee Dee River], where they joined General [Horatio] Gates some time before his defeat at Camden [16 Aug 1780]. I was one of the 340 men detailed for the purpose of reinforcing General Thomas Sumpter [sic: Thomas Sumter]; and was with him on the Friday after Gates' defeat, when he was defeated [Skirmish at Fishing Creek in Chester County SC, 18 Aug 1780]; at which time I was commanded by Col. Elisha Isaacs. My time of service having expired I again entered the service as a volunteer for 60 days in Captain Edwin Hickman's Company Col. Robert Landerns [sic: Robert Lanier's] Regiment in pursuit of Tories that took the Town of Richmond in Surry County [now in Yadkin County]; and after their defeat a few miles South of the Shallow ford of the Yadkin River [14 Oct 1780]; Captain Hickman's Company was ordered on to guard the military stores from Salisbury under the command of Captain Edmund Gamble, a Continental officer, and guarded him as far as Dan River; this was I believe in August or September 1781 [sic]: Soon after the battle of the Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and a little after Cornwallis Army advanced into Guilford County, my time of service having expired – I again volunteered in Captain Hickman's Company Col John Armstrong's Regiment – joined General Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] Army was with General Perkin's [sic: Andrew Pickens's] brigade at the battle at the Allemance and also at Whitsells Mill on Reedy fork [skirmish at Clapp's Mill near Alamance Creek, 2 Mar 1781; skirmish at Wetzel's Mill on Reedy Fork of Haw River, 6 Mar 1781] & was in the battle at Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] & served two months and ten days. I served several short tours besides these, not named. He was regularly discharged in all the instances above-mentioned but has lost his discharges not thinking that it would ever avail him in any way. He states that he has now no documentary evidence which can be produced on this subject. That he is advised and believes that his officers are all dead & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state [Certified 2 Aug 1832]

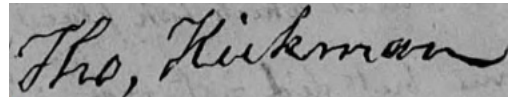


State of Tennessee }
Davidson County } SS

On this 29th day of April 1834 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the county Court of said county now sitting Thomas Hickman a resident of said county & State aged 71 years 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.

I was born on the 15th day of October 1762 in the county of Albemarle & State of Virginia; I have now however no record of my age but am to the best of my knowledge 71 years of age. In the year 1780 I was living in the county of Surry & State of North Carolina; In that year I volunteered for a tour of duty

of 3 months & was elected ensign in the company of Captain William Meredith & served this tour in the Regiment of Colonel Martin Armstrong & Brigade of General Griffith Rutherford; we marched from Richmond the county seat of Surry to the river Pedee & there awaited the arrival of General Gates' army. after the army came up I was with them the night before Gates defeat detached under the command of Colonel Elisha Isaacs to reinforce General Thomas Sumpter & was in the engagement in which Sumpter was defeated the Friday after Gates' defeat which took place on the Wateree, after I had served this tour I went home but did not receive any written discharge. In the close of 1780 I think it was I volunteered & served another tour of two months as an ensign under Edwin Hickman as Captain in the Regiment of Colonel Robert Lanier. we were in service for these two months against the Tories on the Yadkin River during which time the tories took the town of Richmond in the county of Surry where I was living. I served also as a volunteer & ensign during the year 1781 two months under Edwin Hickman as Captain in Colonel John Armstrong's Regiment & General Pickens' Brigade, first in guarding military stores from Salisbury North Carolina to the River Dan. I then Joined General Greene's army and was with him in the Battle at the Allamance & at Whitsell's mills on the reedy fork of Haw River and was with him also at the Battle of Guilford Court-house. After this I volunteered & served as a private for other 3 months under Captain Edwin Hickman in Colonel John Armstrongs Regiment and was with General Greene's army at the Battle of Eutaw Springs [8 Sep 1781] but was not in that battle for my brother who was Captain of the company to which I belonged was then sick & I was sent to nurse him, I myself was there taken sick & was not able to serve further but think that I am entitled to pay for the 3 months though I was not in the army the whole of that time but was sick part of it; I served altogether including these last 3 months 10 months. I live now in Davidson County & State of Tennessee & have lived there almost ever since the Revolution. I am known to Lewis Garret & James Gurin minister of the Gospel to Robert Weakley, William Lytle, Thomas Claiborne & many other respectable citizens of Davidson County who are willing to testify to my good character & their belief of my having served. I never received any written discharge. I know of no person by whom I can bring any distinct proof in regard to my services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thos. Hickman". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

NOTES: Hickman does not appear to have been legally commissioned as an Ensign. His pension issued on 26 June 1834 was for services as a Private. A note on the pension certificate states that he died 6 March 1850.