

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Hezekiah Hargrove S5481

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia and }  
County of Nelson } to wit:

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Court of the County of Nelson Hezakiah Hargrove a resident of the County of Nelson and State of Virginia age eighty four years the 21st day of February last past who being duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832: That he enlisted in the State troops of Virginia or as they were then usually called minute men, in the County of Amherst in the year of 1775 to the best of his recollection with Captain Nicholas Cabell; and that he was called into actual service and entered the same under the said Cabell and was attached to a regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Meredith (No. not recollected) which was marched to and stationed at old Jamestown where they stayed for some time, untill he was detached under Lieutenant James Pamplin and sent to Halifax town in the State of North Carolina where he stayed for a short time. from thence he went to Cross Creek in North or South Carolina [now Fayetteville NC] where he stayed but a short time; on his way from James Town to Halifax Town he passed through the lower part of Virginia near the Dismal Swamp as he then was informed. In going from Halifax towa[rd] Cross Creek he went the most direct route he imagines as the object of the expedition was to guard a cargo of ammunition to Halifax Town and Cross Creek. after the delivery of the said ammunition he returned to old James Town in Virginia where he was attached to the same Company and Regiment, which was commanded by the same Officers, where he stayed but a short time, and then went to Richmond, under the command of Captain Nicholas Cabell on board a Schooner, where he was discharged from that tour, which was about sixteen months duration. from thence he went to Amherst County Virginia that being his place of residence where he stayed but a few weeks; when he was ordered out again under the same Captain to go against the Indians to the west, whence he advanced as far as Lynche's ferry [Lynch's Ferry at present Lynchburg] in the uper end of Amherst County where he stayed a short time perhaps fifteen or twenty days where he was discharged owing to the great indisposition of many of the Company which rendered them unfit for service; he then returned home where he stayed perhaps two weeks when he was again ordered out under the same Captain, and marched to Williamsburg, where he joined other troops but can't recollect the names of the field officers. after remaining there about two months he was discharged from that tour and returned home, where he stayed perhaps six or eight weeks, when he was again ordered out under Captain James Pamplin, who was successor to Captain Nicholas Cabell and was then marched to South Carolina, crossing the Roanoke River on his way, and was attached to the army of General [Horatio] Gates near Charleston, as he was then informed [sic: more than 100 miles distant], where Captain Pamplin left him, and he was put under the command of Officers whose names he can't recollect; after being there a few days, an engagement ensued, in which General Gates and his army was defeated [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780], and he was put to the route after which a part of the said army rallied at Atkins River [sic: Yadkin River] in North Carolina, he believes it was, but the names of the Officers there he don't recollect, as they were all strangers to him, and the army was not organized before he left there for home, which as well as he recollects was but a short time after, as he is confident that he was but about two months in service that tour; and he thinks the only discharge that he got at that place was from an Officer, rank not recollected, whose name he thinks was Leftridge [possibly Leftwich], who merely told the soldiers they had as well go home as they were under no discipline and from there he went home, where he stayed some time; when he was again ordered out under Captain James Pamplin and marched to what was then called Hoods ferry just below the mouth of Appomattox River on James River where he was stationed about four months. he don't recollect the names of any of the Officers there, except Captain Pamplin and his Lieutenant, whose name was Stewart: after the expiration of the said four months he was discharged, and went home, where he stayed

some time, and was again ordered out under Captain Azariah Martin and was marched to a place called the Halfway house between Hampton and Williamsburg, where he joined some troops, he thinks commanded by General Matthews, where the enemy attacked them in the night and produced some commotion: but it proved to be a scouting party for horsemen who fled before day. nothing more of importance took place while he remained there, which was in the whole about four months: after the expiration of which he was discharged and went home, where he stayed some time, and was then ordered to the Barrox [sic: barracks] near Charlottesville, Albemarle County Virginia to guard some prisoners that was stationed there, and as well as he recollects the Captain under whom he served was named Maryweather or Mereweather [probably Meriwether]: his tour there was about two months, he then being discharged went home; where he stayed not long when he was again ordered out under Captain James Franklin and marched to Mobbin hills [sic: Malvern Hill], between Richmond and Williamsburg, where he joined some troops commanded by General [Edward] Stevens, he thinks, where nothing of importance took place for about two months, when he was discharged and went home: where he stayed but a short time when he was ordered out under Major Pope and marched to Lynche's ferry, on James River, where he waited some time for the arrival of some prisoners said to have been taken at the battle of the Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and after their arrival he went with them as a guard to Rockfish on the Blue ridge where he received orders that he must march again in a day or two under Captain James Franklin (this last tour having been about two months from the time he left home) which he done and went to Petersburg, where he was attached to the troops commanded by General [Charles] Scott, as well as he recollects where nothing of importance took place for about two months, when he was discharged and returned home; his company of State troops having by this time been so reduced that he was enroled in the Militia and ordered out under Captain Young Landrum and marched to Cumberland Courthouse where he joined the troops commanded by General Losson [sic: Robert Lawson] to which was attached Colonel [John] Holcomb and Major Skipworth [sic: Henry Skipwith]. from thence they marched to Gilford Courthouse, where they joined General Green's [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army, after which a general engagement ensued about Eleven O'clock one morning [Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], which waxed hot for about three hours, when General Green's army was compelled to give ground, owing, it was then said, to about 800 North Carolinians having fled from the left wing; after burying our dead, the enemy, having left their position, we pursued them for eight days and nights down to a River [I] think called deep River, close to Cross Creek [sic: to Ramsey's Mill about 45 miles north of Cross Creek] where the enemy took shipping, where he was discharged and returned home, after a tour of about four months. he recollects that the next time that he was ordered out, was under Captain John Loving in Septr or Octor 1781, to go to the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct], and marched to the County of Buckingham, Virginia, where he got bit by a rattle snake after which accident he hired a substitute, and that was the end of his military services. he says that if there is any mistake in the foregoing, it is in the order in which one tour follows another and this he thinks may be the case, as he has no memorandum to refresh his recollect. In conclusion, he says that during the whole of the foregoing services he acted as fifer.

Questions by the Court. 1st. where and in what year were you born?

Answer. An old aunt of mine has frequently told me, that I was born in Caroline County, State of Virginia, the 21st day of February 1748.

2nd have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer I have none.

3rd Where were you living when called into the service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war, and where do you now live?

Answer I lived in the County of Amherst State of Virginia when called into service, have lived in that part of old Amherst County which is now Nelson County since and now live in Nelson.

4th How were you called into service: were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if a substitute, for whom?

Answer I went as one of the State troops or minute men, except the two last times, and then was drafted.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer I have stated the names of all the officers that I now recollect to have served with, and all the circumstances of any importance that I recollect to have been connected with my services, and I do not recollect the No of any Regiment with which I served.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer I was at each term of service discharged, but whether by a written discharge or not I can't say with certainty: but this I do know, that I never left the army without being told by an officer that I was at liberty to go home untill called again.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer The Court will please enquire of Spotswood Garland & Robert C. Cutler, and any other of my neighbours to say whether I am a man of veracity, and their belief of my services as a soldier of the revolution, the Court will also please enquire of the same gentlemen, who can testify, whether or not from their acquaintance with me, they believe me to be as old as I represent and that I am reputed and believed in my neighbourhood to have been a revolutionary soldier, and whether or not they concur in that opinion.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Hezekiah Hargrove