

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Harrison S5496

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 Sep 2014.

Rockbridge County }

State of Virginia }

Sepr. 3<sup>d</sup> 1832

On this day personally appeared in open Court now sitting, said Court being a Court of Record for the County of Rockbridge, James Harrison, a resident of s'd. County & State, aged 76 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

This applicant states that he marched from said County of Rockbridge (then Bottetourt [sic: Botetourt] County as a volunteer, sometime in the fall of 1777, under Capt. John Paxton then of s'd County now dead, to point Pleasant, against the Shawnee [sic: Shawnee] Indians, that his company rendezvoused in sd. County at Capt. William Paxtons, in this County near the north River, and about one week afterwards, marched to Capt. John Paxtons, near Lexington, thence through Colliers Town [Collierstown] in s'd. County, on to Capt. Donallys Fort, [near present Frankford WV] in Greenbrier, and thence to Point Pleasant and met there, after this applicant had arrived, General [Edward] Hand, from Pittsburgh. whilst there this applicant, witnessed the death of Cornstalk, the Shawanee Indian King, and his son Ellenipsico [Ellinipsico], and two of his warriors, Red Hawk and Petallo [10 Nov 1777]. This applicant cannot recollect the length of time he served in this tour. he can only say that he went early in the fall, from his recollection, and from his having slept comfortably in open Barns, when he started, and that he returned a short time before Christmas. – he states that when General Hand arrived at Point Pleasant, and from the Indians, already mentioned slain, and concluding that the weather was too cold to go on against the Indian Towns, and on account of a lack of provisions, he disbanded the men. Col. Dickinson [sic: John Dickenson], from Bath, and Col. [George] Skillern from Bottetourt on James River, both now dead, were officers in this expedition. For evidence of his serving in this expedition, he can refer to no living witness in this County, within his knowledge He was discharged by Col. Dickinson from this tour of service, which discharge he has lost.– This applicant further states that he marched from the County of Amherst in said state, drafted as a Militia man, under Capt. Shelton, then of Amherst, and now dead, in the spring or summer of 1779 [sic], to Albemarle Barracks to guard the British prisoners [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks from Jan 1779 to Feb 1781]. the chief commander at the Barracks, was Col. [Francis] Taylor from Orange. This tour of service was three months. he received a discharge in this tour, which he has lost. the only evidence, within his knowledge of his having served in this Tour is Capt. John Ware, whose testimony he is now unable to procure, by reason of his absence from the Country.

This applicant further states, that in his next tour of service, he served three months, was drafted as a Militia man, sometime he thinks in the winter of the same year 1779. and marched from Amherst, under Capt. Ambrose Rucker, to Albemarle Barracks. Col. Taylor from Orange, was still commander at the Barracks.

This applicant farther states that in the June following in the year 1780 [sic], about the time Tarlton [sic: Banastre Tarleton] was about Richmond and Charlottesville [June 1781], he was called out by Hugh Rose, the Col. of Amherst County, to exchange British Prisoners at James Town, and to deliver Deserters from the American ranks then at New London in Bedford [now Campbell] County, state of Virginia, to American recruiting officers. he states that he was above six months engaged in this business. he was also engaged six months longer in Patrolling the County twice a week, to detect any effort on the part of the tories to disaffect the negroes. This applicant further states that he was born in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County State of Virginia, the 4<sup>th</sup> Sept'r. 1755, the year of Braddocks defeat, he has a record of his age. he was living in the county of Amherst, s'd. State when called into service, and

for the last 20 years has been living in the s'd. County of Rockbridge. This applicant refers to Jefferson Crawford, & Adam Hickman of his neighbourhood for evidence in his behalf.

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 —

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year above written — James Harrison

Rockbridge County } to wit  
State of Virginia }

Personally appeared before me James Johnston a Justice of the Peace In the County aforesaid, James Harrison of s'd County, an applicant for a Pension, who being first duly sworn deposed and saith, that by reason old age and a consequent loss of memory he cannot state particularly as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. He served in his first tour of service in the Fall of 1777 as mentioned in his Declaration. Three months (he will only claim for this amount, although he believes he served longer but not being able to recollect how much longer he served, he only claims for 3 months in this Tour) He farther states that he served as a private in the Spring or Summer of 1779 as mentioned in his Declaration Three months. He farther states that he served as a private in the Winter of the same year Three months as mentioned in his Declaration. He farther states that in the Spring & Summer of the year 1780 he served as a Private Six months as mentioned in his Declaration. He states that he was engaged Six months in patrolling his County, as alledged in his Declaration. He states that he served in all Twenty One months including the time of Six months in exchanging Prisoners and six months in patrolling his county. For this period of service he claims a pension But if the patrolling Tour of Six months be not allowed, he claims for the residue.

Given under my hand this 3<sup>d</sup> June 1833