

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Hillen S7006

f52NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/13/08 & 5/27/15

[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' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, Warren County

On this 15th day of March 1834 personally appeared before the Judge of the Warren Circuit Court now sitting, George Hillen, a resident of sd. County & State aged 72 years in August next 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 passed 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

1st: He was born in North Carolina, Richmond County.

2nd: He has no record of his age but states from tradition that he was born on the 29th Aug. 1762. At an early age, his parents removed to Barnwell S. Ca. [South Carolina]

3rd: At which place he entered the service after the war he removed to Georgia, then to Ky [Kentucky] where he lives.

4th: He volunteered into the service in the Company of Capt. Ferguson & Lieut. named Mathis—the object of the expedition was in part to guard Jarret's ferry¹ on Savannah River against Col. Daniel McGirt, a Tory. He did not attack our forces. He, your applicant, was only engaged in this service about five weeks—in or about the month of May 1777. There was no other company out on this expedition, but Ferguson's and indeed Ferguson deserted or abandoned it before its expiration and the command hereafter devolved on him—he received no discharge.

His second term was from Edgefield County at the termination of his first tour he joined Capt. John Ryan's company—Lake Ryan Lieut. and LeRoy Hammond Col. Boyer, Major—constituting a battalion of Genl. Williamson's [Andrew Williamson's] army—after joining Ryan's we first marched to the Liberty Hill near Augusta—where we joined Williamson's army—Here he served his second tour of three months & fifteen days in length, to the best of his recollection—Immediately after joining Williamson, he was promoted to the office of sergeant of Capt. Ryan's company—in which office he continued during all his subsequent service—to the best of his recollection it was in the month of Aug. 1777 that he joined Ryan's; immediately thereafter he was promoted to sergeant as aforesaid—The service ordered by Williamson at the Liberty Hill principally was guarding a large number of Tory prisoners, in the "Bull Pen" as it was called—at the expiration of said 3 months & 15 days, he received a written discharge from his Capt.

1 Edward J. Cashin, *The King's Ranger: Thomas Brown and the Am. Revolution*, p.97.

At the expiration of his tour under Ryan he went up into Rutherford County N. C. on Green River, where he volunteered into Capt. Wm Nevil's [sic, William Neville's] company, James Miller, Col. Col. Miller's brigade not going to Kings Mountain, he again volunteered in Capt. Abraham DeMoss' Company of Col. Cleveland's [Benjamin Cleveland's] brigade—the forces under Cleveland, Shelby [Isaac Shelby], Campbell [William Campbell] & Sevier [John Sevier] met at Hay's [could be Kay's] on Green River and marched thence in Company to Kings Mountain—He was in the battle at that place—Col. Williams [James Williams] was wounded & subsequently died and was buried at the same place where we hung a Tory named Mills [Ambrose Mills] & eight of his men taken prisoners at the Mountain; thence we marched with the prisoners to the Moravian towns crossing the Yadkin [River] at the Shallow ford—however, Shelby & Sevier did not go to the Moravian towns. Col. Sevier had a brother wounded at the Mountain, who subsequently died—at the Moravian towns your applicant remained guarding prisoners &c till the expiration of his tour when he was discharged by his Capt. He was engaged as sergeant in this tour of about two months—say from the 15th Sept. to the 15th of Nov.

After this he returned back home to Rutherford and about the 25th of the same month, he joined Capt. Manydice's [sic, Marmadue] Company of Col. Clarke's [Elijah Clark's] regiment—Marmadue was a Frenchman & Clarke a refugee driven by the Tories & British from Georgia—Having joined Col. Clarke's regt. we moved in pursuit of Maj. Dunlap one of Col. Ferguson's Majors—we caught him at Long Cane River in Laurens [sic, Laurens] County S. C. at Hog Skin Mill [sic, Hogskin Mill] and captured him & his forces without the loss of a man. We returned with them to Rutherford CH (sic, Court House) and there Dunlap got killed—on the way Clarke had two of his men, Hackett & Reed, hung—he was engaged about two or three weeks but your applicant cannot remember how long. He rec'd a discharge from Capt. Marmadue, Patrick Carr was his Major on this expedition about a week after this expedition say on the 10th of December, he volunteered into the company of Capt. Dennis Trammel of Col. Roebuck's [Benjamin Roebuck's] regiment. This was in Laurens County S.C. We marched thence to a place in said County called Puch Hill where we attacked Col. Cunningham, a Tory. A Maj. White was wounded on our side. We took no prisoners. This service being over, we went to our homes having been engaged not more than three weeks—He rec'd no discharge—Your applicant again volunteered from said county of Rutherford the 1st of January 1781 in the Company of Capt. Marmadue's company of Col. Clarke's regiment; Carr Major—from Rutherford we marched to Spartanburg & joined Genl. Morgan [Daniel Morgan] & Col. Washington [William Washington] at the Grindal Shoals on Pacolet [River]—marched thence to the Cowpens—was in the battle of that place [January 17, 1781] —we defeated Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] with the loss of 4 or 500 of his men—we marched after the battle with the prisoners to the Island ford of Broad River—thence Clarke & Carr marched back to Rutherford—thence we marched on to Augusta in Georgia crossing the Savannah River at the Cherokee ford—here we took Grayson's [sic, Grierson's] & Brown's forts—a comrade named James Alexander killed Grayson [sic, Grierson] & Brown was also killed. Many prisoners were captured by us—Col. Miller of Rutherford was wounded in the engagement in the foot—after the capture of these forts your applicant was discharged. It was late in the Spring if not the beginning of summer when Brown's fort was taken—In taking Grayson's [Grierson's] fort Capt. Price was killed—To the best of his recollection it was about the 1st of July last of July when he was discharged.

After returning home to Rutherford your applicant went by himself to Hanover County on Pedee & joined Capt. Patrick Bogan [Patrick Boggan] under Col. Wade [Thomas Wade] —we were stationed at the Grassy Island on Pedee—here we remained about two weeks until Genl. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] came on with his army. We then joined him, crossed the Pedee & marched to Wilmington on Cape Fear River—the forces under Wade separated from Rutherford at a place called Lockhart's Folly. Rutherford crossed over on the east side & stormed Wilmington. We remained on the West side, marched down to the place called the Brick House defended by a party of British, which we took. We marched then to Grayar's Mill about a mile below the Brick House. We stormed & took this without the loss of a man. Our commanders on this occasion were Cols. Smith [Robert Smith] & Wade. Maj. Allen &c. After this Col. Wade's Regt. returned home and were discharged in Anson County. Your applicant's discharge was given here by his Capt.—he was engaged on this tour three months & fifteen days which commenced say 15 November. Your applicant next joined Col. Lamb Benton near the Cheraw Hills in Chesterfield County SC. He was put under the command of Capt. Tom Conner. We marched down to George Town where we remained 3 months & 15 days in the Barracks, guarding the town &c. He volunteered on this expedition about a week after the expiration of his former one & rec'd a discharge from his Capt.

Early in the spring of 1782 your applicant joined Genl. Marion on Watboo (sic, Wadboo) Creek in South Carolina between Geo. Town & Charleston. He united himself to the company of Capt. Elliot of the Regt. of Maj. McMuldrow [McMuldrew or McMuldrough]. Hugh McMuldrow [sic, Hugh McMuldrough] was ensign. Boatwright was adjutant. He joined for 18 months or enduring the war. Here he remained encamped about two months—the war terminated & your applicant was finally discharged.

It will be perceived that your applicant has been engaged in a multiplicity of little tours & services. On this subject he would remark that at that time he was young & unmarried, surrounded on all sides by Tories & enemies and having entered into the service he found nothing more agreeable than to be continually engaged in.

He has in going along with his narrative stated the names of a large number of the officers &c engaged in the service with him & is in hopes he has in that particular complied with the questions of the War Department.

The discharges he rec'd at various times as stated by him, were burnt in a house of his.

7th: He states that Charles & Burton Lewis, John Davis &c are persons to whom he is known in his neighborhood & by whom he can prove his character for veracity &c.

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ George Hillen, his mark

[Robert W. Lewis and Joseph Lewis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[On December 30, 1839, George Hillen applied to have his pension payments transferred to Lexington District, SC. He states in his petition that he lived in Kentucky on October 16, 1835, in West Tennessee on April 7, 1836, and now resides in Lexington District, SC where he wishes his pension to be paid in the future.]

[Most of the additional papers in this file deal with either lost certificates of pension and/or transfers of payments of pension to various new abodes of the applicant.]