

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Hopkins S7033

f32NC

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

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[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of North Carolina Orange County } SS

On this 31st day of August 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions (or County Court) for Orange County now sitting, William Hopkins a resident of Orange County in said State aged 73 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That in the spring of the year 1780 he was sent by his father who resided in Orange County on Flat River over to Mecklenburg County Virginia for the purpose of making a crop for his grandmother & aunt who lived there – and in the last of August or first of September 1780 he was drafted in Mecklenburg. The officer was Col. Robt Montford [Robert Montford], Captains James, Hester, Bradley, James Pointer Lieutenant. He was drafted for three months and was stationed the whole time at the Magazine in Mecklenburg guarding Tory prisoners & deserters from Gates and Bueford [Abraham Buford?] and also disabled soldiers.

That he came immediately home to Orange County as soon as discharged. He had been at home but a short time before he was ordered out, to serve a tour of three months for which he had been drafted before he went to Virginia, he proceeded to Hillsborough to join Gen. Butler [John Butler], but was directed by his Captain James Ray to return home again and there wait for further orders, as the Tories were very troublesome, where he remained till sometime in February 1781 he then joined Gen. Butler, in Granville County, in the company of Captain Thomson [sic, Thomas Thompson]. Butler had been maneuvering to avoid Cornwallis, but at this time he was in correspondence with General Greene [Nathanael Greene], an advance towards Hillsborough to form a junction with Greene. He joined General Greene about the High Rock, before which they had fallen in with Virginia militia under Generals Lawson [Robert Lawson], Eaton [Pinkerton Eaton] & Col. Robert Montford. There then proceeded to Guilford old Court House, where the battle¹ was fought between Greene & Cornwallis, he was present at this engagement, though he did not join in the fight having been directed to take charge of Captain Hodge's [George Hodge's] horse. After the battle they again assembled at Troublesome iron works, there they remained until the dead were buried, and then gave chase to Cornwallis whom they pursued to Ramsays Mill in Chatham County on Deep River; Having abandoned the pursuit they then

¹ March 15, 1781 https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

marched into Wake County North Carolina where he was discharged, his term of service having expired.

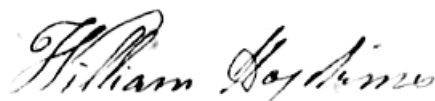
This declarant has no means of proving the service which he rendered in Virginia, as there is no person living to his knowledge on whom he could call to certify it. That he is well acquainted with James Ray Jr, Major John Taylor in his County & neighborhood.

He was born the 11th day of November 1759, in the State of Maryland, Frederick County – he was removed to Orange County in the State of North Carolina at the age of 14 years – where he has lived ever since.

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 any agency in any State, so far as he hath knowledge.

Sworn to 31st of August 1832

S/ J. Taylor, Clerk



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State of North Carolina Orange County: This day came William Ray Sr² before me William H Hall one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County & maketh oath that in the year 1781 he was Captain of a Company in which he drafted William Hopkins (Senior) in the Revolutionary War. Sworn to and subscribed before made this 29th May 1833.

S/ William Ray, Sr, X his mark

[p 19: William Harris, a clergyman, and John Taylor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 5: On July 18, 1833, Eleanor Hopkins, 68, gave testimony in Orange County North Carolina that she is the sister of William Hopkins, the applicant for a pension; that she is 4 or 5 years younger than her brother; that during the Revolutionary War she was a small girl but at the close of it she supposes she was 14 or 15 years old; that her father sent her brother to Mecklenburg County Virginia to make a crop; that she understood that while there he was drafted to serve a 3 month tour in the Virginia militia; that after returning home he was again drafted and served another 3 months term in the North Carolina militia under a Captain Hodge, at least for part of the time.



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]

² [William Ray S7347](#)