

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Joseph Hubbard S7048

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia, Pittsylvania County towit

On this 18th day of March in the year One thousand Eight hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open Court before the Court of the County aforesaid now sitting Joseph Hubbard a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy one 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. That he entered the service of the United States in the state troops of Virginia under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Early in the Spring in the year 1780 he substituted himself in the place of William Harrison (usually called Carpenter William Harrison as there were in the County at that time several William Harrisons) for a six months tour of duty. This was in Pittsylvania County Virginia. He entered the service under Capt. Isaac Clement of said County. He marched first to Col. Peter Perkins's on Dan River in said County from there to Hillsborough in North Carolina thence to Deep River in North Carolina, thence to Masse's Ferry [also known as Mask's Ferry] on Peedee [sic: Pee Dee] River, thence to Colo. Rougley's Mills [sic: see note below for this and other details], sometimes called Rougley's dwelling, where he joined the main army the Night before Gates's defeat. In this march he was with four Regiments of Virginia Militia commanded by Gen'l. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens]. He himself was attached to the third Virginia Regiment which was commanded by Colo. [Ralph] Faulkner. The Colo. Rougely above named was a Tory and had deserted his home. After joining the main army at that place which was commanded by Gen'l. Gates, the next morning before day the army was put in motion avowedly at attack the British Army by surprise which was then at Camden in South Carolina as well as this applicant remembers about twelve [miles] off. The American Army had marched four or five miles when the advanced guards of the two Armys met and had a smart engagement after being considerably reinforced on each side. After sometime each side withdrew and there was no more fighting until day. As soon as the engagement of the advanced guards ceased, the American Army formed line - the Regular troops in the Centre - North Carolina Militia on the right - Virginia Militia on the left. On the approach of day the British Army under Cornwallis advanced and formed quite leisurely by platoons. In the American Army there was a positive order that there should be no firing without orders, which orders were never given even to this day that this applicant ever knew or heard of. When the British Army had formed they cheered, huzzaed for King George fired and charged bayonet. The Virginia Militia immediately broke and fled and no doubt the North Carolina Militia done the same. The Regulars stood their ground and were mostly cut off. It would be as vain as useless to attempt a description of the flight of the Militia. At this day it is laughable to reflect on it. Of the four Virginia Regiments which fled from the Enemy four Companies were collected and this applicant amongst them at New Garden near Guilford C. H. North Carolina, the balance he never knew what became of them, some he supposes ran clear home & some went on by home no doubt & hid in the mountains. In a short time they were moved to Guilford CH. Capt. [Archibald] Walthall then commanded the Company this applicant was attached to. Maj'r. Henry Conway from Pittsylvania County Va. commanded the whole. At Guilford C.H. he remained untill the last day of Oct. of that year 1780 when he was discharged from a Six Months tour by Capt. Walthal. He states further that he was so short a time in the main Army that he did not learn the names of any of the Regular Officers or the number of their Regiments. The troops that were left at Guilford C.H. North Carolina were for the purpose of keeping the tories in check and once or twice they were marched short distances against bodies of Tories. He states that he served a full six months tour and his discharge was burnt together with most of his other papers when his House was burned in 1807. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service and knows of no other person by whom he can prove his service except by John Harris of this County whose affidavit is herewith annexed and that he is so aged and infirm & now in the Poor House of said County, that he cannot without great trouble be brought to Court. He further states as additional service that in

Winter 1781 Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] was then flying before Cornwallis in North Carolina and there was a call for volunteers. He went forward as a volunteer under the command of Capt. Gabriel Shelton of Pittsylvania County Virginia. They marched into Halifax County Virginia crossed Dan River at Boyds Ferry in North Carolina [sic: probably Boyd's Ferry at present South Boston in Halifax County VA], Capt. Shelton was taken sick & I was enroled in Capt. Thomas Smiths Company. We were continually on the alert watching the movements of the Enemy and had frequent skirmishes. We had severe skirmish at Whitesills Mill on Dan River [sic: Wetzel's Mill on Reedy Fork of Haw River in Guilford County NC, 6 Mar 1781] where a number were killed and wounded. He got leave of Capt. Smith to return home for some clothing as I had left home in great haste unprepared and on returning to the army he met the balance of the troops coming home discharged & came home with them. of course he got no discharge at that time of service. He served at that time one month. To the Interrogatories directed to be propounded by the War Department he answers as follows —

To the first, he says that he was born in the County of Amelia in the State of Virginia on the 18 day of February 1762.

To the second. He says that there is a record of his age in a large family Bible in the possession of his Mother (who is yet living) in Pittsylvania County Virginia.

To the third. He answers [that when he served he lived] in the County of Pittsylvania Va where he has resided ever since and still resides.

To the fourth. He has answered in the Body of this Declaration

To the fifth. He has answered in the body of this Declaration as far as he can.

To the sixth. He has answered in the body of this declaration.

To the seventh. He states the names of Richard B Beck John Mitchell and James Cobbs [neighbors who can testify to his veracity and the belief of his services].

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or anuity 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.

Joseph Hubbard

This day John Harris a resident of Pittsylvania County in the state of Virginia personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County of Pittsylvania in the State aforesaid and made Oath that Joseph Hubbard who is an applicant for a pension was a revolutionary soldier, that he served a tour of duty as a soldier with me in the year 1780 in Captain Isaac Clements Company of Militia from Pittsylvania County, that we were stationed at Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina and marched from thence to Masse's Ferry on Peedee River, that I was left at that place as a guard and the said Joseph Hubbard marched on to the South, that after Gen'l. Gates was defeated I met with the said Hubbard at New Garden in the County of Guilford in the state of North Carolina. I was marched from that place to Guilford Court House where I was discharged in the month of September 1780 and left the said Joseph Hubbard still in the service as a soldier and believe he was honorably discharged

Given under my hand this 17th day December 1832

Lynch Dillard JP

[See also Harris's pension application S5491]

NOTE: Gen. Horatio Gates, commander of the Southern Department of the army, began the march from Col. Henry Rugeley's Mill, about 12 miles north of Camden, at about 10 PM on 15 Aug 1780. Coincidentally, Cornwallis began moving his British troops northward from Camden at the same time. The two armies met about 2 AM on 16 Aug. At first light they formed their lines. Gates put the regular troops (Maryland and Delaware Continentals) on the right, the North Carolina Militia in the center, and the Virginia Militia on the left.