

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harper S8657

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Transcribed by Will Graves

4/12/11: rev'd 3/22/22

[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 Halifax County: SS

On this 21st day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the peace for the court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions, now sitting, John Harper a resident of Halifax County State of North Carolina, 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated, the is: he was drafted in the militia of North Carolina in the year 1779, in the County of Warren, State of North Carolina, & served a tour of three months in the state of South Carolina & two months in the State of North Carolina under the command of General Butler & General Lincoln, Colonel Jonas Johnston & Captain Andrew Peter, & was at the battle of Stono in the month of June, same year – he never received a discharge. He served a tour of 3 months, having volunteered in Warren County, under General Butler & General Green [Nathanael Greene], Colonel Read & Captain Edward Gandy & was discharged 15th of April 1781, having served three months; in this tour he was at Guilford Court House on the 8th of March in the same year – for this Service, he holds the original discharge. He volunteered in Warren County & served a tour in the above year from the first of September to the first of December under General Butler & was discharged by Captain Anthony Hart of the town of Halifax, North Carolina – this tour he served three months. He was born in Northampton County North Carolina, now resides in Halifax County, North Carolina & has been so for 46 years. He has no other way of proving his service but as herein set forth & the discharge & accompanying affidavits – has no record of his age –

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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

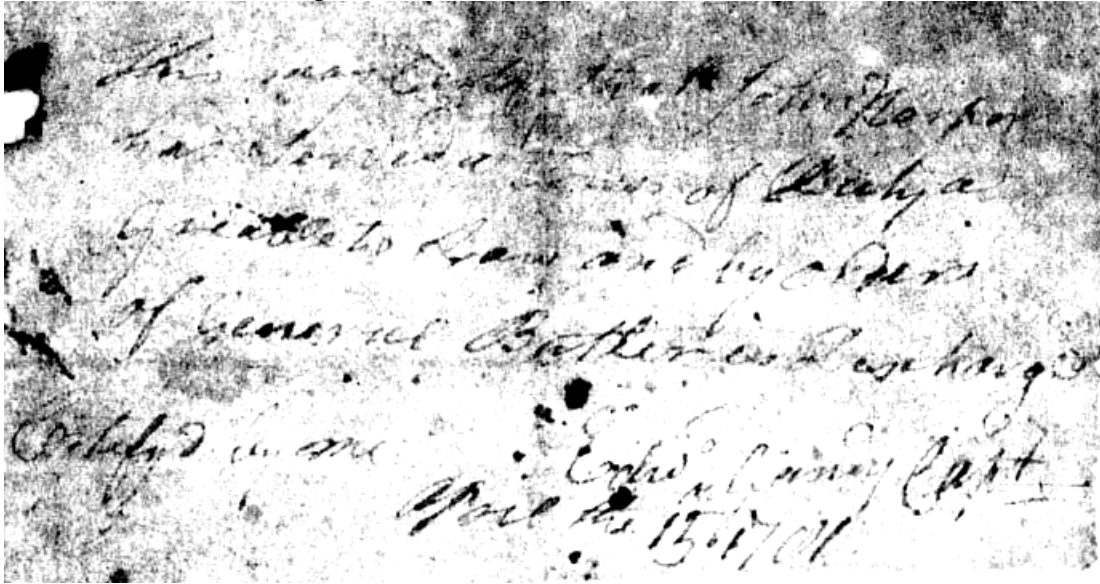
S/ M. H. Pettway, Clk

S/ John Harper, X his mark

[Miles Smith, a clergyman, and that Willis Alston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

This may Certify that John Harper
has Served a Tower [tour] of Duty a
Greable [agreeable] to Law and by orders
of General Butler is Discharged
Certified by me S/ Edwd Gandy Capt

April the 15 1781



State of North Carolina Halifax County

Personally appeared before me James D. Perkins – a Justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid State aforesaid John Harper a man of credibility & being duly sworn deposes & says that when he was drafted in the Militia of North Carolina in the year 1779 as stated in his declaration hereto annexed he marched to Fayetteville in Colonel Jonas Johnston's Regiment & from Fayetteville to Camden in South Carolina, from Camden marched to Columbia, from there marched to near Augusta & joined the troops under the command of General Lincoln, General Butler & General Williamson [Andrew Williamson], the British then being in possession of the town of Augusta; from thence all the troops marched to Stono where a battle was fought – there was a Fort there & the troops, that is the light infantry marched round into the Fort & like to have taken it, but the reinforcement of the British from the row galleys prevented – The troops then retreated about two miles & the British having left the Fort the next day or the day after the Americans took possession – from the place where the troops retreated this deponent was sent with a small detachment with sick men to take them home – most of the sick were left at Camden & others at different places not being able to proceed further & this deponent returned home having been in actual service five months General Butler commanded in the North Carolina line & General Lincoln was a Continental officer – he does not know whether General Williamson was a Continental officer or whether he belonged to the militia of South Carolina or Georgia. In his second tour as mentioned in his said declaration, he volunteered in the cavalry & marched directly to Head Quarters in Guilford County under Captain Thomas Alston & was then put under Captain Gandy; on the march to Guilford joined Captain Terrill's company – at Head Quarters was commanded by General Green a Continental officer & by General Butler – before mentioned. The third day after the battle of Guilford Court House the troops marched from the iron works where they had rallied & pursued the British as far as Ramsays Mill. General Green then selected all his best men both the regulars & militia & marched to Camden where he fought the British, while at Ramsays Mill, Colonel Lee an officer of the Continental cavalry brought in some British & Tory prisoners – Captain Gandy's Company was ordered to take them to Halifax, On the second day of the march this deponent was taken sick & could proceed no further, he was then discharged as may be seen by his written discharge herein enclosed, on the 15th of April

1781 having served three months. On his third tour as mentioned in said declaration, he volunteered in the cavalry under Captain Tatom [Tatum?], marched to Tarborough & then to Wilmington which was then in the possession of the British. Before reaching Wilmington Captain Tatom was taken sick & Lieutenant Anthony Hart was made Captain. On the march to Wilmington joined at Fayetteville the troops under General Butler & General Reddiford [Rutherford] this last General had some Indians under him – marched to Semmon's ferry [Simmons's ferry?] on Tar River in Nash County North Carolina & was discharged having been in active service 3 months.

Sworn & subscribed before me this 8th day of May 1833

S/ James D. Perkins, JP

S/ John Harper, X his mark

[letter dated March 2, 1837 contains the statement that the veteran died in November last; the letter is signed by Henry Harris as administrator of the estate of the veteran.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$41.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the NC militia.]