

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Hammett S8693

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/6/14

[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 Ohio Scioto County SS:

On this 20th day of November in the year 1834 Personally appeared before the Court of Common Pleas of the County aforesaid George Hammett of the County aforesaid & State aforesaid 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 June 7th 1832. That this Deponent is informed & verily believes that he was born on the 13th day of January A.D. 1756. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He was first enrolled in the year 1775, sometime in the month of August or July & in the minute service. That Captain William McClanahan (commonly pronounced & called Clanagan) was his Captain. That the enrollment took place at the Little Fork of Culpeper in Culpeper County Virginia – from which place they were marched to Culpeper Court House where they met with the Fauquier Minute [men].

While lying there the troops with whom he was stationed were by an express as this affiant thinks from General Henry [Patrick Henry] called down to Williamsburg also in Virginia. While there owing to some arrangement or order he was attached or transferred to a Company commanded by Captain Abraham Blueford [Abraham Buford?]. The Lieutenant was named Gillison – & that Ensign Keith. This affiant then understood & still supposes that he became attached to Captain Blueford's company by virtue of the following arrangement: to wit, the married men & married officers were permitted to return to their families while the unmarried men were enrolled under unmarried Officers – From Williamsburg they were marched towards Norfolk and on their route they met the British at a place called the Great Bridges [Great Bridge, December 9, 1775], and in [an] affair which then took place a British officer & eighteen men were killed. He thinks the name of that officer was Fordyce [Charles Fordyce] and that not an American was killed in the skirmish. This was in December. They then followed the enemy (then retreating) into Norfolk where the British took to their shipping. The American Troops wintered in Norfolk – and this affiant thinks that the enemy were under the command of Lord Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia]. That a part of the City of Norfolk was in the last of December or first of January burnt by the British. The Balance was burned by the American Troops in March following his enlistment. They then left Norfolk & returned home through Suffolk – And continued enrolled until as this affiant thinks the month of November following –

That he afterwards served a Tour in the Militia (as he thinks in 1777). He then left home

in Culpeper County aforesaid as a militia man in a Company commanded by a Captain McClanahan [sic] as he thinks a Brother of the former Captain under whom he served. The Company of which he was a member was marched down to James Town on James River and was out a 3 months Tour. They were not connected with any other Company on this Tour. That he does not recollect the names of the other officers nor has he the slightest recollection of the Commencement court Termination of that Tour of duty. He served another Tour of duty afterwards & just before the surrender of Cornwallis. He served a 2 months Tour under Captain Reuben Slaughter – Under the Command of Colonel Alcock. They were marched down towards Richmond and were compelled to retreat back towards Culpeper County when they had got in the neighborhood of Culpeper Court House he obtained a furlough from Colonel Alcock & went home & just before his furlough expired he started Back to join his Company again which in the meantime had marched towards Richmond. But at Culpeper Court House his furlough was renewed by Colonel Slaughter whom he met there & he returned home & stayed until his Term of service expired.

While he was at Williamsburg on his first Tour the Regiment to which he was attached was under the command of Colonel Stevens afterwards General Stevens [Edward Stevens].

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 the agency of any state.

This Affiant further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure & who can testify to his service.

Whereupon the Court propounded to the applicant the following questions –
When & where were you Born? Answer. At Fauquier County Virginia.

Have you any Record of your age? No

Where were you Living when called into service & where he you since lived & where do you now live? Answer I lived in Culpeper County Virginia: After the War I lived principally in Frederick County Virginia And now live in Scioto County Ohio where I have lived for many years.

How were you called into service? I understood that I was a minute man on the first Tour & a militia man afterwards.

State the names of some of your Officers under whom you served. Answer. Colonel Alcock, Colonel Stevens, General Howe and Captain McClanahan – Major Eppes & Adjutant Blackburn
S/ George Hammett, X his mark

[Nathan K. Clough Esq., an attorney, gave a modified standard supporting affidavit.]

The State of Ohio Scioto County Court of Common Pleas of the Term of April in the year 1835
Scioto County SS

The supplemental declaration of George Hammett of the County of Scioto & State of Ohio made in Open Court on the 29th day of April of April Term 1835

George Hammett of Scioto County Ohio being this day duly sworn in open Court Deposeth & Saith that heretofore in this Court to wit on the 20th day of November of November Term in the year 1834 – He this Deponent made his Declaration in order to obtain a Pension under the act passed 7th June 1832 the Congress of the United States – which declaration has been as he is informed duly certified to the War Department of the United States – And That within a short time past he received from John R Turner Esquire Clerk of this Court a Communication signed by J L Edwards & dated "War Department Pension Office March 19, 1835" which informed him that his application was placed among the suspended cases in that

Office – Which said Letter is hereto annexed. And now here said Hammett further Declares & says, that as in Declaration is averred, He still thinks that it was in the year 1775 that he was enrolled as is said Declaration is alleged – This Declarant further states that he has no date or memorandum by which to fix the year – But he thinks expressly that Norfolk in Virginia was burnt during the winter that he was in actual service, That he was in the neighborhood of Norfolk at the time of the Burning which he thinks was on the first day of January 1776, & while he was upon actual duty.

This Declarant further states – That owing to his advanced age & loss of memory he cannot distinctly state the matters connected with his service. That he has reflected as much upon the matter as his impaired faculties will permit. And he repeats that he still thinks he was enrolled at the time he states in his Declaration & that he was called into actual service as early as in the month of September for that year – & was in that fall & winter following in actual service as in that Declaration stated and was Enrolled as he still thinks until the fall of the year 1776. Though he cannot now state that he was in actual service any later than the month of May following. This Deponent still believes that he was enrolled & did serve as a minute man as in said Declaration is averred and although he may by reason of the loss of memory as aforesaid be mistaken – Yet he refers the Department to the burning of Norfolk as a matter which took place while he was in actual service & in the neighborhood as the best evidence of the year in which he did serve – & further saith not.

S/ George Hammett, X his mark

[John R Turner, a minister of the gospel, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia.]