

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Matthew Harvey W19681      Magdalen Harvey      MD [VA]  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 16 Sep 2014.

State of Virginia, Bottetourt [sic: Botetourt] County S.S.

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of April 1841, before me James B. Wilson, a Justice of the peace, in and for said County personally appeared Mrs. Magdalen Harvey Aged 67 years a respectable resident of said County, who being first duly sworn according to law; doth on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed July 7, 1838, Entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows: That she is the widow of Mathew Harvey dec'd. of said county, who was a private of Cavalry in Lee's Legion in the revolutionary war; and as well as declarant recollects, her husband Mathew Harvey dec'd. enlisted under Capt. [Henry] Lee himself, afterwards Col. or Gen'l. Lee [see endnote]) and she further understood from her dec'd. husband, that he served 4 or 5 years in the Revolutionary war, and fully to its end; but for any further information as to her husband services, she will have to refer the Commissioner of pensions to the records and documents in the War departments in Washington, and the Auditors office in Richmond.

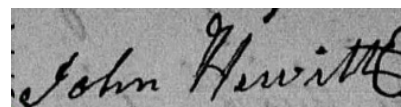
And she the said Magdalen Harvey further declares, that she was married to the said Mathew Harvey on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August 1788 — and that her husband, the aforesaid Mathew Harvey died on the 20<sup>th</sup> day of Sep'r. 1823; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the Marriage took place previous to the 1<sup>st</sup> day of January 1794, Viz: at the time above stated; as will more fully appear from the proof annexed: and that she has remained a widow ever since the death of her husband as above stated to the present time; her maiden name being Hawkins.

Magdalen Harvey

State of Virginia, Bottetourt County SS.

On this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 1841 before me Oliver Callaghan a Justice of the peace in and for said County, personally appeared Mr. Jno Hewitt [John Hewitt, pension application W2618] a respectable resident of said County who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – That he is 77 years old – that he went into service in the Revolutionary war in Nov'r. 1780 and marched to N. Carolina in a detachments of 2 company's of Malitia, commanded by Maj [David] Campbell – That, at a place called Bruces Cross-Roads [Summerfield NC] not far from Guilford Courthouse in Feb'y 1781, he first heard the name of Mathew Harvey called – he Harvey, being at that time in Capt. Rudolphs [Michael Rudolph BLWt945-300] Company, Maryland line, Lee's Legion. That deponant on said occasion spoke to said Harvey, and asked him if he was the Brother of Robert Harvey of Bottetourt (who was also in the Revolutionary war at one time) and was answered in the affirmative – both having come from Maryland, to Bottetourt County Va. That said Mathew Harvey told deponant, (as well as he recollects) that he enlisted in 1777, or 78 to serve during the war – and deponant believes he faithfully did so. That in or about the year 1788, said Harvey was married to Miss Magdalen Hawkins – now Magdalen Harvey his present widow – on Catawba Creek in said county about 2 miles from Fincastle – by the Rev'd. Jno Holt of the Church of England. That said Harvey died in 1823, and that his widow has remained unmarried ever since said Harvey's death as above to the present him. And further that about the year 1805 Gen'l. Lee was in Fincastle in said county – and deponant saw said Mathew Harvey and Gen'l. Lee in Company at a Tavern – and that said Lee fully recognized Harvey as having been one of his soldiers in the Revolutionary war

And further the deponant Hewitt sayeth not.



State of Virginia, Bedford County SS.

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May 1841, before me John W. Holt a justice of the peace in and for said county, personally appeared Mrs. Sarah Mitchell a respectable resident of said county who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath say –: That she is 71 years old; and that in August 1788 she was present and saw Mathew Harvey dec'd of the County of Bottetourt, and her sister Magdalen Hawkins (now Harvey) married by the Rev'd Jno Heath at the house of Mr. Robert Harvey's (deponents step Father) on Catawba Creek about 2 miles from Fincastle, in Bottetourt Co. Va. That said Mathew Harvey, and Ro. Harvey were brothers – this Elder Ro. Harvey married dep. [deponent's] mother – and Mathew the younger as aforesaid dep. sister. That the Harvey family of Bottetourt, Ro, Wm, Ja's, and Mathew all came from the head of Elk [now Elkton] in the state of Maryland – Ro. Harvey she understood was in the service (Revo?) in Maryland before he came to Bott. which was during the war. That Mathew Harvey dec'd. (who married Magdalen Hawkins) has from time to time told dep. and mentioned it in company, that he enlisted in the state of Maryland in Lee's Legion at about 16 years old – (and was attached to Cap. Michael Rudolphs company) – that he ran away from his master to whom he was bound to do so – and that Gen'l. Lee told him he was too young, and that he had better go back to his mother and that said Harvey told her he served through the whole of the Revo'y. war to the end – was a prisoner at one time on board a British prison ship – and was exchanged at Yorktown, Va. the most of his time being rendered in the South; and that this Harvey has frequently told of his having his horse shot down, and fell on him in which situation he hid himself behind the horse from being shot by a wounded Tory British soldier, untill he harvey got relief [illegible abbreviation]. That about the close of the Revo'y. war the aforesaid Mathew Harvey came to Bottetourt Co. on foot with a knapsack on his back in company with Dan'l Foshier [Daniel Foshier] a German – but that Ro. Harvey, Wm. and Jas. came previously – Robert first of all. That the four brothers [Matthew Harvey, Robert Harvey, William Harvey, and James Harvey] were at the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] – the 3 latter as drafted men. – and that Wm was killed at said Battle, and that James Harvey was also at the Battle of Yorktown Va [siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781].

And further that the said Mathew Harvey went to school in Bottetourt one year immediately after he was discharged from service – and then commenced merchandizing, by which he accumulated a vast deal of property – and was a very wealthy man at the time of his death – which was in the year 1823. That his present widow Magdalen Harvey has remained unmarried ever since the death of her husband as aforesaid to the present time – and is the widow of said Mathew Harvey dec'd. Deponant also understood Harvey to say that Col. Watts of said Co – and Jude [Judge?] Peter Johnson of Abington [sic: Peter Johnston, W27629, of Abingdon] Va. was also in said Legion – and that she has heard Harvey say that he knew Francis Gray (in the Revo'y. war) Agents father [Francis Gray W7575, father of Robert H. Gray, a pension agent]; and moreover that she has heard said Harvey, and Henry Bowyer [W5859] of Bottetourt – who was an officer in Lees or Washingtons horse [Lt. Col. William Washington's 3<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons] – talk for hours at a time together about their Revo'y. Services – and that Henry Bowyer aforesaid distinctly recognized Mathew Harvey aforesaid as having been in the service as aforesaid in Lees Legion in the Revo'y. war. That it was Capt. Egleston [sic: Joseph Eggleston W8687] who shot the wounded Tory, and saved Harvey's life – Harvey being then on foot – met a Tory on horse back with a bag of provisions for Tarlton's Army [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion] – captured him and took his horse for himself &c.

Test [signed] Martha Campbell

[signed] Sarah Mitchell

NOTES:

Henry "Light-Horse Harry" Lee of Virginia enlisted in 1776 as Captain of a company of dragoons, which in March 1777 was taken into the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons. Capt. Lee was at Head of Elk MD when the British army landed there on 28 Aug 1777 to begin the campaign against Philadelphia. Harvey may have enlisted with Lee during that period. In April 1778 Lee was promoted to Major, and in Nov 1780 he was promoted to Lt. Colonel and commandant of Lee's Legion.

Lee was made a General in 1798.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 18 Aug 1788 by Matt Harvey and Alexander Smyth for the marriage of Harvey to Magdelin Hawkins. On 3 April 1841 Mrs. Agatha Bowyer, 67, stated that she “was acquainted with most, or all of said Harveys children – the oldest of whom (Betsy) is recorded in the said Harveys Family Bible as having been born on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1789.”