

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Edwards (alias, Moses Hopper) ¹ W25559 Mary Edwards f46NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/30/07 rev'd 12/17/14

[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.]

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State of Kentucky, County of Grayson

On this the 22nd day of May 1845 personally appeared before the undersigned, an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County Moses Edwards alias Moses Hopper, a resident of said County aged 83 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he was born in Pittsylvania County Virginia and was an Orphan boy and was bound, at the age of ten years to a man in said County by the name of William Trainum that he was apprenticed to him by the name of Moses Edwards and that he continued to live with said Trainum until in February 1781 and that he was so ill treated by the family of said Trainum that in February 1781 he ran away from him and went to Guilford County North Carolina, where he had relations there living; and on the first of March 1781, he entered the Service of the United States as a Soldier for the period of three months under Captain Bethell [William Bethel] in Guilford County N. C. by the name of Moses Hopper thinking, at that time, that by assuming the name of Moses Hopper he would escape the pursuit of said Trainum. He states that he continued in said Service under Captain Bethell until two days prior to the battle of Guilford C. H. [Battle of Guilford, March 15, 1781], when by accident he got his leg burnt by a Camp fire and was so disabled that Major Owens gave him a permit to go to his house and remain until he got able to perform duty. Thus he states he was not at the battle of Guilford. After remaining at Major Owens' about two weeks he became able to perform duty and he then entered the Service of the North Carolina State Troops for the period of twelve months, as a Substitute for a man of the name of Dorris, Captain Bethell made the arrangement between myself and said Dorris, he released me from the three months service; so I entered the North Carolina State Troops Service for twelve months under Captain Dunahoe [Thomas Donoho], Major Armstrong and Col. Dickson [sic, Henry Dixon]. I belonged to the first Regiment of the N. C. State Troops and Served as follows to wit. I entered said service in Hillsboro Orange County North Carolina by the name of Moses Hopper and continued in said Service until the last day of July 1782 when I was discharged at Charlotte, North Carolina. Soon after I entered said Service I was marched on to join General Greene [Nathanael Greene] near Camden South Carolina. Here we had a battle with Cruger about the 25th day of April 1781 [Battle of Hobkirk Hill, also known as the Second Battle of Camden], I was then marched to the siege of Ninety Six and remained there during the Siege [May 22-June 19, 1781] and after we gave up the Siege I was marched to the high hills of Santee where we remained for some six weeks, while here we had a small engagement with the British and Tories at Thompson's Fort [Thomson's Fort] and a part of our Army was there. We continued at the high hills of Santee until just before the battle of the

¹ BLWt31423-160-55

Eutaw Springs. I was in that battle [Battle of Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781], and after which Captain Donoho was promoted Major and Captain Pavard [probably Capt. Alexander Brevard] was our Captain, we then returned to the high hills of Santee and remained there for some time. Then I was marched to a place called the "Four Holes" or Orangeburg and then to Bacon's Bridge and Dorchester and I was here when the news of the Surrender of Cornwallis reached us; And here we continued during the fall and winter and also the next Spring and Summer until I was marched to Charlotte N.C. the last of July and Discharged. My Discharge was an honorable one and signed by General Greene. It was given to me by the name of Moses Hopper. I also received, at the same time, a ticket for my pay and I kept my discharge and ticket for some years and sold both to a man of the name of James Kell who lost both and about thirty years ago said Kell applied to me to make oath touching the Discharge and Ticket and I did so and he went to Raleigh N. C. and when he returned he told me he received every dollar, I made affidavit in the name of Moses Hopper. After I was discharged in July 1782, I went back to Guilford and remained a short time and then myself and some of my relations moved to South Carolina to a place called the old Town on the Saluda [River]. After we had settled here a while the Tories became troublesome and for about four months during the winter and Spring of the year 1783 I was in service as a Scout & Spy under Captains Butler [?], and Nowell and Tolls [probably "Towles"]. I have lived in South Carolina all the time until I moved here to Grayson County Kentucky about thirty years ago. After the passage of the Pension Act in 1832 I endeavored to make some arrangement in order to draw a pension. I went into Tennessee to see some of my old fellow soldiers, who I understood lived there but when I reached there they were dead. I Spent about \$70 in making searches and could find no one by whom I could make the proof and having been informed that the Rolls at Raleigh had been burnt, I gave up the whole affair; until about the middle of last February I was told, by a man who procures pensions, for old Soldiers, that if I rendered the Service, my name could be found at Raleigh, I then told him that I had rendered the service by the name of Moses Hopper. I have never made an effort before and I know of no person by whom I can prove my services aforesaid, I have never drawn a pension from any State and I do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present. Sworn to & signed by making his mark, before me the date above written.

S/ Moses Edwards, alias

Moses Hopper, X his mark

S/ Joseph Wilson, JPGC

[William Loyd and Richard M Porter gave a modified standard supporting affidavit.]

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Note to the above Declaration

Mr. Edwards alias Hopper would state to the Commissioner of Pensions; That he was born an illegitimate child, that his mother was of the name of Edwards and his reputed father of the name of Hopper; and that he was called by the name of Edwards and was apprenticed to Mr. Trainum by that name; that when he ran away from Mr. Trainum, he took the name of Moses Copper and bore that name during the Revolution and for some years thereafter. Delicacy forbade him making this disclosure in his Declaration in a public manner.

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State of North Carolina: Office of Secretary of State

I William Hill, Secretary of State, in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the Revolutionary War, that Moses Hopper a private Soldier and Captain Donoho's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the 25th day of May 1781 for the term of 12 months and that he left the service on the 25th day of May 1782.

Given unto my hand this 18th day of July 1845.

S/ W Hill Secretary of State

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Comptrollers Office Raleigh N. C.

I William F. Collins Comptroller of Public Accounts in and for the State of North Carolina do certify that the name of Moses Hopper appears of Record in this office as having been issued in his favor the following specie certificates (viz.) one for twenty pounds and eight shillings (£20.8) No. 33 page 8 and another for twenty pounds eight shillings and eight pence (£20.8.8) see Book No. 27, all of which purport to have been issued for Military Service given under my hand and seal this 26th day of April 1845.

S/ Wm F. Collins, Compt.

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State of Kentucky, County of Grayson

Personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County John Brown, a resident of said County aged Seventy five years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following statement, in relation to the Service rendered by Moses Edwards alias Moses Hopper in the War of the Revolution.

This Affiant States that he is the half brother of Moses Edwards alias Moses Hopper and was living with his uncle Charles Gilley, in Guilford County North Carolina when the said Moses Edwards alias Moses Hopper came from Pittsylvania County Virginia to his said Uncle's in Guilford County N. C. early in the year 1781. This Affiant states that his half-brother said Edwards alias Hopper had run away from some man in Pittsylvania County Virginia, to whom he had been bound and that he altered his name from Moses Edwards to Moses Hopper and that soon after he came to Guilford County N. C. he entered the Service of the United States as a Soldier by the name of Moses Hopper and continued in the Service until after the close of the War. This Affiant States that he recollects distinctly when said Edwards alias Hopper entered said Service and when he returned from the Same. That the day upon which said Edwards alias Hopper went into the Army he took said Affiant by the hand and showed said Affiant a mare and a Red Cow which he had obtained from some man whose place he took as a Substitute in the Army; and told said Affiant that if he never came back from the Service that said Affiant was to have the mare & red cow. This Affiant States that he was also well acquainted with said Edwards alias Hopper after the War and that he continued to bear the name of Moses Hopper. That he bore the name of Hopper during the War and until after he moved from South Carolina to Grayson County Kentucky. That said Edwards alias Hopper, who now lives in Grayson County Kentucky and who is now applying for a pension, is the same identical person to whom Affiant refers in the foregoing Deposition. And further saith not.

Sworn to & Signed, by making his Mark, before me this 23rd day of May 1845.

S/ I. H. Dewees, JPGC

S/ John Brown, X his mark

[p 10: On June 29, 1855 in Grayson County Kentucky, Mary Edwards alias Hopper, aged 72, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier and pensioner; she states that her husband Moses Edwards, alias Hooper died in Grayson County Kentucky August 10, 1847; that she was married to him in Pendleton in District of Pendleton South Carolina in November 1803; they were married by one McMullen, JP; that her name before her marriage was Mary Tweedle; that she knows of no public or private record of her marriage or the ages of her children. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 13: On June 29, 1855 in Grayson County Kentucky, Mary Edwards, alias Hooper, aged 72, filed for her pension as the widow of Moses Edwards, alias Hooper, a revolutionary war soldier and pensioner; that he died in Grayson County Kentucky August 10, 1847; that she remains a widow; that she married

her husband in the town of Pendleton in the District of Pendleton South Carolina in 1803; that they were married by one McMullen, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Mary Tweedle; she signed this document with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$46.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 14 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]