

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hardy ¹W361

Martha Hardy

f43VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/17/14

[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.]

The State of Tennessee County of Claiborne: SS

On this 17th day of September in the year of our Lord 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for Claiborne County in the State of Tennessee, now sitting, the same being a Court of Record, Thomas Hardy, a resident of the County of Claiborne in the State of Tennessee, aged sixty-six 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 the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated – to wit: In the fall of the year 1780, the month and day of the month not now recollected by this declarant, in the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia, he entered the Militia service of the United States, as a substitute for John Hardy – under Captain William Ragsdale & Lieutenant Sterling Niblet, the name of the Ensign who commanded in said Company he cannot recollect, he thinks that it was Overstreet Wyat. His field Officers when he entered the service were Colonel David Stokes and Major Anthony Street. He was enrolled at Lunenburg Courthouse – and marched from said County to Petersburg and from thence to James River to a place called hog island and during this tour of duty which was for three months he was engaged in marching to different points upon the North East side of James River watching the movements of the British forces, and engaged in rearing & strengthening fortifications, but was engaged in no battle – and at the expiration of said three months service, he was honorably discharged from said Service, and received his discharge which, has been lost so that he cannot now produce the same. He states that he cannot recollect the day on which he was discharged from & left the service though he thinks it was in the month of December 1780. The County in the State of Virginia in which he was discharged this declarant cannot recollect, it was on the North East side of James River, and low down in the State. For this service he never received any Compensation from the public. He states that afterwards in the year 1781 in the month of July the day of the month he cannot recollect in the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia he again entered the militia Service of the United States as a substitute for William Benford for three months under Captain Joseph Night [Joseph Knight?], the name of the Lieutenant who commanded in said Company he cannot recollect, the Ensign who commanded in said Company was Baxter Petit Pool [?]², the field officer

¹ BLWt28554-160-55

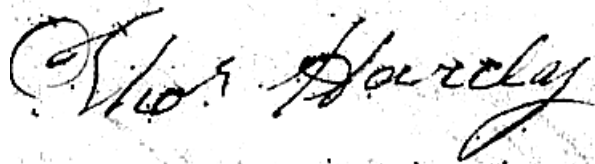
² *Baxter Petit Pool*

commanding the us Company when he entered it was Major John Overstreet, Colonel Lindsay commanded the Regiment afterwards. He states that he was marched from Lunenburg Courthouse in the State of Virginia to Prince Edward Courthouse in the same State, from thence, down James River to point of fork or Pointy fork, from this he was marched in various directions as there was a demand until he was marched to Gloucester, and [indecipherable word]³ down to the siege of little York, where he remained until the surrender of Cornwallis in the month of October 1781 [October 19, 1781]. After the Surrender of Cornwallis he was marched to Richmond as one of the guard over the refugees – where he was honorably discharged in the month of October 1781, the day of the month he cannot recollect and received his discharge in writing which he has long since lost. For this tour of duty he never received any public compensation. He cannot recollect the names or number of any of the Continental regiments or Companies with which he served as he was then very young, not being sixteen years of age. He recollects that while his Company was at Old Jamestown General Anthony Wayne with the forces under his command was a short time with them. During that last service his Company was a short time with the Marquis Lafayette, and the forces under his Command. He states that he was in no battle – at the time he entered the service each time he was a resident of the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his said Services. He states that he was born upon the 22nd day of February in the year 1766 in the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia and that he has a record of his age at his own house that since his said service he lived a number of years in the County of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia – then he moved to Warren County in the State of North Carolina where he resided about seven years, then he lived about a year in Brunswick County in the State of Virginia – from thence he moved to Claiborne County in the State of Tennessee where he has resided for about fifteen years and where he still resides. That both tours of duty he received discharges – one was given to him by Captain Joseph Night the other by Captain William Ragsdale, both of which he has lost. He would state that in his present neighborhood he is known to the following persons who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolution to wit Thomas Henderson, John Hunt, Rev'd Rice W. Whitaker & others. He knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. About twelve months since his brother Samuel Hardy resided in the State of South Carolina by whom he could have proved his service but he does not know that he is now alive. 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.

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Benjamin F Cloud, Clerk

S/ Thos Hardy



[Rice W Whitaker, a clergyman, and John Hunt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: In February 1852 in Claiborne County Tennessee, Martha Hardy, 83, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Hardy deceased, a

revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Lunenburg County Virginia April 30, 1788; that her husband died in Claiborne County Tennessee August 27, 1847 and that she is still his widow.

Martha Hardy
as I Solomon Clerk of the court]

[p 10: On May 12, 1855 in Claiborne County Tennessee, Martha Hardy, 85, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Thomas Hardy

Martha Hardy]

[p 14: family record:

Tho. H: and Martha Hardy was married the last day of April 1788

Polley Hardy was born ye 15 day of June 1789

Wm May Hardy born March ye 18 1791

Rebeckah Hardy born March ye 21 1793

Elisabeth Hardy Born June the 5 1795

Susannah Hardy Born August the 15 1797

Stephen Hardy Born October the 12 1800

George May Hardy born June the 28 1804

Thomas Hardy married the
 last day of April 1788
 Martha Hardy was born
 15 day of June 1784
 William Hardy
 born March 18 1790
 Rebecca Hardy born
 March 28 1793
 Elizabeth Hardy
 born June the 5 1795
 Susanna Hardy
 born August the 15 1797
 Stephen Hardy
 born October the 19 1798
 George Mear Hardy's born
 June the 28 1806

[p 19: On September 12, 1847 in Claiborne County Tennessee, Elizabeth Henderson gave testimony that she is now about 53 years old; was well acquainted with Thomas Hardy, a revolutionary war pensioner, and his wife Martha Hardy; that she has known them from childhood, being there daughter; that she has often heard her father speak of the births of his children the eldest children being recorded in a Protestant prayer book which page is attached and is in the handwriting of Thomas Hardy; that the book became in pieces and the belief was presumed lost until recently found in an old pocket book belonging to their father; from her knowledge of her brothers and sisters she believes the record to be correct. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 20: On September 12, 1848 in Claiborne County Tennessee, William M. Hardy gave testimony that he is aged about 57 years and is the 2nd son of Thomas and Martha Hardy. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]