

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harper W4977

Sarah Harper

f28NC

fo

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/13/11: 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 Lenoir County: SS

On this the 25 day of November in the year of our Lord 1844 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Courts of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County Sarah Harper of the aforesaid County of Lenoir aged eighty-eight years, 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 John Harper, who during the war of the Revolution, was drafted into the United States service for twelve months in the year 1781 or 1782. That he entered the service of the United States in the Town of Kingston [Kinston] in Lenoir County under General Richard Caswell – this declarant does not now remember the names of all the officers under whom her deceased husband did serve. She recollects that a neighbor by the name of Jesse Cobb did enter the United States Service in Kingston in the aforesaid County on the same day and under the same officers, that he served twelve months according to the terms of his Continental draft or Enlistment and at the expiration thereof, was duly discharged and returned home – That sometime after the close of the war he received his pay through the hands of Captain Miller. That her deceased husband John Harper did serve more in the United States as private of Infantry than what is here set forth: but being married to the aforesaid Soldier, John Harper, after the close of the war, the Circumstances of his Service in the Army of the Revolution is not so well known to her, and recollected by her as if they had been married previous to his Serving in the Army.

She further declares that she was married to the said John Harper on the one day of November in the year 1783: that they were married in the County of Lenoir, in the year aforesaid to wit in 1783: and that her husband the aforesaid John Harper, did die in the County of Lenoir, aforesaid, in the year of our Lord 1808.

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, 1794, viz.: at the time above stated.

The declarant, in conclusion states that, from old age & bodily infirmity, is unable to attend Court to make this Declaration.

Sworn & subscribed, on the day and year above written, before me

S/ Calvin Rouse, JP

S/ Sarah Harper, X her mark

[p 6: original family record]

Anne Harper Daughter of John Harper and Sarah his wife was born the 6th day of November in the year of our Lord 1784

William Harper son of John Harper and Sarah his wife was born the 29th day of September in the year of our Lord 1785

Charity Harper daughter of John Harper and Sarah his wife was born the 7th day of March in the year of our Lord 1789

Benjamin Harper son of John Harper and Sarah his wife was born the 17th day of May in the year of our Lord 179? [last digit too faint to discern]

Daniel Harper son of John Harper and Sarah his wife was born the 1st day of June in the year of our Lord 1794

Gatsy Harper daughter of John Harper and Sarah Harper his wife was born the 6th day of February in the year of our Lord 1797

John Harper Son of John Harper and Sary his wife was born the 26 day of January in the year of our Lord 1800

[p 27: Mary Messer, 87, testified on November 11, 1844 in Lenoir County that she has been well acquainted with John Harper and his wife Sarah Taylor; that she was present at their marriage in Lenoir County in the year 1783; that they lived together as husband and wife until his death.]

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 John Harper a private Soldier in Captain sharp's Company of the 10th Regiment, entered the service on the 4th day of June 1781 for the term of 12 months and that he left the service on the 4th day of June 1782.

Given under my hand this 22nd day of January 1845

S/ Wm Hill, Secretary of State

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836 for her husband's one-year service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]