

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Basil Hoskinson ¹ W753 Eleanor Hoskinson f39VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 4/29/14

[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 Pennsylvania County of Erie: SS

On this eleventh day of August in the year of our Lord 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Erie aforesaid, now sitting, Basil Hoskinson a resident of the Borough of Erie, in the County of Erie aforesaid, of Seventy-nine years of age, 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: that General Hand [Edward Hand] was the commanding Officer of the detachment to which he belonged and Captain John Baldwin was his Captain and David Price was first Lieutenant and Ruse Hastings was the second Lieutenant of the volunteer Company to which he belonged, that about the first day of September in the year 1777 or 1778 he entered the Service of the United States as a volunteer for six months: that he entered into the said service in Barkley [Berkeley] County State of Virginia, and left the service in the month of March next following: that during the said six months, he was marched from the said County of Berkeley, to old Town in Maryland and from thence to Union Town in Pennsylvania, and from thence to Pittsburgh, and went from Pittsburgh down the Ohio River to Wheeling in Virginia: and that on the way down the River to Wheeling, one Soldier by the name of Champion was killed by the Indians and from Wheeling he was marched about twelve miles up the Ohio River to Beech bottom Fort, where he remained till he was discharged: and returned home to near Martinsburg, in Berkeley County Virginia: that during the march from Berkeley County to Wheeling, Captain Parsons, who was commanding a Company of Militia from Hampshire County in Virginia overtook the Corps of volunteers to which this deponent belonged, on the Laurel Hill in Pennsylvania, sometime in the month of September and that Captain Parsons with his company and also Major Thomas Baldwin went on to Wheeling at the same time, and arrived in September or October.

After returning home to Berkeley County in Virginia and remaining at home during the Summer of the year 1778 or 1779 (he cannot now say which year) in the fall of the same year he entered into the Militia service for three months at Martinsburg in said County of Berkeley as a substitute for one Matthew Whiting who had been drafted: that Lieutenant William Lucas commanded the Company of militia and of which they entered and that in the month of October

¹ BLWt30780-160-55

or November of the last mentioned the year, was marched with the said Company for Fort Mackintosh [Fort McIntosh], in the State of Ohio, but did not go more than one hundred or one hundred fifty miles before we were met by an officer from Fort McIntosh, who informed said Lieutenant Lucas that in consequence of the inclemency of the weather he should proceed no further that the company returned immediately to Martinsburg, where he arrived in the month of January following the time he entered said company, and he was discharged at said Martinsburg and received a discharge from Lieutenant Lucas which discharge he had in his possession for many years and was at length destroyed by one of his children, that he had a brother by the name of Ezekiel Hoskinson who was drafted and served in the same company of militia, but his brother is now dead as he is informed. Colonel Philip Pendleton was the Colonel of the Militia at Martinsburg: That Captain John Baldwin under whom he served as a volunteer for six months has been living at Paint-Creek in Ohio as he has been informed, but whether he is now living he cannot say: that his brother Isaih Hoskinson [Isaiah Hoskinson] entered the said volunteer service at the same time and place, and he believes his said brother to be now living near Zainsville [Zanesville] in the State of Ohio, that he had a discharge signed by Lieutenant Lucas which was took many years ago and that he has no documentary evidence in his possession.

In Answer to Interrogatory – says he was born in Prince George County Maryland in the year 1752 on 29 March – has no record of his age –

After the war continued to live in Virginia until 1790, moved to Brownsville Pennsylvania thence moved to Erie Pennsylvania in April 1804 where he has continued since.

Also recollects the name of Captain Radecan from Virginia who overtook [us] on one march to Wheeling.

Known to George Moore Esquire, Colonel Thomas Forster, US collector of Erie who can prove his character & reputation

S/ Bazil Hoskinson, X his mark

[George Moore, Esquire gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

[Thomas Forster gave a separate supporting affidavit as to the reputation and character of the veteran.]

[p 33]

Of the State of Ohio Licking County: SS

Before the subscriber one of the Associate Judges of the Court of, and Please within and for the County aforesaid personally came Isaiah Hoskinson who being first duly sworn deposed and saith that his brother Bazil Hoskinson and himself both volunteered at Martinsburg Berkeley County Virginia in the service of the United States in the Company commanded by Captain John Baldwin – about the latter part of August or first of September in the year 1777 – or 1778 is not positive which – and went on together to Pittsburgh & from thence down to the Stations at Wheeling and the Beech Bottom flats in Virginia under the command of General Hand – and were discharged sometime in the following spring. Deponent states that he knows well that the said Basil Hoskins and served out his full tour of six months – and further saith not.

S/ Isaiah Hoskinson Sr.²

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaiah Hoskinson Sr." followed by a flourish.

² FPA S16157 transcribed and posted in this data on even date herewith

Sworn & subscribed before me this 3rd day of November A.D. 1832
S/ S. Bancraft Associate Judge

[p 13: On May 5, 1853 in every County Pennsylvania, Eleanor Hoskinson, 72, a resident of the city of Erie in Erie County Pennsylvania made application for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Basil Hoskinson, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him January 6, in 1803; that they lived together as husband and wife until his death September 9, 1834; that she remains his widow; that she had 4 children by the said basil Hoskinson, three sons and one daughter; she signed her application with her mark.]

[p 15: On May, 1853 in Erie County Pennsylvania, William Hoskinson gave testimony that he is the son of Basil and Eleanor Hoskinson; that a family record in the handwriting of his father indicates that affiant was born October 3, 1803; said record also contains the record that "Basil Hoskinson and Eleanor his wife was married January 5th 1803."

William Hoskinson
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[p 10: on June 1, 1855 in Erie County Pennsylvania, Eleanor Hoskinson, 70 [sic], filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Basil Hoskinson; she states that she married him in Fayette County Pennsylvania January 6, 1803; that they were married by John Ayers a clergyman; that her name prior to her marriage was Eleanor Downs; and that her husband died September 9, 1834. She signed this application with her mark.]

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