

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Henry Hammer W7652

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
Rockingham County } S.S.

On this 29 day of August 1835, personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the county aforesaid Henry Hammer a resident of the County of Rockingham and State of Virginia aforesaid aged seventy five years and upwards 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia on the 26th day of November 1759; When he was an infant, his father settled in Shenandoah County Virginia, and continued there until the applicant was six years old, when he removed to Rockingham County, Va. [formed from Augusta County in 1778] and this applicant has resided in the last mentioned county until the present time He has no record of his age, the Bible in which it was recorded, having passed into the hands of some other member of the family at his father's death as he supposes. In the year 1778, as well as he can recollect, (but he cannot be positive as to the year, owing to his loss of memory,) in the month of May he was drafted as a private militia man in Rockingham County, and marched under Capt. Robert Cravens of the Rockingham militia against the Indians and was stationed on the head waters of Tygert or Tygarts River, in what was called Tyger's or Tygarts Valley [Tygart Valley in present Randolph County WV]. The object of the detachment being stationed at that place was to protect the inhabitants, or settlers in that quarter from the Indians. the detachment consisted of Capt Cravens's company only. Josiah Harrison was the Lieutenant, and Joseph Dictum the Ensign and David O'Roark [W5450], who has obtained a pension, the orderly Sergeant & who is since dead. They had no regular engagement, but frequently had skirmishes with the Indians, who generally fled after committing depredations, when they were pursued. He was discharged and returned home in August after an absence of three months and ten days.

Early in the year 1781 as well as he can recollect the year, he was drafted as a private militia man in the Rockingham militia and marched under Capt Michael Coger, of the Rockingham militia. The regiment of militia to which he was attached was under the command of Col. Nall of the Rockingham militia, and they marched under his command to a place in the lower part of Virginia called Scotts Burnt Mills, near the North Carolina line, where they joined Gen'l. [Robert] Lawson's headquarters. and shortly afterwards they fell under the command of Gen'l. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. They were marched and counter-marched from place to place in that quarter of the State of Virginia, but had no regular engagement with the enemy. He recollects a brigade major whose name was Dewy, under Gen'l. Lawson. He recollects Col. [William] Bowyer of the Augusta militia, who commanded a regiment attached to the same detachment, with which he served. But his memory has failed so much, from advanced age and very great bodily infirmity, that he cannot recollect many of the particulars of his services, or the officers' names who were in the service. After serving three months and eight days from the time of joining head-quarters, he was discharged at a place called Smithfield in the lower part of Virginia, not very far distant from Portsmouth. He never received any written discharge for either of his terms of service. The last tour he served as a drummer. He was one of the detachment which took one of the enemy's picket guards in the night, near Portsmouth, consisting of fifteen whites and one Indian. He never received any wounds during his services. For his character for veracity, and the belief of his neighbourhood in his revolutionary services, he refers to Mr. Jacob Conrad, a member elect of the

Virginia Legislature. Mr. Jacob Miller Sen'r. who has known him well since the Revolutionary War, Mr. Henry Conrad, Mr. Bennet Raines, Mr. William Raines, and the neighbours generally. He has no documentary evidence of his services, but relies on the testimony of Mr. Henry Miller [pension application R7196] and the universal belief of his neighbours on the subject. He resided in Rockingham, previous to the Revolutionary War, during the War, and has resided there ever since.

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.

Henry hisHmark Hammer

[Henry Miller, Sr. stated that he served with Hammer early in 1781.]

NOTE: On 12 May 1843 Mary Hammer,⁷⁶ applied for a pension stating that she married Henry Hammer on 21 June 1786, and he died about 5 Feb 1841.