Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Hudgins W7835 Nancy fn49NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/16/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this 31st day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Pleas & Quarters for the County aforesaid, now sitting, John Hudgins Senior resident in the County & State aforesaid aged 72 years on the 15th day of June last, who first being 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 –

In the year 1780 he being resident in the County of Franklin volunteered as a private in a military company for 3 months his company Officers were Captain Harry Macon alias "McKins" – Richard Ransom Lieutenant – Swan Crouton Ensign – Field officers, Benjamin Seawell, Colonel the balance not remembered. From Franklin, he was marched directly to what was then called "Cross Creek", now Fayetteville – thence to the neighborhood of the Catawba River in North Carolina, and joined the American Army under General Gates, previously to the Battle of Camden, which resulted in the defeat of General Gates. The declarant was in that battle – was there wounded under the chin by a blow from a British sword – taken prisoner by the British; and after a detention of 4 days, he made his escape & returned home – After having been in the service longer than the term of three months for which he had volunteered. He was discharged in the Town of Hillsboro, North Carolina by Colonel Benjamin Axom [Benjamin Exum], who had succeeded in command, the aforesaid Colonel Seawell, previously to the Battle of Camden. –

In the winter of '80 – '81, following, the declarant entered the service of the United States again, in the County of Franklin aforesaid for the term of three months, as a substitute for Thomas Ownby, in a militia Company commanded by Captain William Richards – Moses Wooten Lieutenant – and his Colonel was John Dickerson or Dixon. His said company was marched to Granville Court House – thence to Caswell old Court House, and there joined General Green [Nathanael Greene], who was on his counter marched to meet Lord Cornwallis. Thence he marched in General Green's Army to Guilford, North Carolina, and was engaged in the battle of Guilford. After the battle of Guilford, he was marched on to Cole's Bridge on Drowning Creek – where he was discharged, his second term of service having expired. When the declarant's Company joined General Greene's Army at Caswell old Court House, as aforesaid, Colonel Joseph Taylor succeeded in command the aforesaid Colonel Dickerson and Colonel Taylor was in command at the battle of Guilford. – In the summer of 1781, the declarant was drafted in the County of Franklin aforesaid, for the term of three months – and was attached to the militia company commanded by Captain Elijah Denby – Ransom Davis Lieutenant, Field Officer, Major White. He was marched thence to the Town of Halifax in North Carolina, thence

to Tarboro North Carolina, and there joined General Sumner; thence was marched to what was called the "Raft Swamp" in the South Eastern part of North Carolina for the purpose of forming a junction with Major Cullers, to give battle to the Tories in the neighborhood – but before his company reached that section of Country, Major Cullers gave battle to the Tories & had dispersed them. While in the neighborhood of the "Raft Swamp," the declarant's term of service expired and he was discharged.

A few weeks after his return from the "Raft Swamp," it was understood that some Tories were committing depredations on Big Fishing Creek, in the Counties of Franklin & Nash, in North Carolina – and Thomas Sherrard, the Colonel of the County of Franklin, may proclamation that all persons who would volunteer on an expedition to suppress the ravages of the band of Tories aforesaid should receive a discharge for a 3 month tour in the service. Whereupon the declarant with others volunteered and joined the Light Courts of the County – and marched under the command of Captain Ferry – and in four days his Troop captured Captain Ricks, alias Beard, the commander of the Tories aforesaid – and brought him to Colonel Sherrard who with Colonel Ben Seawell, sentenced the said Tory Captain to be hung, which was done on the limb of a tree on the "Cow grounds" of Tar River – Colonel Sherrard then gave the declarant a discharge as for a three month tour. The declarant states that all his discharges were burnt in the year 1788 when he had the misfortune of losing his dwelling house by fire – The declarant hath no documentary evidence of his services – nor doth he know of any person or persons, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. He was born on the 13th day of June A.D. 1760 – in the County of Amelia in the State of Virginia. He was removed to the County of Halifax, North Carolina, when he was about 5 years of age – and was thence removed to the County of Franklin aforesaid when he was

[fn p. 9: out of sequence]

about 18 years old, where he resided when he entered the service of the United States aforesaid. He hath no record of his age. Since the close of the Revolutionary War, he hath resided in the Counties of Franklin, Wake, Person and Orange, in the State aforesaid. He hath resided in the County of Orange since the year 1797 – He is known to Thomas Marcum Senior, Priestly H Mangum, William Rhodes and Thomas Hutchins in his County & neighborhood.

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, so far as he hath knowledge.

Sworn to in open Court 31st of August 1832

S/ J Taylor, Clerk

S/ John Hudgins

[fn p. 8 During May term of 1833 court in Orange County, Anne Hudgins gave evidence that she is the widow of John Hudgins who subscribed and swore to the above declaration; that he departed life March 27, 1833; that she has obtain the letters of administration for his estate.]

[fn p. 8: Moses Guess, John Marcum and Zachariah Trice gave the standard supporting affidavit for the application filed by the veteran.]

[fn p. 18: Application dated March 4, 1839, filed in Orange County North Carolina by Nancy

Hudgins, 72, in which he claims a Widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of John Hudgins, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Franklin County North Carolina on the 27th or 28th day of September 1786 at her father's (Willoughby Self) residence in Franklin County; that she has had six children who are all grown and of lawful age and that she continues the widow of the said veteran.]

[fn p. 14, et seq. 17: family record:

William and his wife Barzele was married April the 13th in the year of our Lord 1815

Francis Ann was born December the 29th in the year of our Lord 1815

Barbary was born October the first day in the year of our Lord 1817 Barbary Deceased 23rd of June in the year 1818

those is some of my grand children ages in this Text

[fn p. 15]

May Desern was born October the 10 day in the year of our Lord 1794

Catharine M Hudgings was born Monday the 4th of November in the year of our Lord 1811 [entered twice in different handwriting]

[fn p. 16]

Baxter Hudgings was born January the 19th day in the year of our Lord 1809

[the births information of Catharine M. Hudgings given yet again in another handwriting] [fn p. 17]

John Hudgings and his wife Nancy was marrid September 28 the year of our lord 1786

Ransom Hudging was bornd August 27 in the year 1787

Barzele Hudgings was bornd Aprel 14 in the year 1791

Nancy Hudgings was bornd Feburary 5 in the year 1795

Willoughby Hudgings was bornd March 8 in the year 179?

Mary Hudgings was bornd January 5 in the year 1802

Rebekah Hudgings was bornd February 10 the year 1806

[fn p. 42: affidavit of Edmund Herndon, Esqr., authenticating the family record set forth above except that he names "Barzele" as Zeliah; "Baxter" as John B.; "Willoughby" as Willabough; and he spells their last name uniformly in his affidavit as "Hudgins."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$42.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 12 months service as a private in the infantry & cavalry of the North Carolina militia.]