

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Henson W8921
Transcribed by Will Graves

Polly Henson

f41VA
8/4/11 rev'd 3/18/14

[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.]

[p 13]

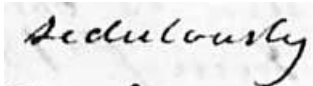
Commonwealth of Kentucky Calloway County Sct

On this 24th day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before John Irvan, Asaph Jetton, William Craddock & William Jones Esquire Judges of the County Court now sitting Jesse Henson Senior a resident of said County and Commonwealth aforesaid aged about seventy-three 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated in manner and according to the circumstances following – to wit

That at the commencement of the Revolution he lived on the Holston River in the frontier of Virginia close by the line of said state. In the month of September 1776 he entered the service as a Volunteer for three months under Captain Cocke and Lieutenant George Hart. He states that his rendezvous took place at the Three Springs at which place they all fell under the command of Colonel Christie [William Christian] who marched his force against the Indians on the head of the Tennessee River where they laid waste the Indian Country, burnt up their villages and destroyed their corn. This was the Cherokee nation of Indians. He states that after he served through the campaign he returned with the Army about Christmas having served out his time and was discharged but got no written discharge. He states that he immediately volunteered for the term of one year and entered the service with the commencement of the year '77 under Captain Evens Shelby [Evan Shelby] and Lieutenant George Hart by whom he was stationed at the Fort at the Long Islands of Holston River with other companies of militia all under the command of Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] father of his Captain and Major Anthony Blutcher.¹ He states that this was the chief fort or station then established for the security of the frontier against the Indians. He stated that he stayed at the Fort about half his time being engaged the other half in scouting tours in traversing the Country and watching and checking the Indian movements and as a spy and so forth. He states that he was [indecipherable word]² engaged during the whole of this year under the officers aforesaid and in the service aforesaid and at the expiration thereof was discharged and went home but does not recollect of receiving any written discharge.

He states that he volunteered under Captain Campbell and Captain King in the beginning

¹ This MAY be a mistaken reference to Major Anthony Bledsoe.

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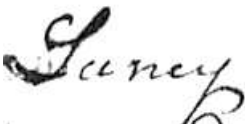
of September 1780 for the term of three months, he marched under said officers over the Yellow Mountain into North Carolina, Thence over the Catawba River and on towards Kings Mountain for the purpose of opposing Major Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] a British officer. He states that near the Kings Mountain he so badly sprained his ankle and foot in jumping over a fence that he could not march with the troops by which means he had the mortification of not being in the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]. He served all his term of three months and returned home. He immediately upon his return home volunteered for a three month tour to go against the Cherokee Indians under Colonel Sevier [John Sevier] and Captain Yancy [?Yancey, could be Laney]³ of the frontier of North Carolina. He states that he marched under said officers down Holston River crossed the French Broad and attacked the Indian towns near the mouth of Holston River. He states that he was in several skirmishes with the Indians – that a great many of them were killed and that their towns and villages were destroyed. He served out his term of three months and returned home.

In the fall of the year '81 (he believes but cannot exactly recollect), he volunteered for three months under Colonel Millar Major Gray and Captain McDaniel. He states that these forces were raised by order of General McDowell [Charles McDowell] of North Carolina to go against the Indians. He states that he marched under said officers over the Blue Ridge and attacked the towns of that part of the nation which resided or stayed in North Carolina over the Ridge from Holston but all were on the waters of the Tennessee River. He stated that he was here in what was called Millar's engagement – which was a severe Indian battle. He states that one of their captains (Lewis Musick) was here killed. The Indians were defeated. Their villages destroyed with their corn etc. he served out his time and returned home. He next volunteered as an Indian spy for the time of three months under Colonel Vance Major Singleton and Captain Smith. He marched under said officers and was placed at one of the stations on New pond Creek from which place he went to and fro through the country in scouting parties who acted as spies on the Indians still returning for orders and provisions to the stations he served out his time of three months and returned home which was his last tour of service and he believes all his service with the exception of one month he served at Ashley station on the frontier of Virginia between the white settlements and Indians. He served under Captain Ashley. The time was previous to his engagement with Colonel Millar in the year '81. He states that he has no written discharges nor is he certain that he ever received any. Nor has he any documentary evidence of his services nor does he know of any evidence better than he here gives as the last witness to him that he could have procured has lately died. He does not know exactly how old he is but believes he was 16 or 17 when he first went against the Indians in '76. He states that he moved to Kentucky about 36 years ago where he has resided 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 whatever.

S/ Jesse Henson





Subscribed and sworn to in open Court

Test

S/ Wm [illegible], C. C. C.

[Henry Darnall, a clergyman, and Arthur H Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 11: On April 15, 1846 in Marshall County Kentucky, Polly Henson, 85, made application for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Jesse Henson Senior who was a revolutionary war soldier and pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him August 16, 1782 and that he died May 10, 1843. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p. 34: On September 5, 1846 in Marshall County Kentucky, Polly Henson, 85, filed for a widow's pension under the 1843 act stating she is the widow of Jesse Henson Senior, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him October 6, 1782 and that her husband died May 10th, 1843. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p. 36: On September 5, 1846 , William Henson, a clergyman in Marshall County Kentucky gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Jesse Henson and his wife Polly whose name was Polly Goodbread prior to her marriage and 1782 in Rutherford County North Carolina. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p. 7: On April 15, 1846 in Marshall County Kentucky, William Henson, clergyman gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Jesse Henson Senior a pensioner and his wife Polly, whose maiden name was Polly Goodbread, that they were married in the year 1782 in the latter part thereof in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina; that he was present and witnessed the marriage; that Jesse Henson Senior died May 10, 1843; that his widow remains unmarried; that the papers attached to hear contained the names and ages of James Darnell whose maiden name was Jane Henson who married Henry Darnell, said Jane being the daughter of the aforesaid Jesse and Polly Henson. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p. 4-6: family records:

Nicholas Darnell was born March the 11th 1809

William Darnell was born March the 7th 1811

Martha Darnell was born April first 1813

Benjamin Darnell was born November the 15th 1815

Henry Darnell was born

Henry Darnell Senior was born December 16 1780

Jane Darnell was born July 8th 1783

Elizabeth Donnell was born March 3rd 1801

Jesse Darnell was born November 23rd 1802

Susanna Darnell was born January 11th 1805

Mary Darnell was born February 14th 1807]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a private in the Virginia service. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing May 10th, 1843.]