

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Henry Marsh W9531 Phereby Marsh NC VA [sic]
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 July 2015.

State of Tennessee }
White County } SS

On this 9th day of October AD 1832 personally appeared before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County and State now sitting Henry Marsh, a resident of White County Tennessee aged about seventy one 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 provision made by 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 after Stated. – He volunteered in the Militia Service for eighteen months [see endnote], in the County of Surray [sic: Surry] in the State of North Carolina, at a town then called Richmond about one mile [sic: about 10 mi NNE] from the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River, under Captain Jacob Camplin – John Cook was his Lieutenant and Edward Lovin [sic: Edward Loving] his Ensign each of whom were as this declarant believes citizens of the County of Surray. He states that he belonged to the Regiment commanded by Col McDowel [sic: Charles McDowell]. The Surgeons belonging to said Regiment were David Graves and Matthew Piggs. General [Benjamin] Lincoln was head commander. He states that he was acquainted with General [John] Butler and that he saw him frequently during this term of service. They marched to the Savannah River and crossed the same at Augusta. They then continuing their march went down the Savannah River towards a town in the State of Georgia called Savannah and crossed the River again at a place known by the name of the Brier Swamp. This declarant together with the balance of the troops then marched to Stono Swamp where they stormed the British Fort [Battle of Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779], and drove them back a short distance, when a reinforcement of the British arived from St. John’s Island [Johns Island]. The force of the British being thus increased we were compelled to retreat and returned to our Camps, where we remained all night. The next day they marched down again to the Breast works. The British troops had evacuated the Fort, gone aboard of their boats and returned to St. Johns Island. In this engagement Major Lowrey [probably John Lowry] was severely wounded he having been shot through his thigh. Major Lowrey also during the same engagement had his horse shot dead from under him. His Captain Jacob Camplin was also wounded in his knee at the same time. This Declarant served out this tour of service, when he received a written discharge from his Captain. He then returned to his Uncle’s in Surray County. From thence he went to Henry County Virginia where his mother then resided. After remaining with his mother a short time he again volunteered his services for three months under Captain Cunnigam [sic: Christopher Cunningham] – his lieutenant’s name was David Haley. John Young his Ensign. Capt. Cunnigam marched his company to Hillsborough where he joined head quarters. Shortly after, General [Horatio] Gates issued orders for a reinforcement from Hillsborough, when this declarant and the company to which he belonged were marched to a point within a few days travel of Ramsowers [or Ramsours] Mill where they joined Gen’l Gates. They then marched to where the Battle was fought between the American troops under the command of Gen’l. Gates and the British within four miles of Camden [in SC on 16 Aug 1780]. This declarant was in said Battle. The American troops were defeated. He recollects well that General Gates killed three horses in traveling back to Hillsborough, he Gates having left the troops shortly after the commencement of the engagement. All of the troops or at least most of those who escaped death during the Battle were marched back to Hillsborough. A short time after their arival Gen’l. Butler with a detachment of men, among whom this declarant was one, went down to Cross Creek for the purpose of taking a British Hospitle and guard composed of Scotch Tories. [See endnote.] Gen’l. Butler when we reached the Hospital, sent in a flag and they surrendered. They were all taken prisoners and carried to Hillsborough, where this Declarant having served out his term of three months received a written discharge from Captain Cunnigam and returned to his mothers in Henry County Virginia. A short time

thereafter Lord Cornwallis surrendered at Little York [sic: 19 Oct 1781]

Thus terminated his services to his country. This Declarant has no documentary evidence in his possession by which the foregoing facts can be established. Nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

Question 1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Amelia County Virginia in the year 1761 as well as I can recollect.

Question 2nd. Have you any Record of your age, if so where is it?

Answer. I once had a record of my age, but that Record is now in the possession of a relation of mine who resides in the State of Missorie—

Question 3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer. My places of residence when called into service have been stated. Since the Revolutionary War I have lived in Washington, now Russel [sic: Russell] County Virginia, Wayne County Kentucky, Missouri Territory now Missorie State near St. Lewis, McMinn County Tennessee, Bledsoe County Tennessee. I now live in White County Tennessee —

Question 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I volunteered as before stated.

Question 5th. State the names of some of the Regular officers with the troops where you served; such continental Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I have stated the names of the officers with the troops where I served as well as I can now recollect together with the most remarkable circumstances of my service —

Question 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer. I received written discharges from my Captain at the expiration of each term of service as before stated. Those discharges, together with the record of my age were left with a relation of mine, in the now State of Missorie, on my removal from thence.

7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution—

Answer. David Snodgrass Esq'r., William McKinney, James Snodgrass, Thomas Casper Esq'r., John Potts, James Scott. There is no minister of the Gospel in his 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.

Henry hisXmark Marsh

State of Tennessee }
White County } March 27, 1833

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the peace for said County, Henry Marsh, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively to the precise “period, or periods” of the war when he served, but according to the best of his recollection, he will endeavor to explain that point. He states that his first campaign mentioned in his Declaration, being the eighteen months tour, must have commenced early in the year 1777 he now thinks, either in the month of February or March of that year, but of this he cannot be certain. He thinks that his second campaign must have commenced in June 1780 – he alludes to his tour of three months. He has a distinct recollection of being in “Gates defeat” – his present recollection is, that it was not more than six weeks after Gates was defeated near Campden in South Carolina, when he received his discharge. He has given all the information he can – he was a private soldier the whole time he was in the service.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Henry hisXmark Marsh

BOUNTY LAND CLAIM

STATE OF Tennessee }
COUNTY OF White } SS:

On this 26 day of Mach, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty five personally appeared before me, Richard Simpson a justice of the peace within and for the county and State aforesaid, Henry Marsh, aged about 100 years, a resident of the county of White in the State of Tennessee, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Henry Marsh who was a private in the company commanded by Captain Jacob Camplin in the 18[?] regiment of voluteers commanded by Col. McDowell in the war with Great Britten or the Revolutionary War; that he volenteered at Sura County North Carolina on or about the first of day of March A.D. 1777, for the term of one year and continued in actual service in said war, for the term of one year and was honorably discharged at near Savannah River [sic] North Carolina on or about the last day of March A.D. 1778, as will appear by the muster rolls of said company.

He makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land, granted by the act passed March 31, 1855, and he hereby declares that he has not applied for, or received, and he believes he is not entitled to Bounty Land except as above stated, and he hereby appoints JOHN H. McCUTCHEM, Attorney at Law, of Washington City, D.C. to prosecute his claim, and receive his warrant when issued.

he says his discharge is lost but he has his original certificate on which he draws his pension

Signature of claimant Henry his mark Marsh

NOTES:

Militia tours were seldom if ever for as long as 18 months.

Gen. Butler’s expedition to Cross Creek, now Fayetteville NC, probably did not occur before the spring of 1781, so this must have been during a different tour of duty from the three-month tour that included the Battle of Camden.

Marsh claimed to have served a total of 21 months but was pensioned for 18 months of service.

On 13 Jan 1860 Phereby or Phereba Marsh, 66, applied for a pension stating that as Phereba Harvey she married Henry Marsh in 1816 in Overton County TN, and he died 25 Sep 1859.

On 21 May 1866 Phereby Marsh, 73, applied for restoration of her pension, which had been suspended during the Civil War, during which time she subsisted “by her own Labor, by Carding and Spinning and other work.” Her application was witnessed by Polly Ann Bradley and Nancy Marsh.

On 18 Dec 1868 Phereby Marsh was said to be 86 and almost entirely blind and helpless, living about 12 mi from the courthouse of White County.