

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Hankins (Haukins) S1521

f17VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/9/14

[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 Tennessee County of McMinn: SS

On this 25 day of April personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Court of said County James Hankins a resident of said County and state, aged about 80 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 7, 1832.

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

He entered the service as a drafted man in Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia where he ~~was born~~, raised and resided when he entered the service, which was, as well as declarant recollects in the latter part of the spring or beginning of the summer of 1781. He was drafted for six months under Captain Henry Burnet [Henry Burnett] of a rifle company. Declarant does not clearly recollect, but thinks, the Lieutenant was a brother of Captain Burnet. This company was attached, declarant thinks, to the 14 Regiment commanded by Colonel Tucker [perhaps St. George Tucker], whose Christian name is not recollect, the name of the Major not recollect. This company marched from Pittsylvania to headquarters of Lawson's [Robert Lawson's] Brigade, which was, declarant thinks, at Point Fork of James River. The riflemen in Tucker's Regiment were not called into any active service for four months previous to the formation of the siege of York. But Lawson's Brigade was during this time engaged in following the rear of Cornwallis' Army on their march through Virginia until they took possession of Little York. A skirmish between some part of the advance of this Brigade took place a day or two before Cornwallis entered York, in the rear of the enemy, but declarant was not in it, nor was he in any battle till the siege was formed, for the riflemen seemed to be employed as a reserve. After the siege began to be formed, declarant's company did not remain more than two or three weeks, but they were not discharged until it was certain that Cornwallis would surrender [October 19, 1781]. The Regiment of riflemen to which he belonged was not engaged in performing any of the duty of the siege, Such as entrenching &c declarant has not by reason of age and loss of memory consequent thereon, a very distinct recollection of the incidents and events of the Siege whilst he remained, but he remembers that the ground on which the main body of the American Army lay, was called Pride's Old Field. Besides the general officers, who all would remember, declarant does not recollect any regular officer, except Captain Joseph Conway, who was a citizen of Pittsylvania County. Declarant thinks also, that a brother of said Joseph Conway, Henry [Henry Conway] by name was a Major in the regular service. Declarant received a discharge from Captain Burnet but it is lost after the expiration of six months the term

of service for which he was drafted, during all of which he served.

Declarant was born in Charlotte County Virginia, in the year 1752, as he understood from his parents, but no record of his age was kept, that he remembers ever to have seen or heard of. He was living, as above stated, in Pittsylvania County Virginia when called into service as a private, and during his service never received a commission. Declarant remained in Virginia till the termination of the war, and a few years afterwards removed to Washington County Tennessee. Thence declarant removed to South Carolina; thence to Pittsylvania again; thence to what is now Roane County Tennessee, where he resided 30 years or more, and finally to the County of McMinn Tennessee, where he now resides.

Walter Billingsley and James Madden and Robert Mansell all persons who reside in his present neighborhood who would testify as to his veracity and good character.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed the 25th day of April 1833

S/ James Hankins, X his mark

[Isaac Mulkey, a clergyman, Walter Billingsley and James Madden gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]