

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Hill S7012

f64NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/16/08 rev'd 12/29/15

[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 11]

North Carolina, Stokes County

On this 14th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before William Cox [?], William Poindexter & H. Sanderson [?] the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for the County of Stokes in the State of North Carolina now sitting Robert Hill Senior aged eighty-one years on the 17th of February next a resident of the County of Stokes in the State of North Carolina who being first duly sworn an open court 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 was born in Caroline County State of Virginia on the 17th of February 1752 according to the traditionary account of his family that he has no record of the same in his possession but supposes that it remains amongst the parish register of the County of Caroline aforesaid that he removed to North Carolina in the year 1770 & resided in what was then the County of Rowan now the County of Stokes and where he has ever since continued to reside up to this time that in the early part of the year 1776 according to the best of his recollection he volunteered as a militia private in the County of Surry now Stokes as aforesaid for a tour of service against the Tories that were embodied near Cross Creek now called Fayetteville in N. C. under Captain Richard Goode of the Regiment under Colonel Alexander Martin that he accordingly with his company marched to the said Town of Fayetteville or Cross Creek but before the arrival of the troops to which he belonged the Tory force had been defeated by the troops under the command of Governor Caswell [Richard Caswell]. This service has been known and called the Scotch expedition on account of the Tory force in that part of the State being principally composed of that people. That the object of the march being thus effected deponent with the rest of the troops to which he belonged was dismissed at Fayetteville but did not receive any written evidence of his discharge. He is unable to state the length of time in which he was engaged in the service during this tour but thinks it was a month or more that upon his return home on or about the middle of July 1776 and the County of Surry (formerly Rowan and now Stokes) he volunteered under Captain Richard Goode Thomas Evans Lieutenant and marched under the Command of Colonel Martin Armstrong to the Fishing Creek in the County of Wilkes in order to relieve a Fort besieged by the Indians on the Watauga [River]. While at Fishing Creek they received intelligence that the Indians had retired from the same. That he remained in that neighborhood for two or three weeks when his company was marched back to Surry County where his company was placed under the command of Colonel Joseph Williams & Major Joseph Winston and was marched to the Long Island of Holston [River] where they were encamped for four or five weeks, that at this place they were joined by the Virginia troops from whence they marched under General Christie [William Christian] to the Cherokee Towns that previous to the arrival of the force to which deponent was attached the hostile Indians had been defeated by the South Carolina forces and had retired from thereabouts. That he was at several of their towns that were deserted many of which were by us destroyed. We remained in the Indian Country until the conclusion

of peace, that from thence he was marched back and left the troops by permission at New River being anxious to reach home more speedily than by remaining in the line of march: that in this expedition he was employed as near as he can tell for about five months though the particular time he cannot now recollect. That he was merely discharged by permission or direction of his officers & without any written evidence thereof. That after returning from this expedition the militia were frequently employed in the immediately surrounding country in suppressing the depredations of the Tories that in this was he as Lieutenant was on several occasions out in actual service sometimes for a few weeks only & sometimes for a longer time but he is unable to state the entire period embraced in this irregular service but thinks it could not have been less than two months.

That in the year 1780 he volunteered and served as Lieutenant under Captain William Meredy or Meredith [William Meredith] and marched on a southern expedition to join General Gates [Horatio Gates] at Salisbury N. C. his company joined General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] of the N. C. militia under whose command he marched still further south when in the County of Cabarrus North Carolina deponent – while encamped with the Regiment was seriously injured by the falling of a tree upon him which actually killed a soldier sleeping by his side that on account of this injury he was unable to march on with the troops which succeeded in joining Gates shortly before his defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780], that in consequence of this accident he was detained for several weeks in the neighborhood where it happened at the house of one Barringer, as soon as he was able to ride he returned home but was for some time thereafter & for a longer time than the end of the three months for which he had engaged unable to perform the duty of an officer or soldier, on this occasion he came home by permission of his superior officer but without any discharge in writing. That about the first of February or last of January 1781 he as Captain raised a volunteer Company under Major Joseph Winston and marched near Hillsborough North Carolina where he joined the troops from South Carolina under the command of General Pickens [Andrew Pickens]. Shortly thereafter he was directed and returned home in order to raise additional volunteers & to return to the Army within 10 days but before this period had expired, & before he had accomplished the object for which he was detached, the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] had taken place and the expedition ended. In this service he was engaged as well as he recollects about six weeks. That shortly after the battle of Guilford deponent again commanded a company of volunteers and marched with them in pursuit of the British who were retiring towards Wilmington in North Carolina his company was under the command of Robert Smith acting either as Colonel or General (but he is unable to state which). In this service he remained near the seacoast of North Carolina where he remained until intelligence of the capture of the British force at York Town [October 19, 1781] reached the troops to which he was attached soon after which he returned home. In this service he was engaged for three months or more. He states that he has no written or documentary evidence of his services nor is it practicable for him without great trouble and expense to offer any other proof thereof except the accompanying affidavits of Joseph Banner Senr.¹ Charles Davis² & William Merit [sic, William Merritt]³

That Solomon Petree & Jos. T. Wright and others of his neighbors are ready to testify to his general good character for veracity & their belief in his having been a soldier in the revolution.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above stated.

Test: S/ John Hill, C. C. C.

S/ Robert Hill



¹ [Joseph Banner W9716](#)

² [Charles Davis S6785](#)

³ [William Merritt S2821](#)

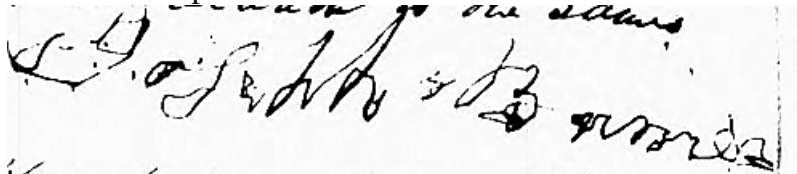
[p 15]

Joseph Banner Senior maketh oath that he was well acquainted with Robert Hill who has made the foregoing declaration during the revolutionary war that they were fellow soldiers together in the expedition mentioned by him in his declaration against the Cherokee Indians in the year 1776 that he well recollects that Richard Goode was his Captain, Thomas Evans Lieutenant that he continued in the service and served as stated by him until peace was made with the Indians. That he also well recollects that said Hill as lieutenant & Captain had frequent command of volunteer companies engaged in scouring the country after Tories as stated by him Deponent was himself under the command of said Hill while engaged in this service – as to the other expeditions declarant has no personal knowledge not being engaged in them but as he all throughout the war lived a neighbor to said Hill he well recollects his being out as a militia soldier at the times mentioned & he does not doubt the entire truth of his statement as relative to the same.

Sworn to & Subscribed in open Court the day & year above stated.

Test: S/ Jno Hill, C. C. C.

S/ Joseph Banner

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Joseph Banner". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted and fluid.

[p 16]

Charles Davis maketh oath that he knew Robert Hill the applicant during the war of the revolution: that he was with said Hill in the expedition mentioned by him to the South in order to join General Gates in the year 1780. He well remembers the circumstance of said Hill being wounded by the fall of a tree as mentioned by him & that while deponent marched on with the Army of the next day said Hill was unable to proceed with them & afterwards he saw said Hill confined by the injury at the house of one said Barringer in Cabarrus County &c that said Hill acted as Lieutenant.

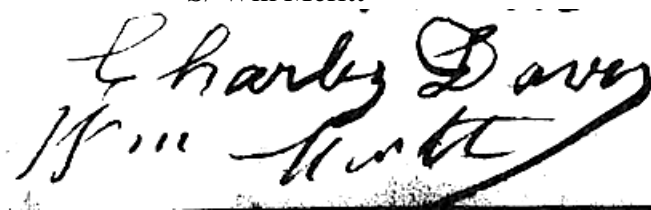
William Merit also swears that he was of the expedition mentioned by said Robert Hill to the South in order to join General Gates in 1780 he well remembers said Hill's being crippled by the fall of a tree that he deponent was detached with two others to remain & wait upon said Hill during his illness – said Hill acted in this expedition as Lieutenant under Captain William Meredy [sic, William Meredith].

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day and year above stated

Test: S/ Jno Hill, C. C. C.

S/ Charles Davis

S/ Wm Meritt

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script. The top signature reads "Charles Davis" and the bottom signature reads "Wm Meritt". Both are written in dark ink with a fluid, slanted style.

[James T. Wright a regular clergyman in the Episcopal Methodist church & Solomon Petree gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 10]

State of North Carolina, Stokes County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace in & for the County of Stokes aforesaid Robert Hill who being duly sworn deposed & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but

according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below & in the following grades:

For five months I served as a private.

For five months I served as a Lieutenant.



Four [sic] four months & two weeks served as a Captain.
and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed the 21st December A.D. 1832 before

S/ Thomas T. Armstrong, JP

S/ Robert Hill

[p 8: Power of attorney dated January 5, 1852 executed in Stokes County North Carolina by Joel Hill and John Hill, sons and heirs at law of Robert Hill deceased, a revolutionary war pensioner

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$173.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private, Lieutenant & Captain in the North Carolina militia.]