

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Hezekiah Whitt: S7885

Transcribed by Joe B. O'Connor

fn14VA

9/4/11

State of Virginia

County of Tazewell

On this the 27th day of March eighteen hundred + forty four personally appeared in open court Hezekiah Whit a resident of the County of Tazewell and State Virginia aged eighty four 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 the 7th 1832

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

The declarant states that he was born in the State of South Carolina in the year 1760, that from thence his father removed to Stewards Creek North Carolina and afterwards to Montgomery County Virginia That in the June of 1776 or 1777 (he is not clear in his recollection which) he was drafted to go to the relief of Island Creek Fort, against the Indians. This fort stood upon New River, and an express was sent to Coln William Preston [Colonel William Preston] informing him of the danger from the presence of the Indians. The declarant marched under the command of Lieutenant Izrael Lorton [Lieutenant Israel Lorton], and entered the fort which was then commanded by Captain Henry Patton This draft was ordered by the Coln Commandant William Preston of Montgomery County - Owing to the necessity of cultivating the growing crop, the service only was ordered for the space of one month for which space of time this declarant served. In the month of March + he thinks in the year 1779, he went as a volunteer under Capt Thomas Mastin [Captain Thomas Mastin] upon the expedition against the Cherokee Indians to Tennessee, called then the "Chickemaugy expedition" [Chickamauga Expedition] The point of rendezvous was at Coln Campbell's [Colonel Arthur Campbell] in the County of Washington Va. The men were marched to the big Island of Holston, where they were incorporated into the regiment of General Evan Shelby. From thence they marched against the Indian Towns, but found upon entering them that they had already been abandoned by the Indians. This declarant was three months in this service having left home in the early part of March + returning after the troops were disbanded sometime in June.

On this expedition there was a regiment of regular troops, declarant thinks of the "state line" destined for service in the Illinois country. The Coln who commanded them was Montgomery [Colonel John Montgomery] - and the Major he thinks was Quirk [Major Thomas Quirk] - These troops continued their march westward after the militia returned home

This declarant got a regular discharge for his services under Shelby, which was signed by Captain Aaron Lewis, who had been sent to New Dublin in Montgomery, for the purpose of paying off the men and giving them discharges

In the following October this declarant was drafted to serve as guard in a fort on Back Creek in Montgomery County, in which service he continued until the next March under the command of Captain James Thompson, an officer serving in the militia of Va. Coln William Thompson [Colonel William Thompson] held the chief command of this fort - After the expiration of this service this declarant was regularly discharged by Coln William Thompson

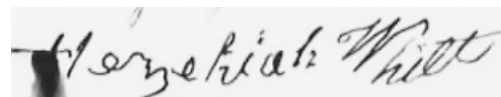
In the early part of the summer of 1780 (as this declarant thinks, for at this distance of time he cannot pretend to strict accuracy in dates) he was drafted by order of Coln William Preston, to go into Carolina for the purpose of joining the army under the command of General Gates [General Horatio Gates] - The lead mines in Montgomery County, was designated as the place of rendezvous for the troops. Here Coln Cloyd [Major Joseph Cloyd] took command; he marched with the main body of the men into Carolina. It was determined however to leave a strong guard at the lead mines, which was accordingly done, under Coln Saunders of this guard, this declarant was one + remained one month. In August afterwards, there was much excitement + alarm in the country least a large body of Tories + deserters should embody themselves and harass the inhabitants - Coln William Preston ordered out the militia, and in the company of Capt Daniel Trigg [Captain Daniel Trigg] this declarant served twenty days From this time until the close of the Revolution This declarant always held himself ready to go upon any service, to which he might be ordered, either in the militia or as Indian spy -

He further states that except in the instances mentioned, he never received a regular discharge and that those he did receive have long since been lost, Declarant supposing after the close of the war that a discharge was of no value - This declarant states that he has no documentary evidence to prove the facts he has stated, nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove his service except those rendered in the Chickemaugy or Tennessee campaign, that he can prove by the testimony of a witness who was on the expedition

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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 + subscribed the day + year aforesaid

S/ Hezekiah Whitt

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Hezekiah Whitt". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes typical of the late 18th or early 19th century.

We William McGuire a clergyman residing in the County of Tazewell and Thomas Christian residing in the same county hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Hezekiah Whit, who has subscribed + sworn to the above declaration; that we believe him to be eighty four years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides, to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in the opinion

Sworn + subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ William McGuire

S/ Thomas Christian

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion after investigating the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and served as he states. And the Court further certifies that it appears to them that William McGuire who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman resident in the County of Tazewell and that Thomas Christian who has also signed the [same?] is a resident in County of Tazewell and is a credible person and that their statement is entitled to credit

I George W G Browne Clerk of the Court of Tazewell County do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of Hezekiah Whit for a pension

In Testimony where of I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March 1844

S/Geo. W. G. Browne, Clk of Tazewell Co. C.

Tazewell County to wit - March 27th, 1844

In open Court This day personally appeared Lyles Dolsbury<sup>1</sup> a witness of lawful age who being first duly sworn depose + saith, That when the expedition against the Cherokee Indians in Tennessee marched he was himself a soldier under the command of Captain Thomas Mastin that the rendezvous for the troops before they started on the march was at Coln Campells in Washington County Va. Deponent further states that he was three months on this expedition during which time he well knew Hezekiah Whit who was also upon the same expedition, under the same officers; and was during the whole time, a mess mate of this affiants – They returned from the service together, and this affiant has known the said Whit ever since – This is all the service he remembers to have met Whit in, and knows nothing farther of them personally – But this affiant has always understood + believes that the said Hezekiah Whit did perform active service as he states, until the close of the Revolutionary War

S/Lyles Dolsbury X his mark

In addition to the certificate given by this affiant - he would state that, this affiant was raised from childhood (being left an orphan) by Capt Thomas Mastin, whom he has often heard say, that Hezekiah Whit, the applicant for a pension in the foregoing declaration, was a soldier under him in the Cherokee expedition into Tennessee - This affiant knew the said Whit at that time + has known him ever since. This affiant knows nothing of any other service stated by the said Whit, but he believes them to have been performed as stated. Sworn to + subscribed the day + year above written in open court.

S/Thomas Christian

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<sup>1</sup> FPA S17929