

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Harbison W17039      Jane      fn59SC  
Transcribed by Will Graves      7/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 9]

State of South Carolina Chester District

On this twenty third day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in open court before the honorable William D. Martin one of the Judges of the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas of said District and State, now sitting, James Harbison, a resident of Chester District and State of South Carolina, aged seventy years who first being 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 from the year 1778 to the year 1782 as herein stated. -- I was drafted in the month of November 1778 under Captain John Nixon, who commanded a militia Company, for a tour of three months -- we marched within six miles of Charleston. Then change our course to Purrysburg on the Savannah River -- then up said River to within a few miles of Augusta, Georgia, and then returned home. Colonel John Winn was Colonel in command. In about seventeen days after my return home Captain Nixon's company volunteered their services, under our Colonel John Winn. I was one of the number -- we marched towards Augusta and encamped about five weeks on this side of the River, opposite to Augusta -- then crossed over the River and marched towards Briar Creek then down the River and joined General Lincoln's Army -- we then recrossed Savannah River into South Carolina and marched to Bacon's Bridge -- from thence to Stono River -- at this place our company left General Lincoln's Army and returned home about the 7 of June 1779. In the early part of July 1780 I volunteered under Captain McClure (our Company was attached to Colonel or General Sumter's command) and was at the battle of Rocky Mount,<sup>1</sup> in the month of July -- we were unsuccessful but in a few days afterwards we made a successful attack on the British <sup>and Tories</sup> at the Hanging Rock<sup>2</sup> -- a short time after the Battle at the Hanging Rock General Sumter was defeated at his encampment on Fishing Creek<sup>3</sup> -- about this time I was with a scouting party, and near Camden, at Casey's old fields we captured thirty-two wagons laden with provisions and ninety six Highlanders. In the month of May or June 1781 I

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<sup>1</sup> July 30, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/rockymt.htm>

<sup>2</sup> August 6, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/hangingrk.htm>

<sup>3</sup> August 18, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fishingcreek.htm>

volunteered my services under Captain Adams and Colonel Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey] -- our company joined the General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army on its march to Orangeburg. They are General Greene reconnoitered the place and then marched a part of the forces to the High Hills of Santee -- our company with other Companies marched from Orangeburg to Biggin's Church.<sup>4</sup> I was with a detachment at the destroying a bridge near the church. The enemy retreated from the church in the night time -- we pursued them and a skirmish ensued at Quinby's Bridge,<sup>5</sup> we captured a number of prisoners belonging to the 19th Irish Regiment -- we then pursued the main body of the enemy to Captain Shubrick's Plantation -- where we engaged the enemy -- the battle lasted about forty-six Minutes -- we retreated back -- leaving the enemy in possession of the field -- and crossed at Nelson's ferry and came home. In the month of December 1781 I volunteered under Captain Samuel Adams, Colonel Lacey and General Sumter we marched to Orangeburg and there remained stationed three months -- about this time General Sumter gave the command of the forces to General Henderson and our company returned home in the month of March 1782. My terms of service altogether exceeded two years, as a volunteer and in the militia and I now reside in the same neighborhood and on the same plantation than I resided on at the period of the revolution. Deponent further says he never received a written discharge -- and hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State or territory except the State of South Carolina from which he receives a state pension of \$60 per annum.

S/ John Harbison

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court October 23rd 1832

S/ J. Rosborough

State of South Carolina Chester District: I., George Gill<sup>6</sup> aged seventy-one years do hereby certify that I was personally acquainted with the above named James Harbison in the time of the revolutionary war -- and belief he performed the services as set forth in his narrative stated on this sheet of paper.

S/ G. Gill

[James B. Stafford, a clergyman, and George Gill gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 13]

State of South Carolina Chester District: Interrogatories administered to James Harbison by the court

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer -- I was born in the County of Antrim, Ireland in the year 1762 and arrived at Charleston on the 24 December 1768 and immediately came to this district and now reside where I first settled with my father.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. The only information I have of my age is derived from my parents verbally.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in Chester District when I was first drafted into the service and have

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<sup>4</sup> July 16, 1781 <http://gaz.irshelby.com/bigginssch.htm>

<sup>5</sup> July 17, 1781 <http://gaz.irshelby.com/quinby.htm> See also <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810717a.htm>

<sup>6</sup> [George Gill S21229](#)

continued to reside here on the same plantation ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I was drafted; the first tour I took, under Captain Nixon, -- I volunteered, my second tour, under Captain Nixon, also: my third tour was as a volunteer under Captain McClure. My fourth tour under the same Captain my fifth tour under Captain Adams, as a volunteer, and my sixth tour, under the last mentioned Captain, also as a volunteer.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. I remember the names of General Lincoln, General Butler, Count Pulaski -- Captain Wade Hampton recruited out of Captain Nixon's Company -- also General Greene was a Continental officer, as also General Morgan, Colonels Washington, Lee in Laurens -- General Wayne was also in this State during the middle or latter period of the Revolution Colonel Moultrie commanded the first Regiment of South Carolina Regular; and I refer to my narrative for the general circumstances of my service.

6<sup>th</sup> 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 never received a written discharge -- it was usually to discharged by companies --

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Reverend James B. Stafford Colonel George Gill, John McCreary, Esquire, Joseph Gaston, Esquire and all my neighbors

Sworn in open court October 23rd 1832

S/ J. Rosborough, CCCS

S/ James Harbison

[fn p. 15]

State of South Carolina Chester District: Amended declaration of James Harbison

1 = In the month of November 23rd day 1778 I was drafted under Captain John Nixon for three months -- which term I served to the end 3 months

2 = On the 10th of March 1779 I volunteered under Captain John Nixon and done duty in his company from that time to the seventh of June 1779 3 months

3 = On the first day of July 1780 I volunteered under Captain John McClure and done duty in his company, under his command, until the first day of September 1780 3 months

4 = On the 20th May 1781 I volunteered under Captain Adams and done duty in his company under his command until the 15th of December 1781 when I returned home; and on the 20th of December 1781 I again started back to the camp, at Orangeburg, where I arrived on the 23rd December and remained there until the 20th March 1782 6 months and 25 days

3 months

9 months & 25 days

9

18 months & 25 days

total time of the regular service

besides scouting about home

South Carolina Chester District: James Harbison (a private soldier of the revolution) so that the

above amended declaration is true according to the belief and recollection of this deponent who is aged and infirm.

Sworn to & signed July 17th 1833 before me

S/ J. Rosborough, JQ

S/ James Harbison

[fn p. 8: on March 26, 1851 in Perry County Illinois, Jane Harbison, 43, filed for a Widow's pension stating that she is the widow of James Harbison; that she married him in Chester County South Carolina 25th of December 1823; that they were married by one David Jamison, a Magistrate in and for said district; that her name prior to her marriage was Jane Jamison; that her husband died in Chester District on the third day of November 1835 and that she remains his widow. She states that she knows of no public record of her marriage and that the Bible containing a private family record of it was sold after the death of her husband by his administrator and she does not know in whose hands the same now he is.]

[fn p. 18: on April 18, 1853 in Perry County Illinois, Jane Harbison, 45, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of James Harbison, a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him in Chester District South Carolina December 25, 1823; that they were married by one David Jamison a Magistrate for said district; that her name prior to her marriage was Jane Jamison; that her husband died in Chester District South Carolina November 3, 1835 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 5: January 24, 1877 the widow filed for her bounty land entitlement under the 1855 act. At this time she lived in Pinckneyville Perry County Illinois.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$62.78 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 10 months & 25 days service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]