

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Miles Hicks: W758

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina}

Franklin County} SS.

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of March in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty three personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County of Franklin aforesaid, now sitting, Miles Hicks a resident of the County of Franklin and State of North Carolina, aged about Sixty nine 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 A.D. 1832. That he was born in the County of Brunswick and State of Virginia on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year 1763 according to a register of his age now in the possession of the family of Joel Conyers, as he believes. That at the time when he was called into the Revolutionary service he was living in the County of Henry and State of Virginia, and when called a second time in the same service he was living in the County of Brunswick aforementioned, that soon after he the service he returned to Henry County, thence again to Brunswick County where he married, thence soon after he removed to the County of Franklin aforesaid where he has remained ever since and where he is now living. That he volunteered in May or June 1780 as a private militia man in the County of Henry aforesaid, in a company commanded by Captain James Shelton and under him by Lieutenant James Carlan; that their company was raised together with several others under the immediate direction of Patrick Henry, then Governor of Virginia [sic: 6 July 1776 - 1 June 1779, succeeded by Thomas Jefferson]; and under the command of Governor Henry, General or Colo. George Hairston, Colo. Kelly Hughes, and the light horse under Colo. Peter Hairston, was marched on towards the Kings mountain to meet the British and Tories under Colo. [Patrick] Ferguson, but before they could reach the before named place, a battle had been fought and the British and Tories totally routed and destroyed [Battle of Kings Mountain SC, 7 Oct 1780]. After the intelligence of this battle reached Governor Henry, he directed Captain Shelton with Sixty four privates, of which number this Applicant was one, to march up to the Flower Gap of the Blue Ridge [in present Carroll County VA] and take a station there to keep the Tories in awe. This service was effectively performed by the activity and vigilance of the men and officers until their term of service expired, at which time this applicant was discharged by Captain Shelton, but whether his discharge was in writing he does not at this time recollect, and if the discharge was in writing he is unable to say what has become of it. He served faithfully for three months in this tour, but owing to his having left the neighborhood where he served soon after the Revolution and his not having visited that section for many years, he knows of no person living by whom he can prove the facts set forth in this declaration, all which he believes took place in 1780

This applicant further declares that in the year 1781 while Lord Cornwallis was marching through Virginia towards YorkTown, he volunteered as a private militia man in the County of Brunswick, Virginia, in company commanded by Captain James Harrison, and under him by Lieutenant William Harrison; that this company with others, all under the command of Colo. Thomas Claiborne was marched down to Petersburg and attached to a Regiment commanded by Colo. Richard Elliot. That while stationed there the whole American army under Gen'l. Washington, LaFayette & others passed by on their way to besiege Cornwallis at York [September 1781], but as all the militia was not wanted with the main army, this applicants company as many others was left at Petersburg until their term of service expired, when they were discharged, [illegible word] by Colo. Elliot or Claiborne, but whether in writing is not recollected, as the discharge, if in writing, has been long since lost or destroyed. This applicant served three months in this tour, but he does not recollect the day or month when he entered or when he was discharged from the service, nor does he know of any person now living by whom he can prove the facts herein set forth. This applicant states that Thomas Crocker a minister of the gospel, James Murray & William Jones all residing in the County of

Franklin aforesaid can testify as to his character for veracity and good behaviour, and the two latter can testify as to his being reputed a Soldier of the revolution.

This applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state.

[signed] Miles Hicks

NOTE: On 18 March 1853 Maria Hicks, 56, applied for a pension stating that as Maria Johnson she married Miles Hicks about 15 Nov 1815 in Franklin County NC, and he died 29 March 1844 in Mecklenburg County VA. On 29 March 1855 she applied for bounty land, stating that she married Miles Hicks about 1819.