

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Harper R21782

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/20/14

[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 Kentucky Montgomery County: SS

On this 2nd day of January 1834 personally appeared before me Willis Prewitt a Justice and Judge of the County Court in and for the County aforesaid John Harper resident in Montgomery County and State aforesaid aged 89 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 7th June 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the U.S. in the year 1779 with David Gist and served in Boonborogh [Boonesborough] Kentucky under the following named officers: he says in March 1779, he thinks about the middle, he enlisted in Captain Holder's [possibly John Holder's] Company for a term of during the War of the revolution. He says he was immediately stationed at Boonesborough in State of Kentucky and employed as a guard for four years until the close of the war in 1783. He says he was out on several tours from the Fort the particulars of which he has forgotten nor does he think it important as he was stationed at the above Fort as a regular guard sometimes under Holder and sometimes under Gist and at other times under Boon [presumably Daniel Boone]. He says he endured during this four-years more hardships and he supposed any man could bear But so it is he says he served out his time and was regularly discharged. But thinks he received no written discharge but if he did he says he has lost it. He says he can prove his service by Joseph Procter, Larence Thompson and Jesse Hodges, Thomas Hall

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 day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Harper, X his mark

State of Kentucky Montgomery County: SS

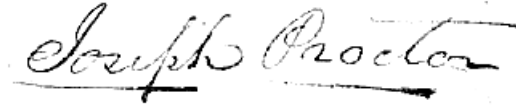
Personally appeared before me Willis Prewitt a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid John Harper who being first duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of extreme old age and consequent loss of memory he is unable to state many of the particulars of his services, – He says he served in the State of Kentucky at Boonesborough as stated in his original declaration and for the time as therein named and is still of opinion he enlisted as stated in his original declaration and under the Captain as therein stated. But had not been advised that it was necessary to state

the [indecipherable word or abbreviation]¹, He says they had no [same indecipherable word or abbreviation] at the Fort in this country but Colonel Logan [Benjamin Logan] & G R Clarke [George Rogers Clark] under whose command he then considered he was acting and was at their disposal. He remembers that when he was called out on service that it was under the directions of one of those two – He says he cannot be more particular than he has been. One thing he does no [know] he served as stated in his original declaration. And says he is now near 100 years old and has but a short time to live if it pleaseth the Government to the Stowe anything for the services he has rendered his country he well thankfully receive it if not he will be compelled to linger out the balance of his days without it. Given under my hand & seal this 2nd April 1834
S/ John Harper, X his mark

Statement of Joseph Procter

He states he is well acquainted with John Harper. He says he became acquainted with him in the spring of 1779 at Boonesborough Kentucky. That he knows said Harper did serve in the campaign of Holder as set forth in his declaration as a spy, Ranger and guard from the spring of 1779 until the spring of 1780 at which time he says he (the witness) left the Fort and left the applicant at the Fort in the service as during the year spoken. He says he is 78 years of age or was on the 17th of October 1833. Given under my hand this 20th January 1834

S/ Joseph Procter



Statement of Joseph Procter aged 78 years on the 17 of October next

He states he is well acquainted with John Harper who is now applying for a Pension he says he became acquainted with him in the fall of 1779 at Boonesborough Kentucky. He says he himself was in services at that time. He says he knows of said John Harper's being in the service of the US as a regular soldier under John Holder as Captain and B. Logan as Colonel. He says he can only state certainly as to six months of actual service in the company above stated. He says he left the Fort in the spring of 1780 and left said Harper in service as stated above. And further says that Harper he has no doubt served the time stated by himself and in the company & capacity as set forth in his declaration as he knows of him being a man of undoubted truth and of good moral character. Given under my hand this 16th Nov. 1835

S/ Joseph Procter²

Statement of Thomas Hall³ 74 years old

He says he became acquainted with John Harper in Boonesborough Kentucky in the year 1779 in the spring said Harper enlisted with John Holder and served under him as a guard at said Fort at which place I served myself. He served from 79 until the close of the war under said Holder as Captain & Logan as Colonel.

S/ Thos. Hall, X his mark

[Attested in Montgomery County Kentucky March 3rd, 1834]

¹ *eo. b*, [context suggests it is an abbreviation of "Colonels"]

² [Joseph Procter S11270](#)

³ [Thomas Hall S13339](#)