

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Hopkins R5209

fn33NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/17/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Missouri County of Pope: SS

On this 5th day of August 1847 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the County of Polk aforesaid James Hopkins resident in said County aged eighty-two 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 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers, Thomas Farmer Colonel –__Humphreys Major, __ Parish Captain. This affiant entered the Service of the United States as a Private Soldier in the month of June 1781 in the town of Hillsboro Orange County in the State of North Carolina where this Affiant then resided. This Affiant states that he was drafted. This Affiant states that he was engaged in the Battle at the Eutaw Springs in the State of South Carolina under the command of General Green [Nathanael Greene], said Battle was fought on the 9 September 1781. This affiant marched from said town of Hillsboro to the town of Salisbury in the County of Rowan North Carolina from thence to the town of Camden in the State of South Carolina, from thence to Thompson's Fort on the Congaree River from thence to the Eutaw Springs. This affiant further states that he served under the aforesaid officers as a private soldier in the field for three months during said time he was not engaged in any civil pursuit. This affiant served with an embodied Corps called into service by authority of the United States. This affiant further states that he has no documentary proof to prove his services he once had a Discharge which is now lost. This affiant further states that he knows of no evidence to prove his services except the Testimony of Margaret Shannon who lives in the County of Sumner and State of Tennessee the Deposition of said Margaret is hereto annexed. And this affiant states that he is the identical person spoken of in said Deposition. This affiant further states that after the expiration of his said Service aforesaid he was drafted and was employed in guarding prisoners in Jail and to and from Jail and guarding prisoners as much as 3 months in the service of the United States during the said year of 1781. This affiant 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/ James Hopkins¹

S/ J. W. Davis, Clerk

[Henry Akard, a clergyman, and Lyman Beeman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

This day personally appeared in open Court James Hopkins and the court propounded to said Hopkins the following questions to which said Hopkins gave the following answers

1. Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born in the County of Orange in the State of North Carolina in the month of June 1765

2. Have you any record of your age if so where is it

Answer. I have no record of my age in my possession at present.

3. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live

Answer – when I was called into the service I was living in Orange County North Carolina I moved from there to Sumner County Tennessee I moved from said Sumner County to Pope County Missouri I now reside in said County of Polk.

4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a substitute for whom

Answer I was drafted

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the General circumstances of your services.

Answer. I cannot owing to want of recollection from age recollect the troops I served with I recollect General Green Colonel Thomas Farmer, Major Humphreys and Captain Parish

6. 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 received a discharge from the service it was given by Colonel Thomas Farmer it was burned up accidentally when my house was burned together with all other papers

[fn p. 25]

By the request of Captain Harry Shannon I have this day proceeded to take the Deposition or Statement of Mrs. Margaret Shannon, aged about eighty-five years – She states that James Hopkins is her Brother and that she is well acquainted with him and she further states that she has a perfect recollection of her Brother James Hopkins serving a tower of duty in the Revolutionary War, but how long will at this date she does not now recollect, – but she thinks it was near the close of the War at the time this Service was rendered we resided in Orange County North Carolina,

Question by this Magistrate, how old do you think James Hopkins was at the time he went into service – Answer. He was about sixteen years of age.

S/ Margaret Shannon, X her Mark

[facts in file: James Hopkins, son of the veteran, was living in Cedar County, Missouri in 1854 and stated that his father was been dead.]

¹ the purported signature of the veteran is in the same handwriting as the body of the application itself. Consequently, I do not think it is his signature but rather his signature actually signed by the scribe.