Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Higgason S13393 Transcribed by Will Graves

f13VA 3/26/14

[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 Shelby County

On this 20th day of August in the year 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of said County Thomas Higgason a resident citizen of the said County who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provisions of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 providing for certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution: Saith that he was born in Hanover County in Virginia State the 21st of April in the year 1760, That he saw his birth registered in an old family Bible which was left by his father John Higgason, and after came into this deponent's possession after the death of his father. The Register of his death he always believed to be in his father's hand write [handwriting] that he transcribed the Registry of his birth so made into a Bible which he now has. He states that at the age of a little upwards of sixteen years old he entered as a substitute in the minute service for Bartlett Anderson and served one month for him, and then served one month more for John Dickerson, and then was dismissed and returned home. My Captain during the time of the above named service, which was in the year 1776, was Captain James Dabney, and I believe John Crutchfield was his Lieutenant. Colonel Samuel Meredith who was a brother in law I think to Patrick Henry commanded the minute men with whom I served. The date of my next service I cannot recollect, I was drafted in the Militia under Captain John Stark and marched to Williamsburg and was stationed there about two months, returned home, sometime after this marched under Captain Elijah White Senior to Williamsburg and from there to York, and back to Williamsburg and was dismissed counting two months. In the next Tour I marched under Captain Jack Thompson who I believe was under Colonel William Dandridge to Williamsburg, Colonel Ennis [perhaps James Innis] was in Company. We marched from this place to York from thence to Rich Neck and back. I then marched under Captain [first name written over and illegible] Bullock as a substitute for my brother and acted as orderly Sergeant in this Tour we were detailed for nine weeks, I believe under Major Thornton. I then went as a substitute for David Crenshaw under Captain William Hughes and served one tour by marching from point to point as ordered. I then marched as a substitute under Captain Samuel Richardson of Fluvanna County Virginia and served a Tour as orderly Sergeant at the Albemarle Barracks, Colonel William Fountain commanded the Regulars at the time when the period of our service terminated, the men were just called into line, wheeled to the right about and dismissed. This was the only manner of discharging the militia that I ever observed. The only man that I knew of in this state who knew that I rendered any service in the Revolution was Valentine Meriwether, who lived in Oldham County on last Wednesday I sent my son Thomas C. Higgason

to Oldham to see him and get him to come up to this Term of the Shelby County Court to make his affidavit or to get him to give it in Oldham, as he would agree to. But when my son got there he had just died, and was buried just 2 days before my son got there. Said Valentine told me that he was commissary [several words written over and illegible] service with me. I do not recollect the different regiments to which I was attached. Many tours I served was for 2 months, making I verily believe 14 months service in the militia, and minute service. He states that he never received a pension or annuity from the United States or from any state. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the United States or of any state, and that he never received a pension from any source whatever.

S/ Thos. Higgason

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I Thomas C Higgason residing in Shelby County aforesaid certify that he is the son of the above named applicant and that he heard Valentine Meriwether who is mentioned in the above declaration say that he saw his father the said Applicant in the militia service in the Revolutionary war and that he on [several words written over and indecipherable] went to Oldham County at the request of said applicant to obtain the Certificate of said Valentine Meriwether, but when he got there the said Valentine had died just 2 days before he got there.

S/Thos. C. Higgason

[Samuel Waddy & Stephen H Maddox gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky Shelby County

On this eleventh day of January 1833 Personally appeared before me Stephen H Maddox, a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Shelby and State aforesaid Thomas Higgason at his residence a Citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy-two years and eight months, 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 7th 1832 (to wit)

He says that he was seventy-two years old on the 21st day of April last to the best of his knowledge and belief and from age & infirmity that he is unable to attend Court, and that he was born in Virginia and immigrated to this State in the year 1796 and from that time has resided in this State he further states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services in the revolutionary war but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades – for four months as orderly Sergeant in the militia and for ten months as private in the militia and minute service and for such services he claims a pension – this service was in Virginia, he further says that he knows of no person living by whom he can prove any part of his services and can only give reference to his former declaration respecting the officers under whom he served, except Colonel Thomas Matthews who commanded in the Continental line under whom he served a part of the time.

[Joel Hulsey and Warren Davis gave another standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$55.33 per annum missing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Sergeant for 4 months and as a private for 10 months in the Virginia service.]