Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Joshua Hamilton S2608 fn30NC[sic, VA]
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 4/4/11

[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.1

State of Tennessee, Sullivan County: August Sessions 1832

On this 22nd day of August 1832, personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Ouarter Sessions now Sitting, Joshua Hambleton, a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy 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 7th 1832: that he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated, to wit: that he volunteered in Bedford County in the State of Virginia in the year 1776 to serve a three months tour under Capt. Thomas Doolan [Thomas Dooley] and marched to Williamsburg in the same State where we joined the main army, and was continued at said place during his said three months tour and was discharged by his said Captain Doolan at that place, which discharge he has in the lapse of years casually [lost]. That shortly thereafter he removed to the frontier settlements of North Carolina now Tennessee, and was again enrolled as a volunteer under Capt. Russell and Col. Charles Robinson for another Tour of duty against the Cherokee Indians who had been in alliance with the British and were depredating upon the settlements and met the Regiment at the Long Islands in Sullivan County (then Washington) and descended the Holston River by water to Chickamauga in the Cherokee Country & destroyed the towns in that quarter; killed some & drove back the residue of the Indians, and returned again. After being discharged verbally and arranged in companies for defense in returning home through the uninhabited country through which they had passed said tour was performed in the Spring of the year 1779 as well as recollected & beginning in the 1st of March & ending in last of May (exclusive of some weeks to return home, after the close of the tour in this Cherokee Country.

That in the ensuing year he again volunteered under Edward Cox as lieutenant of Col Martin's command to go on another expedition against the Cherokee Indians at the time that said Indians had repulsed Col. John Sevier, and Martin was recruiting [?] men for his re-enforcement to and went with the army under said Martin & joined Sevier on the French Broad River and marched to Chota in the Cherokee Country & had an engagement at the crossing of the Tennessee River & again burned all the Towns, corn & provisions, and destroyed their property & again returned home and was verbally discharged on their return to the settlements on Lick Creek (now Greene County) after being in said service about three months.

That in the fall of the year 1780 he again in volunteered under Captain Warring [?], of General Shelby's command for and expedition against the British in the South commonly called the King's Mountain battle, in which he was during said expedition, which battle was in September [sic, October] 1780. That the Army rendezvoused on Watauga [River] and marched across the Yellow Mountain and from thence met the British under Ferguson's [Patrick Ferguson] command on top of King's Mountain and after a severe and doubtful contest for some time; succeeded in obtaining a signal & complete victory. Ferguson was there killed & the whole Army either killed or taken prisoners, having to the best of his recollection been three months in service and returned home after being verbally discharged by said Shelby after the Regiment had passed over the mountain and had reached within a days travel of his residence.

That in the spring of 1778 he volunteered for a three months tour previous to his Chickamauga expedition (which was the first duty performed by him after his removal to the frontier in that part of the country (now Tennessee) and which was omitted to be placed in its proper place in the foregoing statement) which enrollment was under a Captain whose name he has now forgotten, but was to act as a spy company & range in the vicinity of Fort Moore on Clinch River, which duty he performed for about the space of three months and returned home and having been in the service under the five enrollments or periods, 15 months in service as a volunteer in the revolutionary war. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure except that [illegible words] of Ephraim Cox. 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 & subscribed in open court this 22nd day of August 1832.

S/ Joshua Hamilton

[signature is covered by a ink blot and runs off the page]

On this 22nd of August 1832 appeared in open Court Edward Cox² & Jacob Beeler³ citizens of said County and made oath that they and each of them all personally

¹ This signature was taken from a petition the veteran filed in 1835 in which he seeks a replacement for his lost pension certificate.

² Edward Cox S3170

Jacob Beelor (Beeler or Bealer) S5277

acquainted with Joshua Hamilton the subscriber to the foregoing declaration, and believe him to be 72 years of age. Edward Cox was in the Chickamauga what expedition and that under Martin for the relief of Colonel Sevier set forth by said Hamilton in his foregoing declaration each for 3 months, and knows that said Hamilton performed the Tours as stated by him, and each of said persons who have subscribed this statement say that the applicant is reputed in his neighbors [sic] & believed where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and they concur in that opinion. Sworn to & subscribed in open court August 22nd, 1832

Edward x & Sacro Breter

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the Virginia & North Carolina militia.]