Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Andrew Harwell a/k/a Harvey S31104 f15VA Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 2/27/14 & 5/27/15

[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, Perry County]

Revolutionary Claim

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act entitled, "An Act supplementary to an act for the relief of certain Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved on the 7th of June 1832. I, Andrew Harwell, (sometimes called Harvey) living on Troublesome Creek in the County of Perry, and State of Kentucky, do hereby declare that I was a private in the Army of the Revolution, for upwards of twenty four months and continued in Service under that and other arrangements in all five or six years, being until the end of the war when I was discharged as a private in Capt. John Douglas's Company under Col. Williams [James Williams], who fell at the Battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]. I further declare that I do not remember the dates of my first enlistment but it was in County of Sussex and State of Virginia—that there was then no Captain of the Company but Mayberry was Lieutenant and Commandant of the Company—The Company together with myself was then marched from Sussex County to the White Plains in the neighborhood of the City of New York, where the head quarters of the American Army then was—that after the arrival at the White Plains I was put under the command of Capt. Sinclair (his Christian name not recollected) who commanded the Light Scout (as it was called) that the Colonel under whom he served was David Mason, for some time until he took sick and I was then under Col Innis (the Christian name not recollected) [perhaps James Innis] who took the place of Col Mason. That I enlisted at first for three years, but before the time was expired, I enlisted to serve during the war under Capt. Sinclair. That I was in the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] under Sinclair as Capt. and Innes as Col. Genl Woodford [William Woodford] was the Brigadier Genl and Genl Stevens [Adam Stephen] was Major General. Genl De La Fayette (called the French Marquis) sometimes commanded, but I do not think that he regularly had the command of the Troops from Virginia to which I belonged. I further declare that I continued in service under the same Capt. and Col. at Germantown [October 4, 1777] near Philadelphia and was with General Washington's army not only at Brandywine but went up the Schuylkill from there to Germantown, where I was in another battle—but there was a portion of the American army that did not go to Germantown but went to Red Bank and Mud Island Fort—

From Germantown I went with the main Army to White Marsh Hills, about twelve miles from Germantown, where we encamped for a short time the weather being exceptionally cold—Genl Washington had trees cut down for some distance around the

camp for the purpose of keeping off the British Light Horses and whilst there the scouts had frequent skirmishes with the enemy and provisions were uncommonly scarce and we had very hard times—After staying awhile at White Marsh Hills, Genl Washington removed the army to Valley Forge when they took up winter quarters, but I don't remember the dates of the year—However I was with some others detached as a foraging party to procure provisions for horses and some few provisions and the portion of the army to which I was attached wintered at the widow Keely's on French Creek—in a Mill—Some time during the next spring I marched under Lieut. Mayberry from French Creek to Fredicksburg [Fredericksburg] in Virginia and from there we went to Blanford, Pocahuntas and Petersburg. At Fredicksburg Col Bluford [probably Abraham Buford] commanded and he continued the command of the Regiment to which I was attached at Petersburg and Col Parker was in command of another Regiment at Petersburg—Whilst at Petersburg there was an orderly Sergeant, (I think named McLane) who had to give out spirits and wine to the sick and attend to their comfort—McLane, it was discovered, neglected the sick and drank much of the wine and rum intended for them and he was condemned to run the gauntlet which he did every other day for several times—He was an Irishman.

From Petersburg Col Bluford and Col. Parker's Regiments marched to out to the Hanging Rock in North Carolina [sic South Carolina] or near the State line. Whilst on our march near the Hanging Rock, we were surprised by the enemy, who attacked us doubly mounted—each Light Horseman having an Infantry man behind him—our guns were empty and we were cut up and dispersed and the Regiment I think never again assembled 1— Sometime after this Tory Fanning (sometimes called Bald head Fanning and sometimes, Col Fanning) [David Fanning] who was a notorious Tory, took the Governor [Thomas Burke, captured September 12, 1781] of North Carolina, at Hillsborough and carried him to Wilmington—I then enlisted under Capt. White to go to Wilmington and retake the Governor, but we were unsuccessful and were defeated² but whilst in the neighborhood of Wilmington the news of the defeat [October 19, 1781] of Lord Cornwallis reached us and— —here I am a little too fast—After our defeat under White we retreated back—White was our Captain, but we were commanded by Genl Butler [John Butler]. On our retreat we met Genl Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] with other men and the horses of Butler's men were then sent away and his men went a foot, but Rutherford's were still mounted, provisions was very scarce—It was the last time that we went down to Wilmington that we heard of the capture of Cornwallis—We did not retake the Governor and I was a Sergeant of the Guard and we thought that Butler acted badly—I was in no more battles during the Revolution until the Battle of Kings Mountain—I was under Capt. John Douglas of Caswell County North Carolina—our Col was Colonel Williams, who was killed at the battle, just before it closed, but few guns were fired after his fall. We defeated the British and Tories at King's Mountain, Col Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson], Col Martin & Col Husbands [Vezey Husbands] of the British Army were killed--We camped on the battle ground all night and took our prisoners to Salem or the Moravian town—there I was discharged with many others—

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¹ The veteran is very probably describing his recollection of the Battle of Waxhaws or Buford's Defeat, May 29, 1780

² I believe the veteran is describing either the engagement on September 13, 1781 at Lindley's Mill or, much more likely the engagement sometime later in September 1781 at Brown Marsh, both of which actions were under the command of North Carolina militia General John Butler and resulted in defeats by David Fanning and his loyalists

Before we reached Salem—there were nine Tories hung near to Catawba river on one night and one next morning—among them was Col. Mills [Ambrose Mills] --Thirty six had been condemned to be hung but twenty Six of them were pardoned—Col Wm. Campbell [William Campbell] was one of the Cols at King's Mountain—I have been living in this County about sixteen years—When I was in Sinclair's company, Robert Glover, John Cleveland, John McKinney, Peter Lynch and myself were in the same mess—I do not know that any person who served with me during the revolution is now living or if living, I know not where they reside—I presume my name must be upon the pay Roll—

And further I declare that I was not, on the 1st day of May 1820 or any time before or since on the Pension List of the United States. Witness my hand and seal this 17th day of July in the year 1832.

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[Abraham Childers, Charles Fugate & Nathan Noble gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Andrew Harwell makes the following additional statement on oath before the Judge of the Perry Circuit Court on the 17th day of October 1832 and states that he does not know the date he was born, but he remembers very well when Independence was declared in 1776 and thinks he was then about 20 years old. He from the best information which he has on the subject of his age thinks that he is now about 76 years old. He was born in Scotland and came to America when a boy-no parents were with him and he lived with Col. David Mason in Sussex County Virginia, generally, but occasionally with Mason's son in law Jordon Richardson. Col Mason used to send him to Williams—after his letters & newspapers until Mason went into the service when the petitioner went with him as a private. He is not by any means certain that he entered service in 1776 or '77—he was under Lieutenant Mayberry for several months before he joined the main army near New York. On the way towards the main army the men of the Col Mason were inoculated for the Small pox at Dumfries—After the dispersion of Col. Bluford's Regiment as stated heretofore, this petitioner went out or enlisted as a volunteer under Capt. White in the North Carolina Militia he thinks in April 1781 and served under him as Capt all the time & Butler as General for a part of the time & Genl Rutherford for the balance of the time. He was marched to Wilmington as stated and discharged some time he thinks in December 1781 his discharge he kept for some years but finally lost or destroyed it. He thinks he was out at least seven months and was mostly engaged in watching the Tories & keeping them in check. This petitioner lived in Caswell County when he enlisted under Capt White—he also lived in said County when he enlisted under Capt John Douglas in the North Carolina Militia he thinks about the 1st of August 1782—he knows the weather was very hot. He was under Col Williams, Col. Wm. Campbell, Col. Jas. Dysart [James Dysart] or Daisy and Col. Isaac Shelby at different times and was for a great portion of his time with Douglas's Company engaged in keeping the Tories in check. He was at the battle of King's Mountain as before stated—there is a mistake in his original declaration in stating he was discharged at Salem—he was discharged on his return to Caswell County in the fall of the year. He thinks he served about three months under Capt Douglas. He had a discharge from Capt. Douglas but lost it long since. He has no record of his age and never saw one. From Caswell

County (where he married) he removed to Washington County Virginia, from there to Russell County and from the latter place to Perry County, Kentucky where he has resided the last 12 or 15 years. He is known to Daniel Duff a clergyman & Alexander Patrick Esq. and many others of his neighbors.

He hereby relinquishes all and every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Andrew Harwell

We Daniel Duff a clergyman & Alexander Patrick Esq both residing in Perry county, do certify that we are well acquainted with Andrew Harwell who has signed and sworn to this foregoing declaration. That we believe him to be 76 years of age and we say he is a man of Truth and respect in the neighborhood and reputed and believed to have been a soldier in the revolution and we concur in that opinion sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Daniel Duff
S/ Alexander Patrick

And the said Court declared their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories as prescribed by the war department, that the above named applicant, Andrew Harwell was a soldier of the revolution and served as he states. And the said Court further certifies that it appears satisfactorily that Daniel Duff is a clergyman residing in Perry County and Alexander Patrick Esq. residing in said county is a credible person & that their statement is entitled to credit.

State of Kentucky Perry County

I Jesse Combs clerk of the Circuit Court of the County aforesaid, do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of Andrew Harwell for a pension. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and private seal (there being no seal of office) this 17th day of October 1832.

S/ Jesse Combs

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia.]