Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Harris S4308

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 March 2012.

State of Tennessee }

Gibson County } Circuit Court. October Term 1832

On this 23rd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court {now sitting} the Circuit Court for the aforesaid County & State it being a Court of Record having a Clerk, Thomas Harris a resident of said County & State aged Seventy eight 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 7th June 1832. That he was borne in the State of Pensylvania in the year 1754 on the 16th day of February he states that he has no record of his age having lost it long since—

He states that in his infancy his Father removed to the State of North Carolina & settled in the County of Mecklinburgh [sic: Mecklenburg] That he entered the service of the United States during the war of the revolution under General [Griffith] Rutherford. Charles Polk was his Captain on an expedition against the Cherokee Indians That he served the whole campaign and was in actual service some thing more than three months.

That soon after his return Home from Rutherfords Campaign he entered the service under Captain Hardin and marched to South Carolina & encampted at Camden, and that he served three months in this Campaign.

That soon after his return he entered the service under Captain Berryhill in Pensylvania {having in the mean time returned & married in Pennsylvania} and was a short time in service but does not now recollect how long.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court the day & year above written

Thomas hisXmark Harris

State of Tennessee } County Court

Gibson County } September Sessions 1833

On this 17th day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court, now sitting for the County of Gibson and State of Tennessee it being a court of record having a Clerk Thomas Harris and offers this declaration as an amendment to his declaration for a pension under the act of Congress of 7th June 1832 which declaration was made at the October Term of the Circuit Court of this county in the year 1832. who after being duly sworn in manner & form as prescribed by the war department, Deposeth and saith as follows

That he entered the Service of the united states as a private in the month of august 1775 the first tour, and serrved Three months against the Cherokee Indians under the Command of General Rutherford and Captain Charles Polk and that in the year 1776 he entered the Service again under the Command of General Rutherford and Captain Hardin and marched to South Carolina and served a three months tour against the British. Both of which tours he served as a private and as a volunteer both tours – and as for the third tour mentioned in his former declaration he relinquishes any claim to a pension on that account as he cannot say how long he served with precision and in consequence of which he makes this relinquishment. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 17th day of September 1833

Thos his Xmark Harris

The following are the Interogatories propounded to the applicant for a pension on account of his services as a soldier of the revolutionary war

1st. Where & in what year was you born

Answer in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1754.

2nd. have you any record of your age

answer I have none the same having been lost many years sinc & my understanding or eveden of my age is from what my parents always told me.

3rd where were you living when called into serves were you drafted did you volunteer or wer you a substitute

Answer I was living in the state of North Carolina Mecklenburg County and was a Volunteer both tours 4th State the names of some of the officers who were with the troops wher you served Answer. Colonel Thomas Polk and Genteral Ramsey.

 5^{th} State some persons in your Neighbourhood who can testify as to your Charracter for Veracity & revolutionary serveces

answer. William Cribbs and George Little

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it

Answerl from General Rutherford. But have lost it.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops wher you served Answer I do not recollect I think they were all Malitia when I served Sworn to & subscribed in open Court

Thos. hisXmark Harris

On this 19th day of March in the year of our Lord one Thousand eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of pleas & quarter session in and for the County of Gibson & State of Tennessee now sitting being a Court of record having a clerk Thomas Harris a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged Eighty years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of congress passed the 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the untied states under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He Volunteered in the Regiment of the North Carolina Volunteers or line Commanded by General Rutherford under Captain Charles Polk and William Ramsey, that he entered the service at McLinburg County in the State of North Carolina in the year 1775 and march out against the Cheroke Indians in said State or its Territory and served a tour fo three months against said Cheroke Indians under the Command of the officers specafied or mentioned above and at the expuration of the three months was march home from whence he stated

That in the year 1776 there was a Call from South Carolina upon North Carolina for Soldiers to defend Charlestown in South Carolina in the said year 1776. he entered the [one or two illegible words] McLenburg County in the State of Norht Carolina under the command of General Rutherford Captain Hardin and Lieutent James Holland as a Volunteer and march to Camden in the State of South Carolina and there continued for three months from the date of entering the Service awaiting the approach of the British but after remaining and seving a three months tower was discharged and returned home and that he moved from North Carolina to the State of Pyslvanie during the war to Cumberland County and in the year not recollected he entered the service of the united states as a volunteer under Captan Beryhill and was marched out to reliev a fort then beseiged by the Indians in the frontiers on Juniatta [sic: Juniata] River and served as near as he can recollect about one month and returned home. he states that he believes he had a discharge. But if he had he has lost it by the ravages of time. he states that he has no documentary evidence of his service whereby he can Identify his services and that he nows of no person by whom he can prove his services pairticly and the said Thomas Harris stats that he was born in the year 1754 from information given him by his parents in the County of Cumberland in the State of Pensylvania. he was living in McLinburg County North Carolina when he first entered the service and from Cumberland County Pennsylvania he removed to the State of Georgia Green County & lived there about 20 years from there to Hardin County Tennessee and from there to Gibson County Tennessee where he

now lives that he is acquanted in his Neighbourhood with George W. Little, William Patton who can Testify as to his verioracity and charracter and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or anuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. and has not compromised or received any pay whatever – Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the year and date aforesaid

Thomas hisXmark Harrison [sic]

NOTE: Gilbert Gribbs of Gibson County TN stated that his father had served a tour with Harris.