

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Hurley S7053

f38NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 7]

State of North Carolina Montgomery County: Joshua Hurley Declaration

As taken before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions held for the County aforesaid in the Town of Lawrence fell April term A.D. 1834

On this 8th day of April in the year A.D. 1834 personally appeared in open court Joshua Hurley, Before us Hardy Morgan, L. Harris and A. Graham Justices of the peace, holding said Court and who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration [p 8] in order to obtain the Benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated (to wit) he entered the service a volunteer for six months, in the State Light Horse under the command of Major James Crump, of the narrows of the Yadkin [River], in the County & State aforesaid, and swears that he believes that he entered the service in February 1780,¹ and served with himself & horse punctually for the full term of said six months, which commenced in the said Montgomery County from thence we marched through the Counties of Moore, Randolph, Chatham & said Montgomery in pursuit, and search of Tories, and the British, and we had one skirmish with the notorious Fannen [David Fanning], & his band of Tories, at a place called Ramsour's Mills [sic]², on Deep River, North Carolina and where we killed from 10 to 12 of his men & took others wounded & prisoners together with a great many of their guns, their baggage and a variety of property, which they had plundered from the people (Major James Crump in the campaign acted as Captain).

2nd And the said Joshua Hurley doth hereby further continue his Declaration for one other Tour, in the service of the United States, a substitute in the place of Joseph Hurley, under the command of Captain Joseph Parsons, who commanded a company of Light Horse, of whom the said Joshua Hurley do further swear that I was one and served punctually for three months commencing in the County aforesaid in the month of August A.D. 1780 [p 5 out of sequence] and ended November A.D. 1780 and nothing very material was done in this Tour, more than we marched through & scoured the Counties of Randolph, Moore and Montgomery in search of the enemy & Tories, and was in but one small skirmish in this campaign and that was with a small

¹ This date is unlikely to be correct as Col. David Fanning and his band of Tory followers were not active until after the fall of Charleston in May 1780. It is more likely that the veteran is referring to services rendered in 1781.

² Ramsour's mill is not located on Deep River. It is possible that the veteran intended to refer to Ramsey's mill which is on Deep River, but the action he describes between the patriot troops and the loyalists under David Fanning does not match any action with which I am currently familiar.

company of the Tories which took place at the Widow Spencer's on the head of the waters of Little River in Montgomery County North Carolina but nothing was done in this engagement beyond that of a fire on our part, & dispersion on their part.

3rd And the said Joshua Hurley doth also further continue his Declaration, for one other Tour of three months Service in the revolution a drafted militia man under Captain Etheldred Harris, Major West Harris and Colonel William Loftin all of whom marched together with the said Joshua Hurley to Wilmington North Carolina, and the said Joshua Hurley doth also continued to swear that he served this three months Tour punctually, and believes that he entered the service and served in it the fall season of A.D. 1781 at any rate he served this tour about the time that Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] surrendered at Little York, and the reason why the said Joshua Hurley thinks so is that he was marched from Montgomery County North Carolina by the way of Drowning Creek, Rockfish, Waddle's ferry on the Cape Fear River, Black River, in the Long Bridge across the North East River near said Wilmington where we remained until the British had left said town and when Don [done] we marched then into the Town of said Wilmington & received his Discharge [p 13, out of sequence] and returned home. That he has since lost it, and upon his oath already taken, he continues to say that he has not only lost his Discharge for his last mentioned Tour, But that he has also lost both the Discharges he obtained for his 2 first above mentioned Tours, therefore he thinks that perhaps he might be something mistaken as to the date of the recites time that he entered the service of either of the above-mentioned 3 Tours, but at any rate he believes that the time set forth in this his Declaration is the true time, But having lost all 3 of his Discharges & having no other record except that of memory, which may have become treacherous through length of time & old age – But at any rate he declares upon his oath already taken, that he did serve as he has above stated (in the Revolutionary War) and that he knows of no other way to prove the facts, But by his own oath; except the proof he will make by the accompanying affidavits.

And the said Joshua Hurley, hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency in any State, or Territory within the United States.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Sworn to in open Court this January 1834

S/ J. Martin, Clk

S/ Joshua Hurley



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Interrogatories put by the court, to the said Joshua Hurley the present applicant for a pension, on account of service rendered in the militia, State troops or Volunteers

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the State of Maryland, Prince George County, brought to North Carolina, Anson County when young and was born 20th day of May A.D. 1762

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer. None at all, beyond the information of my parents.

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

Answer. I lived in Montgomery County State of North Carolina when called into service, I have

lived in the same place ever since, and lives at the same place now.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I first volunteered for 6 months in the State troops light horse, under the command of Major James Crump, who acted then as Captain, and in my 2nd Tour, I substituted myself for 3 months, again in the State Troops light Horse, in the place of Joseph Hurley under the command of Captain Joseph Parsons. And in my 3rd Tour, I was drafted for 3 months, under the command of Captain Etheldred Harris (and served this tour in the foot).

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, [p 10] Also such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer 5th Generals Rutherford & Butler & Colonel William Loftin and Major West Harris all of which marched the troops I was with to Wilmington North Carolina In my Tour of six months (first in the Light Horse) there was no higher graded officer in that campaign and the above named Colonel William Loftin. In my second Tour in the Light Course which was for three months only there was not a higher graded officer in the Captain whose name was Joseph Parsons, his Lieutenant was by the name of Thomas Cotton & his Ensign was by the name of James Cotton and so far as respects both Continental & Militia Regiments, I have but a faint recollection of how they stood in grade; But at any rate I was a militia Soldier & served as such in all the campaigns, where I done Duty. As to the general Circumstances of my service I done my Duty punctually every day, in all 3 of the campaigns where I belonged. Being at all times both able, & dwelling.

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

Answer. My first Discharge for my first Tour of six months in the state Troops Light Horse was given by my Captain James Crump; my second Discharge for my second Tour in the State troop Light Horse, a substitute for three months [p 11] in the place of Joseph Hurley was given by my Captain Joseph Parsons. My 3rd & last Discharge was given in Wilmington North Carolina by my Colonel William Loftin and as to what has become of it each & every one of my Discharges I cannot account for it, but at any rate I obtained and had all 3 of them, brought them home & put, and kept them amongst my papers for many years, but to my great surprise, in looking over my papers, I cannot find either of them now.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer. Benjamin Bell, Captain Joseph Parsons of the Revolution and Thomas Hardister, together with the names of William Harris, Littleton Harris Esquire, Colonel John Crump and the Honorable Edmond Debery

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State of North Carolina Montgomery County November 28 1833

This day appeared before me Daniel McAuley one of the acting Justices of said County Joseph Parsons³ Esquire after being duly sworn saith that the within Joshua Hurley entered the service as substitute for Joseph Hurley in the month of August 1780 or shortly after as a private of militia of the United States and served under me a tower [tour] as he stated in his declaration.

³ [Joseph Parsons W4047](#)

Sworn and subscribed before me Dal. McAuley the 28th of November 1833

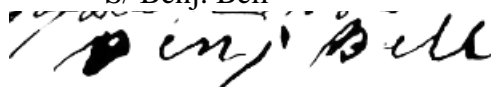


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State of North Carolina Montgomery County

This day personally appeared before me Hardy Morgan one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Benjamin Bell,⁴ who being first duly sworn saith on his oath, that he was personally knowing to the services of Joshua Hurley in the revolutionary war. In that part of his service rendered under Captain Etheldred Harris who commanded himself and the said Joshua Hurley from the County of Montgomery to the Town of Wilmington North Carolina and further he saith upon his oath that he himself & the said Joshua entered the service in the year 1781 in the month of September and ended that service in the following November or December and that the said Joshua Hurley served this Tour 3 months punctually. Sworn to and subscribed this 6th day of December 1833.

Attest S/ Hardy Morgan, JP

S/ Benj. Bell


[p 15: Littleton Harris and [illegible name and signature] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina Montgomery County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions January Term 1836

Joshua Hurley Senior of the County and State aforesaid personally came into open Court and on oath made the following affidavit by way of an amendment to his former Declaration for a pension (the payment of which has been suspended for want of better proof of service) under the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That so far as the objection raised against him at the pension office of the United States, respecting his service for six months under the command of Major James Crump and charging this service to be a patrol Service, says upon his oath that the charge is untrue and that he served the full term of the six months set forth in his former Declaration by marching and scouring both the Counties of Montgomery, Randolph, Moore, Guilford and Ensign under the command of the said Major James Crump and in all that time, that he was engaged in the service of the United States, to his own entire loss of business for himself – and was during the whole 12 months of that service set forth in his former Declaration and was generally kept from home Except a few times, and then on parole, no time was longer than 2 or 3 days at a time.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 6th day of January A.D. 1836

S/ Joshua Hurley

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State of North Carolina Montgomery County: This day personally appeared before me Hardy Morgan Esquire one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Thomas

⁴ [Benjamin Bell W3925](#)

Hardister late of said County and made oath upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God that he himself was personally acquainted with Joshua Hurley whose name appears to the accompanying Declaration in the time of the Revolutionary war and was well knowing to said Joshua Hurley's serving of a 6 month tour in the State Troop Light Horse in the revolutionary war under Major James Crump of the Narrows of the Yadkin River in the County & State aforesaid, and he also swears upon his oath already taken that he himself was a soldier at the same time under the said Crump and that they were together in a Battle at Ramsour's Mills on Deep River North Carolina against Fanning & his men and that he believes that the said Joshua Hurley & himself entered the Army in February 1780 and further this Deponent saith not. Sworn to and subscribed this 20th day of December 1833.

Attest: S/ H. Morgan, JP

S/ Thomas Hardister, X his mark

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State of North Carolina Montgomery County

Personally appeared before me this day Joseph Parsons Esquire of Montgomery North Carolina and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joshua Hurley during the whole time of the Revolutionary War and resided about 5 miles from him and that he never heard nor never heard of his being in the British or Tory service or of his rendering them any assistance during the war of the Revolution But that he knew him to be in the militia service of the country in defending the country against the enemy. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of July 1835.

S/ Jo. Parsons

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service in the Cavalry and 3 months service in the Infantry, all as a private in the North Carolina militia.]