

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Harmon (Harman) Hopper W252 Sarah Hopper f48NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/7/09 rev'd 1/11/16

[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.]

[p 9]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County: SS

On this 17th day of September in the year of our Lord 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for Claiborne County, and the State of Tennessee (the same being a Court of Record and possessing the power of fine and imprisonment) now sitting, Harman Hopper a resident of Claiborne County in the State of Tennessee, aged Seventy-three 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 the 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That in the early part of the year 1781, he entered the service of the United States of America (he thinks it was the month of February) in the County of Caswell in the State of North Carolina -- as a volunteer in the militia service; for three months -- he entered the service under Capt. Cole [Josiah Cole], in whose Company he served during the three months -- Jeremiah Samuel Lieut. the names of his other Company officers, he cannot recollect, by reason of his age and of frailness of his memory -- he states that the Regiment in which he served and to which he was attached was commanded by Col. More [William Moore] -- and Major Donahoo [Thomas Donoho]. From Caswell Court house he was marched to Hillsboro, a distance of about eighteen miles, from Hillsboro he was marched immediately after the enemy, up to the high rock Ford upon Haw River, from thence he was marched to a Creek called the Alamantz [Alamance] -- where he was taken sick, and was permitted to go home upon furlough, he was absent about one week, when he again joined the Army at the encampment in Guilford County, after the battle, commonly known as the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], which was fought while he was sick and on furlough, and about five days, after rejoining the Army he was honorably discharged, at the encampment of the Army in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina -- And received his discharge in writing from his Capt. Josiah Cole -- which he has lost many years ago. During this three months service, he knew Col. Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] & Col. Washington [William Washington] served under their command, and, with their regular forces, he also frequently during this three months service saw General Greene [Nathanael Greene] -- he states that by reason of his age and of frailness of his memory, he does not recollect the names of any other regular officers -- or the number of any of the Regiments with which he served during this three months tour.

He further states that afterwards in the month of July as he verily believes the day of the month he cannot recollect, in the year 1781, at Caswell Court house in the State of North Carolina he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the militia service of the United States under Capt. Dickinson [Nathaniel Dickerson], he cannot by reason of his age and loss of memory remember the names of any others of his Company & field officers, then Capt. Dickinson, Col. Moore the same who commanded in his first service and Major Mahene [Robert Mebane?] -- General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and General Butler [John Butler] Commanded. He states that he was marched from Caswell Court house to Lindley's Mills [September 13, 1781]¹ upon a Creek called Alamance in Orange County in the State of North Carolina, where a battle was fought by the American forces, on one side and the Tories upon the other side, which resulted in the defeat of the Tories -- in this battle, this declarant was engaged upon the side of the American forces -- he was marched immediately in pursuit of the defeated and retreating Tories but was unable to come up with them -- he was marched to Fayetteville in North Carolina, where the Army or forces were encamped near Fayetteville on the opposite side of the River for about three weeks -- From Fayetteville he was marched down to near a place called the called Raft Swamps [October 15, 1781],² where the Army had a small engagement with some Tories -- where of few of the Tories were killed, and the balance made their escape -- On the part of the Americans one man was wounded. From this place, we were marched to the bridge near Wilmington on Neuse River [sic, Cape Fear River?]- where this declarant remained with the Army during the balance of his three months and two weeks over -- and after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Little York [October 19, 1781], he with the balance of the forces were discharged. He received an honorable discharge from his Capt. Dickinson, in writing which he lost many years since. During this tour of duty, he did not serve, with any of the Continental Regiments or Officers. The whole force with which he served or was associated during this three months tour, was the militia of North Carolina. He states that he cannot, with much certainty remember the months that he entered the service, he has stated them from his best recollection own -- and he cannot recollect the dates of the month. He states that he was born in Fauquier County in the State of Virginia in the month of April 1760. That he has no record of his age. That at the time he entered the service, he resided in Caswell County in the State of North Carolina, that immediately after the Close of the Revolutionary War he moved from Caswell County in North Carolina to Haw River Orange County in the same State, where he resided about ten years, then he moved to Claiborne County Tennessee -- where he has since and at present resides. Declarant states that it is impossible for him to produce his discharges as they are lost. He has no documentary evidence to prove his services herein set forth. He knows of no person by whom he can prove any portion of the above services except John Murphey.³ He would state the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his Services as a soldier of the Revolution -- Col. Jonathan Powell, John Rick, Elijah Harp & Rev. Wm Williams.

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.

S/ Harman Hopper, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed this 17th day of September 1833

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_lindleys_mill.html

² http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_raft_swamp.html

³ [John Murphey W1460](#)

[Joseph Neel, a clergyman, and William Hooper gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Tennessee Claiborne County: SS

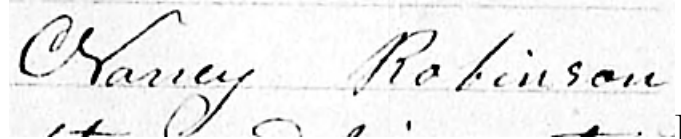
On this 17th day of September in the year 1833, personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Claiborne in Tennessee Mary Ann Neil, residing in said County, aged Seventy Seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Certificate - That in the revolutionary war she resided [and] Caswell County North Carolina, that she was well acquainted with Harman Hopper who has subscribed & sworn to the accompanying declaration for a pension, that early in the year 1781 the said Harman Hopper entered the service of the United States in said County of Caswell North Carolina for the term of three months, and he left there with the troops and was absent three months at the end of which time he returned - That said Harman Hopper again entered the service on another three months tour and was absent for that length of time, at the expiration of which he returned home - that she is still well acquainted with said Harman Hopper and resides in the same County.

S/ Mary Ann Neil, X her mark

[p 5: On August 29, 1845 in Claiborne County Tennessee, Sarah Hopper, aged 82, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act; she describes herself as the widow of Harman Hopper [sic], a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him August 30th, 1783; that her husband died February 28, 1844 and she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 30: On October 16, 1848 in Claiborne County Tennessee, Jesse Harper, 61, gave testimony that he is the 2nd child of Harman Hopper and Sarah Hopper; that he has often seen his father's family record and that he has copied that record; that his father's record was in the handwriting of Thomas Coal [sic, Thomas Cole?]; That the original record has since been destroyed; that according to the record as copied by the affiant the affiant was born October 18, 1787; that the affiant has an older sister (not named) who according to the family record was born March 16, 1785. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 4: On September 8, 1855, Nancy Robinson, daughter and heir at law of Harmon Hopper, wrote a letter to the Commissioner of pensions describing herself as the daughter of Harmon Hopper, a revolutionary war pensioner; she states that her mother (not named) has died and that the agent representing both her father and mother in receiving their pension has left the country without giving Nancy information as to what was to be done in the respective pension cases.



Nancy Robinson

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.55 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private for 6 months and 14 days in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]