

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Hudnall W25806

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 Dec 2010.

State of Virginia }

Bedford County } SS

On this 28th day of March 1833. personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the County Court of Bedford now sitting John Hudnall, a resident of Russell parish in the County of Bedford & State of Virginia aged 69 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 of June 1832: That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated. That he was drafted into the service the service of the United States from the militia of Bedford County Virginia about the 1st of June or last of May in the year of 1780. after drawing his lot No. 1 and served a short tour of six weeks in guarding some Tories and a magazine at the town of New London, then in Bedford but now in Campbell County Va. He cannot recollect who his officers were, except Maj. Nathan Reid of the regular army (he believes) was there & one Cottrell was Captain. There was only one company of Militia at that place to guard the Tories & the magazine. No continental or militia regiments or companies. no regular officers except Maj. Reid, who he believes was stationed there recruiting. He left the service some time in July 1780. He was discharged by Capt. Cottrell, but if he got a written discharge, does not now recollect it. Has no documentary evidence of this tour.

Again in January (the precise time he cannot recollect) 1781, he was drafted into the service of the United States from the militia of Bedford County Va. & served at least three months. The men with whom he marched rendezvoused at New London, then in Bedford, now in Campbell Co Va. about the 15th January 1781. & marched from thence thro' Prince Edward Dinwiddie & Petersburg to Cabbin point a little below the last mentioned place [sic: Cabin Point in Surry County], under the command of John Trigg, Captain, William Hudnall Lieutenant, & one Cummings perhaps ensign. At Cabbin Point they were placed, he thinks, under the command of Gen'l. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. After remaining at Cabbin Point for some time he was marched some distance to a place called McKey's Mills where the troops had a day of rejoicing on account of Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan's victory over the British, he thinks, at the Cowpens [in South Carolina, 17 Jan 1781]. He was then marched about to several places southeast of Petersburg under the same officers. He thinks at a place called Cobb's[?] old field the army was drawn up in line & volunteers invited out to go & watch the movements of the British, then in possession of Portsmouth & Norfolk Va. He was one of the number who volunteered on the occasion under his officers aforesaid & marched from thence to the lower part of Virginia some distance south east of Portsmouth to a place called Edmund's Hill near to a fort in which the British were stationed. His field officers in this volunteer expedition were Col. Merriweather [sic: Meriwether] & Maj DeCloman, a Frenchman [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman, a Dane]. On their march to this place a British picket guard by some French light horse & taken. At one time the American troops were drawn up in line of battle within cannon shot of the fort & offered a fight, but the enemy would not come out, tho' they fired a few shots. The troops then went back into quarters & kept up scouting parties until near the end of the tour. they suffered every kind of hardship. He marched across the Dismal Swamp, 8 or 10 miles on logs to Prince George court house Va. where he was discharged, by whom he cannot recollect, sometime in April 1781. If he got a written discharge, he does not recollect it. Has no documentary evidence of his services. There were no continental regiments or companies with the troops this tour, that he recollects. Does not recollect any regular officers, whom he knew in the service, except Gen'l. Muhlenburg, Col Merriweather, & Maj. Decloman were regulars. Col. Parker was with the troops & they were sometimes mustered by adjutant Saunders. He thinks he was attached to Col. Merriweather's regiment. There were militia

companies with the troops from various parts of Virginia. but he does not know their officers. Maj. McDowell, he thinks, commanded some troops from Augusta or Rockingham County.

Again sometime about the last of May or first of June 1781. he was drafted into the service of the United States from the militia of Bedford County Virg'a. & served at least seven weeks: In his former declaration he stated he served this tour at least "six weeks & as he believes more" – It is true, we were called on for a tour of "six weeks" – but when that time expired, he continued in service at least one week longer. This corresponds with William Lowry's present recollection & with the statements contained in his declaration, on which he has recently obtained a certificate of pension. He cannot recollect the names of . . . any of the officers with whom he marched into service except Capt Thomas Leftwich. His company rendezvoused at New London & march from thence thro' Buckingham & Cumberland Counties & crossed the James River at Jude's Ferry [17 miles above Richmond]. He did not march thro' Richmond, because it was reported the small pox was there; but continued on to Bottom's Bridge below Richmond [on Chickahominy River 10 miles east of Richmond], commanded by Gen'l. LaFayette & from there he marched to Mobbin's Hills [sic: Malvern Hill in Charles City County]. He thinks he was in Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens or [Robert] Lawson's Brigade. His other field officers were Col. Holt Richardson & Maj [John] Overstreet. The troops were marched about the country continually & sometimes thro' mud half leg deep in the lowlands of Chickahominy River. He was finally marched to New Castle on Pamunkey River, where he received a discharge sometime in July 1781 from Capt. Leftwich, but it was not written. Cannot recollect any of the continental regiments or companies with the troops this tour. Gen'l LaFayette, & perhaps Gen'l. Lawson, Col. Richardson & Maj Overstreet were regulars. Has no documentary evidence of his services. there were militia regiments & companies, but he cannot recollect their officers.

He refers to the affidavit of John Lowry [pension application S5698], who served with him – all three tours above mentioned – to establish his services – as well to the affidavits of Samuel Wilkes [sic: Samuel Wilks, R11553] & William Arthur [S6528].

In answer to interrogatories he states:

1- He was born in Goochland County Virginia the 22^d day of June 1763– 2nd - He has in his possession a copy of the record of his age, the original having been destroyed by fire– 3rd. He lived in Bedford County Virginia when called into service each time- Has lived there ever since, & now lives there– 4th. He was drafted into service as a militia man each time- 5th- This interrogatory has been answered to the best of his recollection in the body of his declaration- 6th- this interrogatory he has answered in like manner as the one next above- 7th- William Leftwich & John Leftwich are persons in his neighborhood, to whom he is known, & who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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. Jno. Hudnall

NOTE: On 30 April 1853 Frances M Hudnall, 63, applied for a pension stating that as Frances M. McGehee she was married to John Hudnall by William Leftwich in Bedford County on 7 March 1811, and that John Hudnall died 19 Oct 1844. On 25 April 1855 she applied for bounty land, giving her age as 66. The file includes an original family register transcribed as follows:

William Hudnall was married to Frances Smith Daughter of John Smith in the year of our Lord 1757. Wm Hudnall son of Thos. Hudnall & Winney his wife was born in april 1732

[Page torn here and elsewhere at *]a Hudnall was born [*] year of our Lord 1737. [*]june in October.

[*]nna Hudnall Daught [*] Hudnall & Frances [*] wife was born 13th Sep'r 1758

[*]aster Hudnall was born [*] September in the year of [*] Lord 1760.

[*]homas Hudnall[*]

Molley Hudnall Daughter of William Hudnall & Frances his wife was bon Dec'r 1st 1765

Joanna Hudnall was born 5th March 1758

Thomas Smith Hudnall was born 14th Jan'y. 1771

William Hudnall Jun'r was born 20th April 1773

Richard Hudnall [*] In the year of our Lord 22^d March [*]

Nancy Hudnall w[*] 18th January in [*] our L[*]

John Hudnall was married to Patty Newman Daughter of Nimrod Newman 14th Dec'r. 1793.

John Hudnall Married Frances Miles McGhee his 2^d Wife on the 7th day of March 1811.

& She was Born the 8th day of Feby 1789

C. Hudnall 2nd [*] was married to [*] Walker on wednesd[*] Oct'r 1824