Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Hughes W3818 Sarah fn33NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 6/18/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina County of Orange: SS

On this the 23rd day of November 1841, personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the Courts of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County, Sarah Hughes, a resident of the adjoining County of Caswell and the State aforesaid, aged 79 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1838 entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows."

That she is the widow of James Hughes who in the War of the Revolution served the United States as a private of Infantry, 8 1/2 months as she believes.

1. This Declarant sets forth that she has reason to believe & does believe that in the War of the Revolution, there was a draft for militia men to serve the United States a tour of 5 months: that said tour, as well as this declarant can learn commenced in the month of October 1778, and terminated sometime in the month of the following March. That the company to which her Deceased husband was attached was under the command of Captain Thompson – was part of the Tour under command of Colonel Lewis, Locke & Lytle.

In said Tour her deceased husband with the other troops went to Purrysburg on the Savannah River at Golphins & Black Swamp, Rutherford's camp. At the expiration of said five months tour, her deceased husband was discharged and returned home; that his discharge is now lost or mislaid, so that she cannot lay her hands on it. That in all of the aforesaid tour, this Declarant understands that her deceased husband, the aforesaid James Hughes was in a lawfully organize Corps and called into service by competent authority.

This tour is proven by the affiants James Turner¹ & John Dolley.²

2. This Declarant further setteth forth upon her said oath, that she has reason to believe and does believe that her Deceased husband, the aforesaid James Hughes, in the fall of 1781, was again drafted into the United States [Army], for a three months tour of duty, this draft took place this affiant learns in the month of September soon after Colonel Fanning [David Fanning] took the Town of Hillsboro – that the object of this draft was to rescue Governor Burke [Thomas Burke] and the troops that were made prisoners with him, as this Declarant learns. In this tour, said James Hughes was in Captain Hodges' Company all under command of Brigadier General Butler – were marched in pursuit of Colonel Fanning's forces to near Wilmington – and in this tour was in service as a private of Infantry from about the 15 day of September 1781 to the last of

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¹ James Turner W11573

² John Dolley S6802

December following – three months and a half.

In all of the aforesaid tour, this Declarant understands that her Deceased husband was in a legally organized Corps and called into service by the proper authorities. That she cannot find any discharge and supposes it to have been lost or misplaced, this Tour is proved by J. Dolly.

That her deceased Husband the aforesaid James Hughes, did serve the United States in the war of the Revolution, as she does believe in all eight months and a half as Private of Infantry, and for such service she claims a pension.

This affiant further declares that she lives near the Orange line, and that there is no magistrate living near to her in Caswell County, and that therefore it being more convenient to her, makes her Declaration before the Magistrate in Orange County.

She further declares that from old age and infirmity of body, cannot attend Court to make this Declaration.

She further declares that she was married to the aforesaid James Hughes, by John Walker Esquire sometime in the fall of the year 1789.

That she has a "family record" & it is as follows:

To wit:

Andrew Hughes was born 13th of June 1790 John Hughes was born 19 March 1792 Elizabeth hues was born 12 April 1794 Martha Hughes was born 30 November 1798 Samuel Hughes was born 31 June 1803 William Hughes was born 4th of February 1806.

The Declarant further states that the original "family record" is hereto annexed and is as it purports to be a true and genuine family record, and that she has taken the same from the "family Bible."

This Declarant further states, that her husband the aforesaid James Hughes, died in the year 1809.

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz. at the time above stated, the fall of 1789. Sworn and subscribed on the day & year above written before me.

S/ Sarah Hughes, X her Mark

[fn p. 29]

State of North Carolina County of Orange: SS

On this the 30th day of September 1841 came personally before the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County, John Dolley, a resident of said County aged eighty-seven years, an United States pensioner, who being first duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith as follows, to wit:

That as well as this deponent can now remember it was on or about the middle of the month of October before ashes defeat, there was a draft for militia men to serve the United States in the War of the Revolution, a five month tour of duty, when this deponent volunteered for, and served all said tour as private of Infantry. Thompson was Captain of the Company to which this affiant was attached and Lewis Colonel: they were part of the time under Colonel Locke & Colonel Lytle, from Hillsboro were marched to Salisbury thence to Charlotte in Mecklenburg County, – thence into South Carolina, where at Purrysburg, at the Two Sisters, at Galphin's, and thence to Black Swamp, where General Rutherford was encamped; thence to the Cheraw Hills,

where they were discharged by Colonel Lewis and return home: my five months expired, to the best of my remembrance when at Cheraw Hills, in South Carolina. In all of the aforesaid tour this deponent remembers that James Hughes Deceased of the aforesaid County, was a private of Infantry in said Thompson's Company, and served all of said five months, as private, aforesaid. This deponent was well acquainted with said James Hughes they lived in the same neighborhood and [word written over and illegible] in the same Company.

2. That this deponent further sets forth upon his said oath that, on or about the middle of September, after the Guilford battle (1781) there was a draft for three months militia men, to serve the United States in said war of the Revolution. The object of this draft was to rescue the Governor (Burke) and the troops that had been made prisoners, a few days previous, by Colonel Fanning, when he surprised, and captured the Town of Hillsboro.

Hodge was Captain of the Company to which this affiant was attached; rendezvoused in the Town of Hillsboro; on or about the 15th of September 1781, General Butler was our superior officer. We pursued the Tory Army to near the Town of Wilmington, was in the engagement at Graph Swamp – was stationed a while at Swan's plantation; at Little River Bridge; and at North East [River]; and returned to the Town of Hillsboro, to the best of this affiant's recollection, on or about the last day of December following, and was duly discharged, and returned home, in all of the aforesaid tour, this affiant remembers that the aforesaid James Hughes, as private of Infantry served in the said tour, three months and a half.

This affiant further states upon his said oath that, in said war of the Revolution, he served other tours of duty as private of Infantry – but has no recollection of serving with James Hughes, except in the two tours above mentioned, amounting in all to eight months and a half.

This deponent further states that he has always understood that the aforesaid James Hughes, some 6 or 7 years after the close of the Revolutionary War was lawfully married to Sarah Patton and that as man and wife they lived together till the death of the aforesaid James Hughes, and that the said Sarah has not married since the decease of her husband, the aforesaid James Hughes, but still remains his widow.

Sworn and subscribed the day and date first above written before me S/ Thomas Jones, JP S/ John Dolley, X his mark

[fn p. 12]

State of North Carolina Orange County: SS

On this the 19th day of August 1841, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County, James Turner, a resident of said County aged 78 years (a pensioner) who being first duly qualified maketh oath that in the fall of 1778 there was a draft for 5 months tour of duty in the militia, in the war of the Revolution.

Joseph Young was Captain, William Rogers Lieutenant, Samuel Nelson Ensign — rendezvoused in the Town of Hillsboro in the aforesaid County, was marched to Rutherford's camp near Salisbury — and were there put under command of Rutherford & Colonel Francis Locke. From this place were marched to Charlotte — thence marched to the "10 mile house", thence to Purrysburg on the Savannah River, — thence to the "two Sisters" — thence up the River opposite to "Brier Creek," and assisted General Ashe's men after the defeat in landing,

thence to the "Black Swamp" where General Lincoln was encamped – here our five months tour expired and we returned home.

In the foregoing named tour this deponent remembers, that James Hughes of the aforesaid County, now deceased was a private soldier in all of the aforesaid five months tour,

and further this deponent saith not.

Sworn and subscribed the day & date just above written before me

S/ Thomas Jones, JP

James Turner James hurner

[fn p. 31]

State of North Carolina Orange County: SS

On this the 30th day of September 1841 personally appeared before the undersigned one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County, John Hughes, a resident Citizen of the County of Caswell aged 75 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, state if that, he is the junior brother of James Hughes Deceased whose widow Sarah is now applying for a pension.

This affiant remembers very well that in the war of the Revolution, his brother, the aforesaid James Hughes, as a private Soldier did serve the United States: but this affiant did not serve any in said war, and understanding that in consequence of his not serving himself, his evidence of his brother's service will not be admissible and therefore does not specify his recollection of his brother's revolutionary services.

This affiant further states upon his said oath that, he was present and saw his said brother married to Sarah Patton, sometime in the month of October in the year 1789 that the rights of matrimony were solemnized at the time aforesaid, between his brother James Hughes and the aforesaid Sarah, by John Walker Esquire.

That said James and Sarah from the date aforesaid lived together as man and wife aforesaid James Hughes, who died in the year 1809.

And this affiant further states, that said Sarah Hughes has not married since the death of her husband the aforesaid James Hughes, but still remains his widow, and further this Deponent sayeth not.

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Sworn & subscribed the day & date first above written before me S/ Thomas Jones, JP S/ John Hughes

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[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$28.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]