Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Hatfield W5 Rachel Hatfield Transcribed by Will Graves

f74VA 3/1/14

[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.]

State of Tennessee Campbell County: SS

On this 21st day of October 1843 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County and State aforesaid Mrs. Rachel Hatfield a resident of said County aged Eighty years who first being 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 July 4th, 1836 and the Joint Resolution of July 7th 1838. That she is the widow of Joseph Hatfield who was a private and an Indian Spy in the Virginia Militia in the War of the Revolution. That her husband the aforesaid Joseph Hatfield entered the service in the County of Russell in the State of Virginia under Colonel Chrisman [probably William Christian] and served to Campaigns of six months each the names of his Captains she has forgotten. This service took place before her marriage. She was married to her Husband the said Joseph Hatfield on the 28th of October 1779 by L. Wolez [?] Esqr. After the marriage her husband was called out to defend the frontier and was marched in the service under Captain Thompson at a place called the New Gardain [New Garden] in Russell County Virginia and was in the service from March until November with but little intermission in this Campaign he served as an Indian Spy. The next Campaign was under Captain Dickison and was marched to Blackmore's Fort, was in the capacity a part of his time at the Fort as an Indian Spy, the length of the time her husband was in this service she is unable to say, he was also under Captain Scott at different times and was considered one of the best woodsmen in the Western frontier.

She further declares that taking into count [account] the year her husband Joseph Hatfield served before the marriage and the time after the marriage it exceeded three years and at least one half of the time as an Indian Spy. She further declares that she has not kept a family record of the births of her Children owing to her husband being no scribe and she is a widow at this time and that her husband the aforesaid Joseph Hatfield departed this life August 26th 1832.

S/ Rachel Hatfield, X her mark

State of Tennessee Campbell County: SS

On this 21st day of October 1843 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace Mrs. Rachel Hatfield a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 80 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 March 3rd 1843 entitled

¹ Blackmore's Fort near present Fort Blackmore in Russell County, was built on the land of John Blackmore, who came from Fauquier County with his brother Joseph Blackmore.

an act granting one year's pay and pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of Joseph Hatfield who was a private and Indian Spy in the Virginia Militia in the war of the Revolution for services she refers to former or the above declaration. She further declares that she was married to the aforesaid Joseph Hatfield on the 28th of October 1779 prior to his leaving the service. That her husband the aforesaid Joseph Hatfield died on the 26th of August 1832 and that she is a widow at this time.

S/ Rachel Hatfield. X her mark

[p 7: In Scott County Tennessee on January 17, 1855, Rachel Hatfield filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Joseph Hatfield. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 26]

State of Tennessee County of Knox: SS

Be it known that on this the 4th day of April A.D. 1853, before the subscriber an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Mr. William Hansard aged ninety years past a resident of Morgan County Tennessee and made oath in due form of law that he was well acquainted with Joseph Hatfield who was a soldier in the War of the American Revolution in the militia of Virginia. Affiant further declares that said Joseph Hatfield served as a "spy" in the company of Captain Thompson two terms of three months each, one term of three months under Captain Scott, three tours of three months each under the command of Captain William Campbell and two tours of three months and several tours of from four to six weeks each under Captain Lyles and one tour of three months under Captain Sevier, all of which service was performed as an "Indian Spy" between the years A.D. 1778 and 1782. Affiant did not participate in said War but lived a close neighbor to the said Joseph Hatfield in Russell County Virginia and knew when all of the aforesaid tours of service were performed, and that said Joseph Hatfield was such an excellent "Indian Spy that he was always chosen by the officers in all their expeditions against the Indians. Affiant has a distinct recollection of the foregoing facts and further declares that Rachel Hatfield who is applying for an increase of Pension is the widow of the identical Joseph Hatfield referred to in the foregoing declaration.

S/ William Hansard

[p 27: Margaret Hansard,91, gave an affidavit substantially identical to that given by William Hansard.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum increased to \$80 per annum for her husband service in the Virginia service.]