

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Hawkins W8887 Rebecca Hawkins f38VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/3/14

[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 '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.]

State of Kentucky Franklin County Sgt.

On this 21st day December 1838 personally appeared before John McKee Esquire a Justice of the Peace for the County and State aforesaid Rebecca Hawkins a resident of said County and State aged seventy-six 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 provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 4 1836. That she is the widow of Reuben Hawkins deceased who was a soldier in the war of the revolution and has such enlisted for the term of two years in the County of Orange and State of Virginia under Captain Francis Taylor and in the Regiment of Colonel John Spotswood. She cannot state precisely at what time her husband enlisted, but she knows it was on the same day that Elijah Hawkins¹ deceased enlisted and for the same term, and that they belonged to the same company and Regiment – said Elisha was a pensioner of the United States till his death, which took place in November 1833, & resided in Franklin County & drew his pension at the agency in Lexington Kentucky; by reference to whose declaration the day of her deceased husband's enlistment will accurately appear. She knows that her husband was an officer during his revolutionary services, and that whilst he belonged to the Army he was occasionally engaged in the County of Orange & the surrounding counties as a recruiting officer, dressed in his regimentals; and that twice, if not oftener, he took his recruits on to the Army and again returned upon that business – She states that her husband was either an Ensign or Lieutenant for the whole term of his services, or at least from the day or two after his enlistment till he left the American Army. She states that her said husband served faithfully from the time of his enlistment until sometime in the winter after her marriage, but what time precisely she cannot now recollect. She further states that her said husband was in the County of Orange engaged as a recruiting officer at the time he addressed her, and that they were married by Parson Marin [?] of the Church of England in August 1778, but on what day of the month she cannot now certainly recollect. She states that her said husband Reuben Hawkins died in the month of August 1812. That she has no family record of her marriage, and knows of no record evidence of said marriage anywhere. She further states that she well recollects that in the fall after her said marriage with the said Reuben Hawkins and that he took on his recruits to the Army. That she went with him upon that occasion, as far as Fredericksburg Virginia & that during the ensuing winter he resigned and came home to Orange County where they resided. She does not know what has become of her said husband's discharge. She thinks it was lost by him during his

¹ [Elisha Hawkins S31103](#)

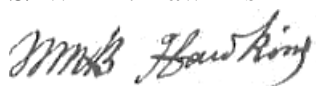
life. She has remained a widow ever since the death of her said husband, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written.

S/ Rebecca Hawkins, X her mark

The deposition of William B Hawkins of Franklin County Kentucky taken on the 21st day of December 1838 who being sworn upon oath states that he is the 2nd child of Rebecca Hawkins who has made the foregoing declaration and Reuben Hawkins deceased. That he will be fifty-eight years old on the 26th day of February next as he has always understood from his deceased father and mother, & of which he has no doubt. His father, Reuben Hawkins died in August 1812, and his mother, the said Rebecca Hawkins has remained a widow single and unmarried ever since said period. Sworn to & subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Wm B. Hawkins

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm B. Hawkins". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name.

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The deposition of Benjamin Edwards a resident of Franklin County Kentucky taken this 4th day of July 1839 to be used as evidence in favor the application of Mrs. Rebecca Hawkins widow of William Hawkins Deceased for a pension under the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836

This Deponent being seventy years old past Deposeth and saith that he is the Brother of the said Rebecca Hawkins and lived with her at his Father's Uriah Edwards' in the County of Spotsylvania Virginia at the time she was married to the said Reuben Hawkins which marriage took place in the latter part of the month of August in the year 1778 but what day of the month he does not now recollect. But he well recollects that at the time the said Hawkins and the company who went with him to the Parson's to see the marriage returned to his Father's that his Father was down at the Stills [sic] attending to the distillation of some peaches, His father not being pleased with the mach [match] [and] would not go to the Parsons to see his Daughter the said Rebecca married, At the time of said marriage and previous thereto and thereafter the said Hawkins was acting as a recruiting officer in the neighborhood and surrounding Country, The deponent well recollects some four or five weeks after the marriage of the said Hawkins that he marched off with the men he had thus recruited for the purpose of delivering them to the Army. How long the said Hawkins continued with the Army after taking off those recruits the deponent does not now recollect but thinks it was not more than one month, before he returned back to his wife who continued with her father during her husband's absence. And on his return he the said Hawkins informed his wife and the family that he had resigned his commission as a recruiting officer in the Army and further saith not.

S/ Benjamin Edwards, X his mark

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The deposition of John Hawkins aged eighty-two years taken at the house of William Hawkins in the County of Woodford on the 29th day of October 1838, who being first duly sworn, upon oath states, that he recollects distinctly that Reuben Hawkins deceased, whose widow Rebecca Hawkins now resides in Franklin County Kentucky enlisted in the war of the revolution for two years in the company of Captain Francis Taylor of Orange County Virginia.

He does not now recollect at what time said Hawkins enlisted, but he knows it was at an early stage of the revolutionary war, and he is certain that it was in the first company of regulars that was raised in Orange County – but he does not know whether he was in the Continental service or in the service of the State of Virginia. According to the best of deponent's recollection said Reuben Hawkins was a Sergeant from the commencement of his service; but he knows that some short time after he left Orange County with his company, that he returned to said company, dressed in regimentals, as a recruiting officer, but whether he held the office of Lieutenant or Ensign when he returned to Orange, deponent cannot now recollect though he is certain it was one or the other. He knows that said Hawkins was engaged as a recruiting officer in the Counties of Orange, Culpepper, Louisa and other counties in that part of Virginia for some time, and he recollects that he took his first recruits on to the Army, and again returned, and was engaged for some time in enlisting soldiers, and whilst thus engaged in collecting the 2nd parcel of recruits, he courted his wife, the said Rebecca Hawkins, and was married to her in the County of Spotsylvania Virginia at the house of the Parson, near [indecipherable word] Mr. Edwards' her father's. Deponent was present and saw them married, and knows it was during the war of the revolution, but at what time he cannot now recollect: He knows however that said Reuben Hawkins deceased was married in his regimentals, and whilst he was engaged as an officer in the recruiting service of the Country; but how long after his marriage, it was before said Reuben Hawkins left the Army he cannot recollect. He recollects that Elisha Hawkins deceased the brother of Reuben, enlisted at the same time and in the same company with Reuben, for two years, that he served out his term, and was a pensioner of the government till his death, which took place four or five years ago; and he is strongly impressed with the believes that when Elisha left the Army and returned home, that Reuben was still in the Army holding the commission of Ensign or Lieutenant. He does not know whether Reuben continued all the time he was in the Army, in the company of Captain Taylor, or not; for after he first left home in the service (when deponent saw him during his service) he was in Orange and the surrounding counties, engaged as a recruiting officer enlisting men, and taking them off to the Army. His recollection is now too frail to speak positively as to time or dates, but he thinks he is not mistaken in saying that said Reuben was engaged more than twelve months as a recruiting officer as aforesaid. Sworn and subscribed to before Bernard Gaines Esquire a justice of the peace for the County of Woodford and State of Kentucky the day and year first above written.

S/ John Hawkins, X his mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum (later increased to \$76.66 per annum) for her husband service as an Ensign for 6 months in the Virginia service.]