

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of David Humphreys W9047

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of South Carolina

Pickens District

On the second day of October one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court being the Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas for said District and a Court of Record Capt. David Humphreys a resident for many years in Pickens District aged Seventy Nine years in May last 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 June 7th 1832.

In May or June 1780 this Deponent living in Surry County North Carolina first entered the service of the United States as a commander of a Company of Drafted Militia was attached to the Regiment commanded by Col. George Alexander and joined Gen'l. [Griffith] Rutherford near Salisbury on their march toward South Carolina in which State on Lynch's Creek they were attached to General [Horatio] Gates [shortly before the Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] and after three months service returned to his home in North Carolina.

Shortly after he joined as the Captain of a Company of Volunteers Major John Armstrong a Regular officer with whom he hastened to the succour of Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] on his Retreat before Cornwallis [Feb 1781] and was discharged after being out about three months. Directly after he reached home he again called out his company on a tour of about one months service against the Tories, and was in a battle at the Shallow ford on the Yadkin under the command of Major [Joseph] Cloyd of Virginia.

In 1781 He was again out as a volunteer as a Captain of a Company of Militia under Col James Martin in pursuit principally from place to place of Tories &c and after a Tour of three months was discharged which discharge he finds amongst his papers and is hereto attached dated 19th Nov. 1781.

This Deponent was afterwards frequently engaged in Voluntary Service at the head of his Company in Scouting parties against the Tories for various terms sometimes for a few days and sometimes for a few weeks. This Deponent feels perfectly clear in declaring that his services thus rendered in addition to the ten months previously set forth would amount to at least two months more and twelve months in the whole.

This Deponent relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not to be found on the pension roll of the agency of any State
[signed] David Humphreys Sr

Camp at Rocky Point November 19 1781

Capt David Humphris From Surry County having Honourably and faithfully served this Present Three Months Tower of Duty in my Regiment is herby Discharged with his whole Company Consisting of Sixty five men by order of Brigadier General Rutherford Given under my hand the Day and year above written

Ja Martin Col

South Carolina } Personally came before me the subscribing Justice Isaac Vernon
Anderson District } and being sworn in due form of Law deposeth and saith that in
May 1780 he was placed as a volunteer in Capt. David Humphreys Company of Militia atached to
Col Geo Alexanders regiment that they rendezvoused at Richmond in Surry [now Yadkin]
County North Carolina whare they remained for some time waiting for Lead which was expected
from the Mines and which they ware to carry to Gen'l Rutherford that they Marched from that
place about the first of june joined Gen'l Rutherford at or near Sailsbury from thence Marched
for Camden in South Carolina joined Genl Gates on the way and was present at Gates defeat on
the 16th August 1780 — during all which time Capt Humphreys discharged his duty as a soldier
and as an officer was esteemed a good officer and a true friend to American Independence

Given under my hand this 29th Sept 1832
[See also Vernon's pension application S21549.]

[signed] Isaac Vernon

South Carolina } Personally came before me the subscribing Justice Wm. Prichard
Anderson District } and being sworn in due form of Law deposed and said that he was
placed as volunteer under the command Major John Armstrong and that Capt David Humphrey
was under the same Armstrong in Surry County North Carolina and General Green on their
retreat when Cornwallis was in pursuit of him through North Carolina which time he thinks to
the best of his recollection was three Month and continued with him till near the Battle of
Gilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], during all which time Capt David Humphrey
discharged his duty as a soldier and as an officer was esteemed a good officer and a true friend
to America Independence Given under my hand this 1st October 1832

William hisXmark Prichard

[See also pension application of William Pritchard R8492.]

NOTE: A Treasury-Department document shows that the widow of David Humphreys was given
his final pension payment up to the date of his death on 25 Feb 1839. On 29 Mar 1844 David
Humphreys, Jr., son and administrator of Martha Humphreys, applied for a pension for the
service of her late husband. With the application is an original family record as follows:

David Humphreys and wife Martha was Married 3^d day of April A.D. 1791

John T was born Feb'y 7th of 179[~~last digit illegible~~]

David his son was Born September 30th 1793

Elisabeth was born December 8 1797

Charles was Born February 8th 1800

Thomas Jefferson was Born March 30th 1802

Katherine was Born November 1st 1804

Martha was Born October 23^d. 1806

Sarah was born June 25 1809

Keturah Harriet was born January 29th 1813

Another document states that Martha Humphreys died on 28 Nov 1843, leaving the
following children: John T. Humphreys; David Humphreys; Charles W. Humphreys; Thomas J.
Humphreys; Martha, wife of Allen Elston; Sarah, wife of Leonard Towers, and Kitturah, wife of W.
C. Lee.