

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to James Jennings VAS365

vsl 16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/5/13

[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.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

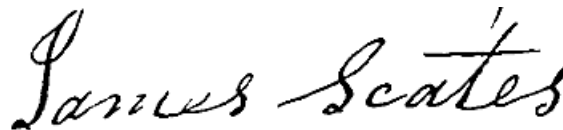
[p 1]

The affidavit of James Scates aged seventy-two years taken at the clerk's office of Westmoreland County the 23rd day of January 1840

This affiant being first duly sworn saith that when a boy he resided in the County of Richmond in the immediate neighborhood of the mother of James Jennings, that the said James Jennings, some five or six years (according to the best recollection of this affiant) before the close of the Revolutionary war left the neighborhood in which he resided, and as this affiant understood entered the service of the State of Virginia on board the ship *Dragon*. This affiant did not see the said James Jennings go on board the said ship, but it was the general understanding in the neighborhood and which this affiant has never doubted that, said Jennings did entered the service of the State on board said ship, and what impresses the circumstances more firmly on the mind of this affiant is the fact that the mother of said Jennings was greatly distressed at his leaving her onset service – this affiant believes that said Jennings remained in the Service of the State until the close of the war, at least he did not return home until about that time.

Further this affiant saith not.

S/ James Scates



[p 6]

The affidavit of John Davise [John Davis or John Davies?]¹ a Soldier of the Revolution taken before me [illegibly faint name] a justice of the Peace of the County of Westmoreland this [illegibly faint text] day of [illegibly faint text] 1834; and taken by way of question and answer so as to render it the more [illegibly faint text] and comprehensive

1st Question did you know James Jennings, formerly a resident of Richmond County, & State of Virginia?

Answer – just as well as I know myself.

2nd Question. Did you know that he was in the Revolutionary service; how long he stayed, under whom he served; and the general circumstances connected with that service?

Answer. I know that he was. He enlisted under Elisha Callender [Eleazer Callender] who

¹ FPA W19138

commanded the ship *Dragon*,² the exact year and month I do not recollect, but it was after the British forces had commenced hostilities against our country. He stayed of my own knowledge three years the time I served myself; and served with me in the same Ship *Dragon*, during that time. After enlisting at Fredericksburg, he the said Jennings, and all on board the *Dragon*, stayed in the Rappahannock River for perhaps upwards of a year; then we proceeded down that River, and went round on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, at a place called Cherry Stones; & there laid in harbor & then stretched over to Hampton Roads; cruising about and trying to defend the Country against the British Shipping; and after a good while, saw the enemy's ships coming in to take us; and had to run up the James River to Richmond; there we stayed until the British went out of Hampton roads; and then proceeded from Richmond, round to the Chickahominy River, with rigging & other things to fit out a new Brig there, for service to be called the *Jefferson*; and while there, the three years service of Jennings, myself and many others expired. After the war was over, I saw Jennings when he first arrived from the War. He ran to me, and hugged me; and after much conversation, said that he had enlisted again after the three years service with me on board the aforementioned Brig *Jefferson*; & soon after she went out, was taken by the British, and he had been confined by them for many years; perhaps he said 7 – and further affiant saith not as regards the service of the said Jennings.

3rd Question. You think it possible for you to go into Court and testify to these facts?

Answer – no, my strength, and infirmity forbid it.

4th Question. Has there ever been any objection made to your oath in any Court, in Consequence of your not being as white as many others?

Answer. Never. I have proved the service of one John Chilton³ in Court, several years sent; and no objection was then made, nor do I imagine can now be made, to invalidate my testimony; for in my own case, I had no testimony except my own oath, and am now drawing my pension. My mother was a white woman, and my father was a red man, not entirely white, something near my own color.

5th question. Are there any other soldiers who enlisted as did yourself, & James Jennings for the 3 years, as stated herein, on board the *Dragon*; and who served as you and the said Jennings did, corresponding in any respect to the services as stated above?

Answer. – I did know may, and the names that I shall now repeat, every man of them, whether living or dead, or wherever they may be, Served faithfully the 3 years as mentioned, up to the time we were discharged, at the Chickahominy Ship Yard, as before repeated; and whether any or all reenlisted on board the *Jefferson* Brig, built and fitted out at Chickahominy Ship Yard, I can't say; as I made off for home, before the Brig sailed. The names alluded to in the 5th question & answer, are as follows. Viz. Containing fifty-seven including officers

Elisha Callender Capt. 1 [Eleazer Callender]	1	Stephen Mackaway	15
Jno [?] Hamilton, 1 st Lieut. [John Hamilton?]	2	James McDaniel	16
Benjamin Rust [?] Lieut	3	Saml. Humphreys [Samuel Humphreys]	17
Richard Montague ⁴ Ditto	4	James Humphreys	18
James Tutt Ditto	5	Darby Hall	19
Charles Bennett –private	6	Ezekiel Tapscott	20

² See: <http://www.awiatsea.com/sn/VA/Dragon%20Virginia%20Navy%20Ship-Galley%20%5BCallender%20Markham%20Singleton%20Travis%20Chandler%20Joel%5D.html>

³ [John Chilton VAS248](#)

⁴ [Richard Montague R77](#)

John Toolick	7	John Tapscott	21
John Debuttenster	8	Iverson Nuttall	22
Peter Curyong	9	George Mahorn	23
Lawrence Giddeau	10	John Mahorn	24
Man Tyger	11	Joseph Ranger ⁵	25
Anthony Cracko	12	John Wood	26
Thomas Allen	13	Philip Wood	27
Ellick Hays [Elliott Hayes?] Boatm ⁿ [boatswain?]			

officers

Elisha Callender Capt. 1	Stephen Markaway 15
Jos. Hamerton 1st Lieut. 2	James W. Daniel 16
Benjamin East Lieut. 3	Lieut. Humphreys 17
Richard Montague 4	James Humphreys 18
James Smith 5	Darby Smith 19
Charles Bennett private 6	Ezekiel Tapscott 20
John Toolick 7	John Tapscott 21
John Debuttenster 8	Iverson Nuttall 22
Peter Curyong 9	George Mahorn 23
Lawrence Giddeau 10	John Mahorn 24
Man Tyger 11	Joseph Ranger 25
Anthony Cracko 12	John Wood 26
Thomas Allen 13	Philip Wood 27
Ellick Hays Boatman 14	

Thomas Wood	28	Nathaniel Neakins	43
Philip Bingham	29	William Neakins	44
James Reavis	30	William Haw	45
James Winder	31	John Lucas	46
Joseph Angel	32	Ambrose Lewis ⁶	47
Edney Coates	33	Charles Lewis	48
Rolly Coates	34	Isaac Fleetwood	49
Jesse Coates	35	John Laws	50
Thomas Coates	36	James Smith	51
Joshua Bowing	37	Allen Wilson Lieut	52
Wm Derham [William Durham?]	38	Woolen Smith Sail'g Master	53
Joshua Crowder	39	George Clendening [George Clendenin?]	54
Robert Crowder	40	Peter Vasey	55
Abm Sprigg	41	Philip Evans	56
James Neakins	42	Presley Pushaw	57

⁵ [Joseph Ranger S7352](#)

⁶ [Ambrose Lewis S36041](#)

