

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Summers R10306

f8VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/27/12

[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.]

Georgia Jones County: On this 4th day of November 1833 personally appeared before the Judges of the Inferior Court of said County James Summers seventy-eight years old last July who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

This applicant states that he entered the service of the United States as a substitute soldier for one Benjamin Balston a resident of Loudon [Loudoun] County Virginia for whom he served six months this was in the year 1781. This applicant was then twenty-six years old he was born in Ireland in July 1755. This applicant arrived in New York from England in a British *vessel of war*¹ and deserted the British to join the standard of American liberty, his 1st service was as a substitute as above stated under Colonel Dabney [Charles Dabney] originally Colonel Gibson's [probably Colonel John Gibson's] Regiment, in Goosling County [probably a mistaken reference to Goochland County] Virginia Captain William Brown Lieutenant Harper in some Slaughter those were the officers of the company under whom this applicant served from 1781 to 1783. In the first six months this applicant served as a substitute and for the residue of the time he served under the officers aforesaid as an enlisted soldier. This applicant was engaged at the siege of Yorktown when Cornwallis was taken. This siege was in 1781 and the Army was not discharged until April 1783. This applicant was engaged in no other engagement. And the company remained at York and Portsmouth until the company was discharged. The company was not marched to no other places than those before stated and remained in the towns York and Portsmouth until the [indecipherable word]² discharge of the company. He here begs leave to give a copy of the discharge which was given him when the company was disbanded forever

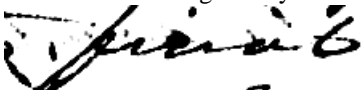
"The bearer hereof James Summers Soldier of the Legion Infantry of the State Troops having served during the war with Great Britain the term for which he was enlisted is hereby discharged in which we certify that he has behaved as a brave and faithful soldier.

Given under our hands at York the 2nd April 1783 in the 7th year of the Commonwealth

Signed

Wm Slaughter, Lieut.

¹ Text in italics is a guess by me of words that had been damaged and are somewhat illegible.

² 

Ab Crump Capt.
Com V S Troops"

This discharge was confided to the care of Nicholas Wells who made out my application as a Continental soldier and sent the original discharge to the War Department first retaining the above copy. From the Department the applicant has never received it and hereby request that he shall be sought for as an evidence of the correctness of this claim upon the benevolent provision of the government.

Answers to the questions of the War Department.

1st This applicant was born in Ireland in the year 1755.

2nd. He has not at this time any record of his age.

3rd. He was traveling through the country as a deserter from the enemies of America when he entered as a substitute in Goosling County Virginia. He has lived in North Carolina and this State and is now a citizen of Jones County Georgia.

4th. He first entered as a substitute for Benjamin Balston and afterwards enlisted for the whole war.

5th. General George Washington was commander in chief at Yorktown when Cornwallis was taken. This applicant knew or saw all the regular and militia officers engaged at that Siege.

6th. This applicant received a discharge as before accounted for.

7th. Never received a commission. He is known to a great many persons in this County and personally to all the members of this Court. To Henry G Lamar & others.

He hereby relinquishes all claim to all other pensions and he declares his name is on no pension roll whatever.

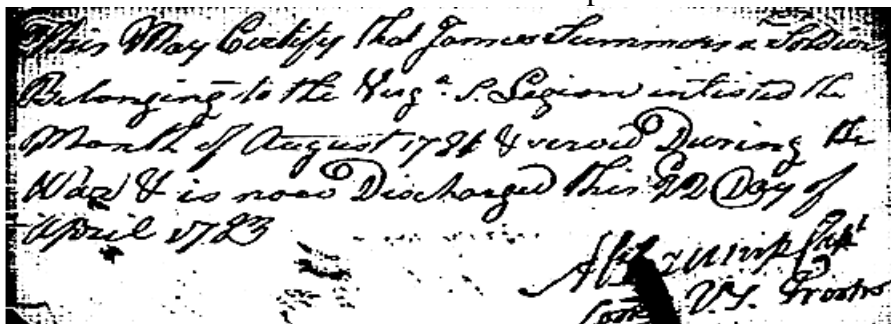
S/ James Summers, X his mark

[The court took note that there was no clergyman acquainted with the veteran convenient to the court and accepted the standard supporting affidavit given by James Gray, John R Moore and Jonathan Parrish.]

The [Virginia State Library](#) online digital collection of documents relating to bounty land claims by the revolutionary war veterans contains the following document which probably relates to this veteran:

This May Certify that James Summers a Soldier belonging to the Virgt. S. Legion inlisted the month of August 1781 & served During the War & is now Discharged this 22nd Day of April 1783

Ab. Crump Capt
Com V. S. Troops



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