

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Gaines R3863

Ann Gaines

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Woodford County Sct

On this 16th day of August 1833 Came before me Bernard Gaines in person, a Justice of the peace in & for said County, Robert Gaines a citizen of Woodford County Kentucky, aged 68 years, who doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the war of the revolution and served as hereinafter stated under the following named officers

That in the month of December 1780 this affiant's father was a resident of Spottsylvania [sic: Spotsylvania] County Virginia, that in said month William Gains [William Gaines] this affiant's father was drafted in the war of the revolution as a private for three months, that this affiant mustered into service to fill as a substitute the aforesaid draft of William Gains that he performed the service under Capt McWilliams of Major Thorntons [George Thornton's] Battallion and in Col Meriwether's Rigmint of Militia, that he faithfully served out his term of three months and was verbally discharged after the time expired with honor, that in this tour of duty he marched from Spottsylvania to Hanover from Hanover County to Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] where this affiant was discharged, having been in no battle.

That in June 1781 William Gains was again drafted as a private soldier for three months as a resident of Spottsylvania County Va, that this affiant again went as a substitute for William Gains and performed the Tour of duty in Capt [John] Legg's Company said McWilliams having been promoted to a Major, in said Regiment to which this affiant's Company was arranged, that he faithfully served out this tour of three months as a militia substitute for William Gains, that during this Tour he was in no battle, having marched through Albermarl [sic: Albemarle County], Louisa and thence below Richmond, this tour was called Demarcus's Runing Tour, or retreating Tour, under the command of said Demarcus' Lafayette [sic: retreat of the Marquis de Lafayette from Cornwallis, 28 May - 10 Jun 1781], that from the Service he was discharged down near Richmond Va, verbally.

That after the aforesaid tour of three months expired, this affiant states about ten days he was drafted in the service as a private for three months that he performed this tour of duty on his own account and served under Capt Croucher the name of the Col of the Rigmint this affiant has forgotten because of old age & loss of memory – that during this tour the battle of Little York was fought [sic: Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and Cornwallis' Surrender that after said battle was over the company to which this affiant belonged was designated to guard the prisoners to Nolands ferry on the Potomack [sic: Potomac] River, where the prisoners were delivered to the Mereland [sic: Maryland] troops, on this Spott this affiant was discharged having faithfully served out his term of three months, or nearly so, his having been discharged perhaps a few days before his time was out there being no use for his further service, and the officers stating that no further service was requir of this affiant. affiant states that he is not certain to the times exactly at which he entered and came out of the service in the Tours of duty, but to the best of this affiant's recollection he served as above stated, the full nine months, that he now is old & infirm and unable to travel to the Court House of his County owing to disease of the gravel with which he has been long afflicted. this affiant states that he has no documentary evidence nor does he know of a living witness by whom he can prove his services.

He he hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension or annuity but the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the United States or of any state or on any agency of any of the states. Sworn to this day & year aforesaid.

Robert hisXmark Gaines

Questions put to the applicant by the Justice,

Where & in what year were you born?

Ans I was born in Spottsylvania County Virginia in 1765.

Have you any record of your age, if so where is it

Ans. I have none but speak of my age from information of my relations

Where were you living when called into the Service, where have you lived since the revolution, and where do you now live.

Ans When called into the service I lived in Spottsylvania County Va where I lived until 24 years ago when I moved to Ky – Woodford Cty where I now live.

How were you called into the service, were you drafted did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if so for whom

Ans The two first Tours of duty I performed as a Substitute for William Gains as aforesaid The last Tour was performed in my own place

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such continental rigments as you can recollect.

Ans I recollect Genl. Anthony Wayne Genl Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], & Lafayette, he states that for his Services he received nothing, either as a substitute or otherwise except Con'l.

[Continental] paper

Did you ever receive a discharge, if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it.

Ans I rec'd no discharge but verbal ones, as aforesaid

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

I state as persons to whom I am known William S Hawkins, Isham Hawkins.

NOTE:

On 6 March 1840 Anne Gaines, 78, applied for a pension stating that she married Robert Gaines in Spottsylvania County in December 1783, and he died on 20 Dec 1833. On 2 Oct 1839 Kiziah Jenkins, about 76, of Fayette County KY, stated that she was the sister of Ann Gaines and was present at her marriage. On 25 March 1840 Merwood Jenkins stated that he accompanied his sister, Ann Jenkins, and Robert Gaines to the pastor to be married.

On 7 Oct 1852 John Robinson Gaines, about 52, applied for the pension as the only surviving son of Ann Gaines, who died on the 1st or 2nd Jan 1842. He stated that the only other surviving child was Lucy Gaines of Franklin County KY, and that he was the youngest of six children.

Correspondence in the file indicates that the only pension act under which Ann Gaines would have been eligible was passed in 1842, shortly after she was said to have died. Later correspondence on behalf of the heirs claimed that she actually died in January 1843.