

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Joseph Gammar (Grammar) R4183 [France]  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 June 2014.

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

On this 23<sup>d</sup> day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court, it being a Court of Record, before the quorum Court of pleas and quarter sessions, now sitting, Joseph Grammar a resident of the the County of Roane and State of Tennessee aged about 75 years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service as a private volunteer, in the militia, in the dominion of France under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he volunteered under Captain Luchiass[?] under the command of the prince of Nansau[?] & Marquis Lafayette & the Duke of France having the contract [see note below]. applicant volunteered at the city of Hawkinow [sic: probably Haguenau] in the year 1776 or 7 [see endnote]. Applicant volunteered for the purpose of going to america to assist the the americans in the Revolutionary struggle for liberty. a short time after applicant volunteered was marched through France to a fort on an island by the name of Sirsumber where he remained 6 or 7 weeks, was then marched to a City in France called Samaluu [possibly St. Malo] where he was continued for a while, not recollected how long, then applicant was marched to Brest, thence embarked in a vessel for America, under Maj Paluroskes [sic: John L. Polereczky]; Applicant was in a severe battle in his passage (on sea) to america, with the British. the firing commenced about the middle of the after noon. The enemy was vanquished, as they were not to be found the next morning. the firing continued until night; applicant landed at new port Rhode Island in the spring of the year, where applicant was continued that summer. applicant was then marched up to Hartford where he was continued that winter, then marched to the white plains, where he joined the main american army under General George Washington. applicant was under Washington the chief Commander. applicant was in a severe Battle at the white plains [see note below]. was continued at the last mentioned place until he was marched to Little York. was in the celebrated siege at Little York, from the commencement until Lord Cornwallis was taken [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. after said engagement applicant was marched up to Hampton where he was continued in winter quarters until some time in February applicant was then marched up to Charlotte County Virginia. was continued there in service until about the 8<sup>th</sup> June, was then verbally discharged from the army. after the close of the war applicant remained about years [sic] in Charlotte then went to Botetout [sic: Botetourt] County where he remained about 8 years, then went to Russel [sic: Russell] County Va. where he remained 8 or 9 year then went to Lea [sic: Lee] County where he remained about 10 years applicant then moved to Roane County Tenness. where he has remained ever since. Applicant was born in the City of hawkinow, in France, does not know certainly what year he was born in as he has no record of his age. Applicant was living in France aforesaid when he volunteered. Applicant never received a written discharge from the service. applicant states the names of the following persons to whom he is know & has been for a good many years who can testafy as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution viz, John Carter Esqr, Reynolds Ramsey, Benjamin Prator, Thomas Prator, Maj. William Belvoir, Simon Eldredge, Bertton[?], James Campbell, Harlam Fike, Henry Goodman; applicant also states the names of some other of the officers who were with the troops where he served viz Col [Daniel] Morgan & General [Anthony] Wayne. applicant was about 19 years of age when he volunteered. applicant is certain that he served not less that four years in all the time as a private in the militia. applicant is also certain that he served two years & six months of said time after he joined the american army as a private in the militia for his aforesaid services claims a pension. he is old infirm and very poor, has a wife who is old, to support. applicant hopes as one of his officers, Lafayett received such a handsome reward for his distinguished services that he will receive his mite to smooth his downhill road in his old days. applicant has no documentary evidence of his services, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify

to his services. it is out of the power of applicant to get a clergyman as there is not one in the neighbourhood that is acquainted with him who is old to [several illegible words]  
He hereby relinquishes his every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any state; sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid  
Joseph hisXmark Gammar

December 21, 1852

State of Tennessee Roane County

Mr. J E Heath [Pension Commissioner] Dear Sir please Examine and see if there Is a declaration on file By Joseph Grammar through his Attorney John y Smith Joseph Grammer applied for a Pension In sometime in Eighteen hundred and Thirty and the claim was Rejected Because he was a furner and at that time I sepose that he was not Intitled to a Pension under any act of Congress Infourse at that time Please Examin and see if he is entitle To a Pension under any Act of Congress now infourse  
The said Joseph Grammer is yet aliveing and states that He is one Hundred and four years of age and is Very helpless And if Joseph Grammer is intitled to a pension from the Proof that is on file in your office make the Cirtificate Payable At Knoxville Tennessee and if you should lack any Proof of His Being a truthful man and a man that Can Be believed On oath Joseph Grammer Can Be Relide on for Being a truthful man By all his Neighbours that Nows him  
Pleas write to me on the sujet as I am Acting for him As Attorney in gitting his Pension Please attend this as Soon as you Can as the olde man is Neady Direct your Letter John Pritchel Woods Hill Tennessee  
I am Very Respectfully your obt Servt/ John Pritchel

NOTES:

Lafayette was recruiting in France in 1779. Gammar may have sailed to America with Jean-Baptiste-Donatien de Vimeur, Comte de Rochambeau. Rochambeau left Brest in May of 1780 and arrived at Newport RI on 10 June 1780.

The “severe Battle at the white plains” may have been the failed assault on the British post at Morrisania, 3 July 1781, after a march from White Plains NY.