

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Gregory ("Gregorey") R4292

Eleanor Gregory f79NC/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/7/06 rev'd 10/28/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Contrary to the above note no attempt was made to correct grammar or add punctuation in the following transcript.]

[p 4]

State of Virginia, County of Greenbrier: SS

On the 29th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful the Court of Greenbrier now sitting James Gregory a resident in the County of Greenbrier and State of Virginia aged about Eighty one on the 14th day next May 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 -- That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated -- That he was born in Gloucestershire in England about the 14th of May 1752 -- and at the age of 18 he emigrated to Virginia and shortly thereafter he settled in Augusta County where he entered the service -- He was first in the service as a volunteer against the Indians in North Western Virginia, under Colonel Lewis, Captain Samuel Wilson, during which tour of duty he was at the Battle of the Point [Battle of Point Pleasant, October 10, 1774],¹ where he received a wound -- He afterwards volunteered to go against the Cherokee Towns -- Captain Thomas Smith was his commander -- and in their march crossed over New River, Holston River and on to North Carolina -- He was then dismissed and returned home. About two years after he volunteered again to go against the Cherokees -- and they took their Towns under Colonel John Sevier, and Colonel Arthur Campbell. At this time he resided on Horse Creek on Nolichucky River in the State of North Carolina -- He again volunteered under Captain Patterson [John Patterson] -- and was marched on to Kings Mountain -- and was engaged in the Battle at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780]² under Colonel Sevier and Colonel William Campbell. In this campaign he was in service about six months -- He then enlisted for one year, under a Captain, whose name he does not now recollect but believes it to be Thompson [James Thompson] -- and marched south through North Carolina and South Carolina crossing Wateree, Santee and Congaree rivers-- and was engaged in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]³ under General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter] -- and after the end of his term of one year he was discharged; but received or has not now any certificate of discharge -- That he served one year and six months against the British during the Revolution, and two or three years altogether against the Indians -- He was in the Battles of Kings Mountain and Eutaw Springs, the Battle of Point Pleasant and the Cherokee Towns.

He hereby relinquishes 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.

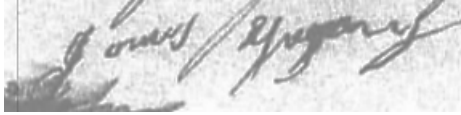
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

¹ This engagement did not take place within the timeframe of the revolutionary war for purposes of the federal pension acts.

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_eutaw_springs.html

S/ James Gregory



[John McElhenney, a clergyman and Thomas Creigh gave the standard supporting affidavit.]
[p 34: Another standard supporting affidavit, this one dated September 12, 1832, is given by George Witzell, Mark H. Goshen and John Dorman.]

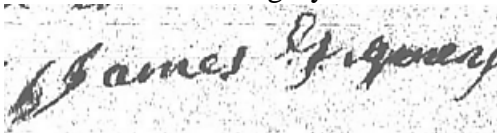
[p 36]

A Supplemental Declaration of James Gregory, a petitioner for a pension under the Act passed June 7th 1832 –

States that his first Tour of six months which he served out was in the year 1780, and at the expiration of this term, which he feels assured was in the early part of the year 1781 – he enlisted for the term of one year, and served it out faithfully. That he was in the battles as set forth in his former petition, during his two periods of Service. That he served in the Indian Wars as heretofore stated, several Tours of duty, But from age and loss of memory, is unable to define particularly the times and length of the various Tours – But they were all preceding his first draft in 1780 – That he is grade during the whole of his service was that of a common Soldier – That the time against the British, which he served as above stated, was one year and six months – of this fact he is positive – But the many short Tours against the Indians, he cannot now pretend to define, with anything like certainty –
Subscribed and Sworn to this 7th day of September 1833

S/ Henry Erskine, JP

S/ James Gregory



Answer to the 2nd and 7th interrogatories prescribed by the War department

Question – Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer – I have no record of my age, but recollect it –

Question – State the names of the persons in your neighborhood at present to whom you are known, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your Services as a Soldier of the Revolution –

Answer – George Wetzell, Mark H. Goshen and John Dorman – of the Town of Leesburg

[p 42]

State of Virginia Greenbrier County: SS

On this 2nd day of October 1833 personally appeared before me Henry Erskine a Justice of the peace in and for said County James Gregory a resident of said County and State of Virginia aged about 82 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make this amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 He having on the 29th of August 1832 made a declaration which appears to be somewhat objectionable to remedy which He states that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers. 1st He entered the Service as a volunteer in the County of Augusta either in the month of August or September 1774 under Captain Wilson and was marched to Point Pleasant and in October of that year was in the Battle at Point Pleasant which took place with the Indians and after the Battle the Army under General Lewis was joined by the Army under Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the Colony of Virginia] and crossed the Ohio River and marched on to the Indian Towns where a treaty took place with the Indians. In this Service he is Sure he served three months, more he thinks, but knows it must be at least three months. 2nd In the year 1775 or 1776 but he thinks

1775 in or about the month of June or July he again entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Thomas Smith and was marched against the Cherokee Indians. There was no field officers during this Tour. There was general engagement with the Indians but some skirmishing and a few Indians were killed. In this tour he is sure he served three months. 3rd He then settled on Noli Chuckey River in the then State of North Carolina and about two years after his 2nd tour he again Volunteered under Captain Patterson which would make it in the year 1777 or 1778. He thinks in the fall of the year while he lived on Noli Chuckey and was under the command [of] Colonel John Sevier and was marched to Highweasey [Hiwassee] to the Indian Towns where there were several Skirmishes and Several of the Indian Towns were taken. In this Tour he states he killed and scalped seven Indians himself and that entered the Service this tour for six months but served at least Seven months. He after having been discharged returned to Noli Chuckey and in the year 1780 he again entered the Service for six months as a Volunteer under Captain John Patterson and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier he thinks in the early part of the Summer of that year and marched through the State of North Carolina by way of Burke or Burk County in pursuit of Tories and was sometimes reconnoitering through the country until the Battle of Kings Mountain and was in the Battle at that place and served out his six months. He further states that from the time he first Served which was in 1774 up to 1780 the tour to Kings Mountain That he served a number of short Tours both while he lived in Augusta County Virginia and while he lived on Noli Chuckey both parts of the County being frontier Settlements, and much infested with the Indians. One tour of one month under the command of Captain McCutchen while in Augusta County. He was drafted and marched to the head of Beaver Creek on the Waters of the Monongaly [Monongahela River] and then discharged after serving one month. And while he lived on Noli Chuckey he was frequently detailed and sometimes Volunteered to pursue Indians that were frequently committing depredations on the Settlements but of this last Service he has no distinct recollection what time he was employed for some tours he was engaged two or three days sometimes a week he thinks he could safely fix the time at least at four months. He states he was out several tours with Captain Noley McGuire and on several occasions came up with the Indians and killed several he himself on these tours killed two And sometimes there was no commanding officer to command on these scouting parties that after he returned home after the battle of Kings Mountain to Nolichucky and in the early part of the year 1781 he Entered for the term of one year under the command he thinks of Captain Thompson and was marched through North Carolina into South Carolina crossing the Santee & Congaree Rivers and was under the command of Colonel or perhaps he was General Sumter and was at the Battle of the Eutaw Springs that after reconnoitering through the country for some time after his last service having expired & he was discharged by General Sumter at his own house and received from him a written discharge which he got destroyed together with other of his papers by wading waters on his return home. In the different tours that he served in the Militia if he ever received any discharge he does not now know and if he has he has lost or mislaid the same. That he knows of no person that could prove any of his Services by

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Henry Erskine, JP

S/ James Gregory

2nd Interrogatory

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

Answer I have record of my age But before I left England I was informed by my mother I was born in the year 1752 in the month of May the 17th day.

7th Interrogatory

State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. George Whitzell, Mark H. Goshen, John Dorman, Rev'd John McElhany and Thomas Creigh who have in my former declarations testified as to their belief of my service. I can refer to them as to their belief of character for veracity and I could refer to others.

Sworn and subscribed before me the 2nd October 1833

S/ Henry Erskine, JP

S/ James Gregory

[p 44: John Whitzell, Mark H. Goshen and John Dorman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 39]

State of Virginia Greenbrier County

On this 13th of December 1833 personally appeared before me Henry Erskine a Justice in and for said County James Gregory a resident of said County and State of Virginia aged about 82 years who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make this his amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7 June 1832, It appearing that his declaration is objectionable on account of his not proving his last Services of one year that he enlisted for. He states that the last Service he performed was by Enlistment, That he entered the service as stated in his last declaration in the early part of the year 1781 under he thinks the command of Captain Thompson and while he lived in Nola Chuckey then North Carolina And that there was ten others enlisted at the same time with him And was marched to South Carolina and was at the Battle of the Eutaw Springs under the command of General Sumpter. That he was sometimes called Goeher and that his name may perhaps be found on the Rolls James Goeher instead of James Gregory – That he recollects at the Battle of the Eutaw Springs of Marion [Francis Marion], Washington [William Washington], Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] and Sumpter Commanding on that day and that Colonel Washington was taken prisoner and that he received a slight wound in his side either by a Bayonet or spear that after he was discharged and on his return home he was taken sick at Capt. John McGuenny's who then lived on Wateree [River] and lay sick for a considerable time there. That he has mentioned these things to prove he was in the Service – Not being able to make any other proof of his Service as required by the department – That he is now old and infirm and very poor. He thinks if he were able to go to Nola Chuckey and could find some of his old companions in arms he could prove his service but being poor old and infirm he will have 2 submit to his situation if what he has already set forth will not answer. There is one other thing he will state which is that he served in this year Service 1781 to 1782 in the light horse under General Sumter and served as he states in his declaration of the 2nd last.

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Henry Erskine, JP

S/ James Gregory

[p 19: The following document is in the handwriting of W. G. Singleton whose activities investigating pension frauds, or alleged frauds, are well documented by C. Leon Harris in his opus, [David W. Sleeth S6111.](#)]

James Gregory – Served 15 Mo. [months] received \$150

I the undersigned James Gregory – being called on by W. G. Singleton for a narrative of my Services as a Soldier in the War of the Revolution and Statement of my age, give the following to Wit

I was born in May 1752 I am a native of England, emigrated to the Un. States in 1772, and Settled in Greenbrier County (then West Augasty [Augusta County]) in 1775 – I was in Service against the Indians all through the War, it is impossible for me to particularize my separate and respective tours, and the officers under whom I served – All my service being in the Settlements in Greenbrier against the Indians. – at the different Forts and Stations – All my Service was done in detached tours – of some times a week at others two or three days and at others less. All the Settlers including my self, in that season of the year in which the Indians usually made their attacks, lived in Forts & worked their cornfields adjacent. Whilst some were working others were watching and guarding the working & guarding was done alternately – we generally selected one in whom we had confidence as a Captain or leader – it would be impossible for me to say how long I was in all that Service – during the War; and therefore shall not pretend to say – My Declaration was read to me by Henry Erskine [Henry Erskine] who wrote it – but I don't know how long I alleged to have served – nor can I now tell how long I did

Serve.

In witness of all which I hereto Subscribe my name Jany 20, 1835 – I had a settlement right and a corn right in all of eight hundred acres of Land, the title to which I perfected.

Test

S/ Saml. J. Thompson

S/ James Gregory

[p 7: On October 26, 1846 in Greenbrier County Virginia, Ellenor Gregory, 72, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of James Gregory, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him September 4th, 1788; that he died in November 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 66: On April 22, 1843 in Greenbrier County Virginia, Eleanor Gregory made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of James Gregory a pensioner for his service in the revolution at the rate of \$50 per annum; that she was married to him in Greenbrier County Virginia by Parson Alderson on September 1, 1788; that her husband died November 30th, 1838 and that she remains his widow. She signed this application with her mark.]

[p 8: On October 26, 1846 in Greenbrier County Virginia, Samuel S Thompson gave testimony that he was present when the pension agent examined James Gregory; affiant distinctly recollects hearing the wife of James Gregory say that he was totally incompetent to answer any questions on account of his imbecility; and that as a result of that interview the veteran was unfairly struck from the pension roll.]

[p 10: Power of attorney dated December 28, 1854 and executed by Sarah Branham of Greenbrier County Virginia in which she states she is one of the children of James and Eleanor Gregory.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sarah Branham". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina and Virginia service. A note in the file indicates that the veteran was dropped from the roll on March 9, 1835. A letter in the file indicates that the veteran was struck from the pension list because he could not render satisfactory proof of at least 6 months military service as required by the 1832 act.]