

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of James Purvis R8529

NC

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 June 2015.

State of Kentucky

Pulaski County Sct

On this 20th day of November 1832 personally appeared before the worshipful Justices of the County Court of Pulaski County State of Kentucky, now sitting as a Court in Open Court. James Purvis aged about Sixty Nine years a resident of Pulaski County state of Kentucky who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his Oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the pervision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. that he enlisted in the army of the United States in Pitt County North carolina when in his Sixteenth year as well as he now recollects with Captian Joseph Cray [Joseph Scott Cray] for the Term of One year and served in the Regiment of Colo. John Heritage John Allen Major in the North Carolina state line, in the 4th Regiment. was during the period stationed sometime at Fort Tazewell below Newbern [sic: New Bern] North Carolina and when not at the station was marched to different places for the purpose of keeping down the Tories and such other parties as the situation of the Country might require, was sometime on Cape fear River. sometime on Peedee [sic: Pee Dee] & on Drowning Creek. and at the expiration of the Twelve months was regularly discharged at a Town called Kingston [probably Kinston] in North Carolina and received a discharge signed by the said Major Allen which has long since been lost mislaid or destroyed – afterwards the time not known in the County of Martin State of North Carolina he undertook as a Substitute for his Brother William Purvis to perform a three months Tour in the Militia of the said State of North Carolina and served in the Company of Captian Williams [possibly Willoughby Williams] in the Regiment of Colo Axum [sic: Benjamin Exum], was rendevouzed at Kingston and marched to the army under the command of General [Horatio] Gates and was engaged in the Battle that resulted in the defeat of General Gates [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780]. after the Defeat the army was scattered, and he returned hom after having served about two months –

afterwards in Martin County North carolina the time not known he became again a substitute for his Brother Lewis Purvis for a three months Tour and he rendevouzed at a Town called Halifax North Carolina and the day after the rendezvous he was ordered with a detachment in all 300 to be placed under the command of Capt Coats & Capt Coalman [Coleman?] regular officers under them he was marched along on New River and was awhile stationed at a place called New River chappel and at that place was discharged and received a discharge signed by Capt Coalman which has long since been lost mislaid or destroyed. he further states that in addition to the above Militia service he served in other small Tours. Afterwards while a resident of Pitt county North carolina the time not now recollected he enlisted for the period of Eighteen months in the regular army on Continental establishment as he understood under Capt Benjamin Coalman [sic: Benjamin Andrew Coleman] in the Regiment of Archibald Lytle. Redin [Reading] Blount Major was marched to Charleston South Carolina and joined the army of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and continued with the army until after the peace was made and concluded [Treaty of Paris drafted 30 Nov 1782; provisional draft ratified 15 Apr 1783; formally signed 3 Sep 1783]. he was engaged in the service under this last enlistment about the year after the proclamation of peace. he received a writing from the Orderly Sarjent signed by the Captain as he understood authorizing him to return home. he was not in the Battle fought with the British By Gen'l. Greene near Camden [Battle of Hobkirk Hill SC, 25 Apr 1781], being on Guard that day to protect the Baggage waggons. he was born in Martin County North carolina [sic: formed in 1774 from Tyrrell and Halifax counties] he does not know the date. there is no record of his age that he knows of. and all he is enabled to state as true is from what his Parents told him when a Boy. he is himself entirely illiterate being unable to read or write. he continued in North Carolina after the war until he removed to the State of Tennessee resided there about twelve years and about Twenty years since he removed from Tennessee

to Pulaski County Kentucky where he now resides. he has no Documentary evidence of his service and knows of no person by whom he can prove it. unless he can prove some portion of it circumstantially by Francis Aldridge [pension application S35170] of Pulaski County who was in the same army with the applicant under the last enlistment, but has no positive recollection of the service rendered by the applicant not being in the same company. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid James hisXmark Purvis

State of Kentucky
Pulaski County Sct.

The affidavit of Francis Aldridge aged between sixty seven & sixty eight years a resident of Pulaski County made in open Court before the Pulaski County Court on this [blank] day of November 1832. he states that he was in the Regiment of Achibald Lytle. Major Blount was also an officer as mentioned in the within Declaration of James Purvis and was marched to Ashley Hill [near Dorchester] South Carolina, and joined the main army under General Greene. and he upon Oath states that he recollects to have then heard that a man by the name of Purvis belonged to the army and he well knows that Capt. Coalman belonged to the Regiment as stated by the said Purvis in his Declaration and the said Francis Aldridge further states that between eighteen and Twenty years anterior to this he met with the said James Purvis and after conversing about the last war and hearing the name of Purvis he thought he recollects the name of Purvis as having been engaged in the service under Gen'l Greene as stated by Purvis and mentioned his recollection to Purvis and this affiant and Purvis then talked over and conversed about the events and transactions of the service under Gen'l Greene and he has no Doubt that James Purvis was in the Regiment of Lytle as stated by him under Gen'l Greene and served as he states.

State of North Carolina/ Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do certify that it appears from the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary War, that James Purvis a private in Capt. [Thomas] Evans's Company of the 10th Regiment enlisted in 1782 for 18 months and deserted on the 21st day of June 1783. Given under my hand this 16th day of April 1833. W. Hill

War Department/ Pension Office/ November 15 1833

Sir [William Fox Esq, Somerset Kentucky], The claim of James Purvis has been examined. It appears from a certificate of the Secretary of State of North Carolina, who has complete rolls of the N.C. line, that the applicant deserted on the 21 June 1783. Unless it can be shewn to the satisfaction of the Department that he did receive a furlough as stated, he cannot receive a pension. The papers will be placed on file in this Office. I am respectfully/ Your Obt. Servt./ J. L. Edwards

State of Kentucky
Pulaski County Sct.

Be it known that before me Bourne Goggin A Justice of the peace in and for the County & State aforesaid on this 4th day of December 1833 personally appeared James Purvis a resident citizen of Pulaski County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath state, that he has heretofore made application in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 and he further states on oath that at the close of the Revolutionary War he was serving as a regular soldier in the Company of Captian Coleman belonged to the Regiment of Colo Lytle was under the command of Gen'l Greene. that the army was encamped and stationed at James Island near Charleston South carolina. that when he entered the service he enlisted for the period of eighteen months in the County of Martin state of Northcarolina and belonged as he understood to the northcarolina line that he was engaged in the service in the Regiment and army aforesaid, stationed at the place aforesaid when the

army rejoiced for the proclamation of peace. that after the making of peace, he continued in the service, untill the army was disbanded. and at Charleston aforesaid, he was discharged from the service and received a furlough & permission to go home and at the time of his discharge was verry sick with the measles, there being then no further need to retain him in service which furlough as he stated in his Declaration heretofore made he has lost, and the said James Purvis now states on oath that he did not desert from the service aforesaid nor did he at any time during the Revolutionary war desert from the service, and that he did not desert from the service when under Gen'l Greene at the place aforesaid but remained in the service until he was properly and regularly discharged, the exact day he was discharged he cannot now from old age, and long lapse of time, state but well recollects he was in service, when the Maryland line of troops belonging to the army under Gen'l Greene mutinied and declared as peace was made, that they were free men, and would go home without the discharges the officers, and the line was afterwards pacified quieted & persuaded by Gen'l Greene to return to their duty they done so and remained until the army was disbanded

James hisXmark Purvis

[Francis Aldridge certified Purvis's statement in similar words and added the following regarding the mutiny by the Maryland troops: "[T]his affiant saw Gen'l Greene walk the lines, and heard him address the Soldiers & persuade them to return to their duty they done so & remained until the army was disbanded."]