

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of James Graves S13212

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS.

City of Lexington }

On this 1st day of September 1832 personally appeared in open court before C Hunt Esq. Mayor of said city now sitting, James Graves, a resident of Jessamine county Kentucky, aged 72 years who being duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress of 7th June 1832

That he was born in Louisa County Virginia in the year 1760; there was a register of his birth in a book, but he does not know what has become of it; he was residing in Spottsylvania [sic: Spotsylvania] county when he entered the service, where he resided for some years after the war when he removed to Kentucky where he has resided ever since. He never received a discharge from any of his tours of service, neither has he any written document showing his services.

He entered the service in the year 1780 in Capt. Thomas Minors company, and marched under him to join Gates' [Gen. Horatio Gates's] army in S. Carolina. His company belonged to the 2^d Regiment of Va. Militia under Col. Geo. Stubblefield, which joined the army of Gen. Gates the day before the battle of Cambden [sic: Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. He was in that battle, and escaped unhurt; his Captain [John] Holladay was killed. The regiment rendezvoused at Hillsborough [NC] after the battle, and he served until about the time that Gen'l Greene arrived to take command [Nathanael Greene, 2 Dec 1780]. In that tour he served about four months from the time he marched from his home until discharged. He saw General Gates, and knew of Col [Charles] Porterfield and Baron De Kalb being with the troops; and that De Kalb was killed & Porterfield was wounded [both mortally wounded]. General Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] commanded the brigade of Virg'a. Militia to which his regiment belonged. Lieut. Col [Joseph] Spencer & Maj. Moseby [sic: William Mosby] belonged to Col. Stubblefields regiment.

His second term of duty was performed in Col. [James] Meriwethers regiment & Maj. Hardimans battalion, but whether it was in Capt Taylors or Capt Lewis Holladays company, he does not recollect. His regiment was under the command of General Lafayette, in what was called "the Marquis's retreat", and served a two months tour. The army marched from Richmond up to Culpeper [sic: Culpeper] county where it met General Wayne [sic: Anthony Wayne, on North Anna River, 10 Jun 1781]. He saw Generals Lafayette & Wayne, and a great many other officers whose names he has forgotten

He served a two months tour afterwards in same regiment at the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], at which he was present, and after witnessing the surrender of the enemy, he aided in guarding the prisoners up as far as the falls of Rappahannock.

He refers to affidavits of John Graves [pension application W3014] & John C. Graves, which accompany this declaration, as evidence in his behalf. He knows of other persons who could testify to his services, but they are not within reach. He refers to William Blaydes, John Rogers, Joseph Rogers, his neighbours while living in Fayette County to testify as to his character & credibility. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present one and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid having first interlined "term" and "in same regiment."
[signed] James Graves

The diposition of John C Graves of Lawful age Taken before me a Justice of the Peace of Laytte County and Commonwealth of Kentucky after being duely sworn Deposeth and sayeth That he lived a near Neighbour to James Graves Senor dureing the time of the Revelutionary war and that said James Graves Senor was drafted on three several Campanes (ie) one in the year one thousand seven hundred an Eighty when Gates was defeated at or near Campden in South Carolinah and the other two the succeeding year one nown by the appellation of Demareuses

retreat and the other at the Siege of York when Corwallis [sic: Cornwallis] was Captured him said deponant thinks that the three last towers were for two months each and the first him said deponant understood the were called out for Three months after they joined the general army in South Carolinah him said deponant farther sayeth that at the time the above servises was rendered by James Graves senior that him said deponant and James Graves sen Both lived in the County of Spotsylvania and State of Virginia and have since Removed to Kentucky and farther this deponant sayeth not. [signed] John C Graves

NOTE: See the pension application of John Keeton S13614 for more on Captains Minor and Holladay.