

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Spillman S16535

f27VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/30/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Clarke [sic Clark] County Sct.

On this 3rd day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Judge of the Clark Circuit Court, now sitting – (said Court being a court of record expressly may be so by the law establishing it) James Spillman Senior, a resident of said County of Clark and State aforesaid, aged seventy-six 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

1st In the year 1775 he thinks in the month of December, he served a tour as a drafted militia man in a Company of militia commanded by Captain John Montjoy [John Mountjoy]. The Company was raised in Stafford County Virginia. It belonged to a Regiment commanded by Colonel James Garrard. It was marched to the Potomac River, against Governor Dunmore who was on said River with shipping and troops on board. And remained on the borders of said River some weeks watching the movements of Dunmore. When Dunmore sailed out of said River with his troops, the said Company of militia were discharged and returned home. The Company was discharged verbally, being in the County where the members of it resided no written discharge was given. He served during said tour as well as he can recollect five or six weeks, having been dismissed before the time expired for which he was drafted on the disappearance of Dunmore.

2nd In the spring of the year 1776 Governor Dunmore again made his appearance in the Potomac River, the exact time of the Spring not recollected. To watch his movements and oppose his landing if he attempted it the militia of Stafford County was again ordered out, and he was in a Company of said Militia commanded by Captain George Mountjoy; and marched to the Potomac River along which they were stationed to watch the movements of said Dunmore and were part of the time at Marlborough. The Militia of Stafford County were commanded by Colonel James Garrard. He states that he served that time six or seven weeks or perhaps longer, the exact time he does not recollect, but upon the disappearance of said Dunmore we were again dismissed and sent home.

3rd In the summer of the same year viz. 1776 he again served in the Militia of Stafford County in a company commanded by an officer whose name he has forgotten, he was a substitute for man in a different part of the County from where he lived himself and the officer and all his company being strangers he has totally forgotten, not only the name of the officer, but the name of the person for whom he was a substitute. He served about four weeks. He was again stationed on the River Roanoke watching Dunmore's movements, and the militia were again commanded by Colonel James Garrard.

4th In the latter part of the same year the militia of Stafford were called out to watch the movements of Dunmore who was then lower down the Potomac. He was in a company commanded by Captain John Montjoy and still commanded by Colonel Garrett [sic], and we were marched into King George County below Stanford, and stationed on the Potomac where we were detained about eight weeks, and then discharged and sent home. Dunmore not having landed on the Virginia side whilst we were there, but having frequent they landed on the Maryland side of the River as we heard.

5th Shortly afterwards Dunmore having left the Potomac, it was rumored that he was about to land at Norfolk or Portsmouth or somewhere near there, and the militia of Stafford County was again ordered out under the command of Colonel James Garrard. He states that he was then again marched through Spotsylvania County into Hanover, and stationed in said County where we waited for some time to get further orders, and finally marched back home, having been in actual service that time about six weeks.

6th He states that he was not again in the service until the fall of the year 1780. At that time the militia of said County of Stafford was again called out. They were stationed at Stafford Courthouse. He was in said militia in a company commanded by Captain George Montjoy, Colonel Garrard still commanded said militia. He was in service at that time about one month. The object was to attend to and apprehended movement upon the part of Cornwallis from the State of North Carolina where he was into the State of Virginia.

7th = In the spring of the year 1781, the militia of said County of Stafford was again ordered out. He was in a company commanded by Captain George Burrus, for the purpose of watching the movements of Cornwallis who it was still feared intended to pass into Virginia, and said militia were stationed on the Rappahannock at a place called Falmouth or rather a few miles above said place called Falmouth at a place called Hunter's old Forge. He states that he was in service at that time eight or nine weeks. General Weeden [George Weedon] commanded at that place.

8th The next time and the last that he was in actual service as a militia man was in the month of August 1781. He entered the company of militia commanded by Captain William Ballard. It was a company of Stafford Militia. He was a substitute for a man by the name of Thomas Sudden his neighbor. It was for a tour of three months. He was marched to the siege of Cornwallis at York. The said Colonel Garrard went with said militia and commanded the Regiment in which he was. He marched in the month of August and towards the last of September he reached a place called Springfield within a few miles of York when the militia to which he belonged was encamped, and sometime in the month of October the day of the month he does not remember whilst at the siege of Cornwallis and before his surrender, he states that he enlisted for the term of three years. He was enlisted by Colonel John Montjoy into the Virginia State line, commanded by General Spottswood [Alexander Spottswood], sometimes called Spottswood's Legion. As soon as he was enlisted he went home on furlough, there to remain on half pay and rations, until called upon, But he states he never received any pay for any of his services. He states that after he enlisted, viz. some short time after Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781], he was ordered out and marched in said Legion of Spottswood to a place called Bowling Green below Fredericksburg where we were encamped and waited for further orders, after waiting there seven or eight weeks information came that we were not wanted, and we were marched back home and never called out afterwards.

He states that he was born in Prince William County Virginia, and was taken into Stafford County Virginia when the small and raised in said County where he lived during the whole war

of the revolution. In the fall of 1794 he moved into this state of Kentucky and has lived in this state ever since, in the County of Clake [Clark] all the time except the first year after he moved here, that he resided in Bourbon County. He was born on the 1st day of January 1756 [could be 1754]. He has no record of his age. He never received a written discharge at any time as he recollects. He was always dismissed and sent home without a written discharge. He can prove part of his services by Peter Mauzey¹ of **Fleming** County who is unable to get here to court but whose affidavit is herewith enclosed and he knows of no other person living by whom he can prove his services. He is well known to John Hampton, the Reverend William Merton, Chilton Allan the present member of Congress from this district, Samuel M Taylor the Clerk of this Court, George Fry Junior, William Poston, Richard Duerson, Peter Flanigan and Thomas Berry and others who all reside in the neighborhood where he now lives and who can all testify as to his character for veracity – and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

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 and year aforesaid.

S/ James Spillman

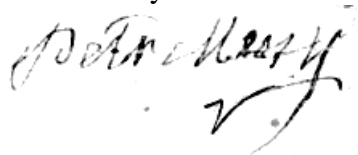


[William Rush, a clergyman, and Chilton Allan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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I Peter Mauzy of Fleming County and State of Kentucky do hereby certify that in the year 1781 James Spillman of Stafford County & State of Virginia was drafted in the Militia of said State to go to York in said State to defend said place & oppose the British troops, that said ^{myself} said Spillman were both drafted at the same time and attached to the company commanded by Captain William Ballard & attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel James Garrett, that said company was detailed & marched sometime in the month of August of said year but does not recollect the day of the month. That they were in service until the siege of York, that said Spillman remained in the service till sometime during said siege when he enlisted in the service of the United States (to the best of my recollection) I do not now recollect the time said siege commenced but think it must have been in October nor how long it lasted, but this being a circumstance of notoriety can be ascertained James Spillman was in the service with this affiant in said Company of Captain William from the time before stated until he enlisted at said siege of York, but what time during the siege he enlisted I do not now recollect. Witness my hand this 20 July 1831.

S/ Petre Musy



¹ Sic, [Peter Mauzy S11031](#)

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Commonwealth of Kentucky Clark County Sct.

I William F. Hockaday one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace in and for said County do certify that James Spilman Senior on this 15th day of January 1833 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace as aforesaid and being duly sworn deposed and saith that he is the same James Spilman Senior who on the 3rd day of October 1832 made a declaration in the Clark Circuit Court in the State aforesaid for the purpose of obtaining a pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 – and that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade to which as a private – and in the several tours mentioned, the periods following – that he is – in the first tour not less than five weeks – in the second tour not less than six weeks – in the third tour not less than four weeks – in the fourth tour not less than eight weeks – in the fifth tour not less than six weeks – in the sixth tour not less than one month – in the seventh tour not less than eight weeks – in the eighth tour (before Lord Cornwallis' surrender) not less than seven weeks and in the ninth tour (after Lord Cornwallis' surrender) not less than eight weeks and that for such service he claims a pension. Given under my hand this 15th day of January 1833.

Signed Wm F. Hockaday, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the Virginia militia.]