

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Potter S17023

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/8/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Cocke County: Cocke County Court August Sessions 1833

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Cocke County the same being a Court of Record – James Potter aged seventy-four years – and made oath in due form of law that he is a citizen of the State of Tennessee Cocke County – And further 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 of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. –

That he was born in the state of Connecticut on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 1759 – And entered the service of the United States as an Enlisted Soldier under Captain Jesse Evans at the Long Islands of Holston [River] then North Carolina as he believes – and served in the \_\_ Regiment commanded by Colonel Clark [George Rogers Clark] Lieutenant Colonel John Montgomery – And rendezvoused sometime in September 1779 as near as he can recollect – And from the Long Islands they marched by water down the Holston to Tennessee River and down said River to the Junction with the Ohio and down the Ohio to the Mississippi and up the Mississippi to the Kaskaskia and Stationed about two months from whence he moved by water down the Mississippi to the mouth of the Ohio and up the Ohio to Fort Vanzant [Fort Vincennes] – where they were stationed during the winter of 1779 – And were marched from thence down to the mouth of the Ohio and from thence to Fort Yellow Bank on the Mississippi during all which service they had no engagement except as the [they] went down the Tennessee some Indians fired on them in their canoes in what is now called the suck [?]<sup>1</sup> in said River – but did no execution nor were they able to find them on pursuit – but some miles below the [they] found six Indians and after a hard row caught them – kept them as prisoners. And after being stationed at Fort Yellow Bank during the summer of '80 they were ordered to Kaskaskia where he was honorably discharged by Colonel Montgomery sometime in September as he believes – making a term of twelve months during his term of enlistment.

Declarant does not now recollect the member [number?] of the Regiment to which he belonged nor does he know whether it was considered as belonging to the Virginia or North Carolina line. – As he was young and inexperienced. He states that the Regulars in company amounted to about 150 men – he also recollects that Captain Thomas Shibley & Captain Quick commanded companies in the Regiment – during this campaign he messed with Leonard

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<sup>1</sup> *such*

Shoemaker, John Slaughter & others. He states that he kept his discharge many years – but finally lost it he knows not how nor where. Since the Revolutionary War he has resided part of the time in Virginia part of the time in the State of Tennessee for the last 30 years he has lived in Coke [sic, Cocke] County where he now resides.

He states there is no clergyman in the neighborhood where he resides; but that John Henderson, William W Hancock are acquainted with him and can state as to his character for veracity –

He has no documentary evidence by which to substantiate his claim nor does he now know of any living by whom he can prove his service except such as he here with transmits. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and states that his name is not on the roll of any agency of any state.

S/ James Potter, X his mark

[William W Hancock and John Henderson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories propounded by the court –1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born? Answer in the State of Connecticut on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of July 1759.

2<sup>nd</sup> have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have a record of my age in my possession.

3<sup>rd</sup> How were you called into service

Ans. I enlisted for 12 months under Captain Jesse Evans. –

4<sup>th</sup> did you receive a discharge from the service by whom and what has become of it? – Answer I received a discharge from the service from Colonel Montgomery and afterwards lost it. Other questions answered in the body.

S/ James Potter, X his mark

[f p. 8: On March 7, 1840 in Clay County Missouri, the veteran applied for a transfer of his pension benefit to the Missouri agency giving as his reason for moving to Missouri as being that most of his children had moved to Missouri "with the hope of bettering their pecuniary situation, and most of them had emigrated to Missouri and he was old and infirm and thought it more suitable and more agreeable to spend the remainder of his days in the enjoyment of their society."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia State troops.]