

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Witty S18662

f16NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/21/17

[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.]

[p 6]

The State of Ohio County of Fayette: SS

On this 3rd day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Fayette County Court of Common Pleas now sitting James Witty a resident of Jefferson Township in the County of Fayette and State of Ohio aged 71 years next November, 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 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated &c

He this affiant states he entered the service of the United States in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina in the year 1777 on the 21 day of May. – He this affiant Enlisted into the Regular Army of the United States under the command of Captain Thomas McCrory of the 1st Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas Clark. – He marched soon after enlisting to Halifax in the said State of North Carolina – at this place the affiant states he deserted from the Army and returned home. He was absent from the Army about 6 weeks he this affiant then gave up to Lieutenant Robert Hays a Recruiting officer at Salisbury in the State of North Carolina he remained at this place during the winter, in the succeeding spring he marched to Pennsylvania and Joined the Army at Valley Forge commanded by General George Washington. From thence he the affiant marched under the command of Washington to Monmouth and was in the memorable battle fought at that place [June 28, 1778], from thence he marched to the White Plains, the British were at this time in New York. From the White Plains he marched to West Point. After remaining at this place, West Point, sometime he marched to Charleston in South Carolina and was there taken prisoner by Lord Cornwallis [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British of May 12, 1780]. He remained a prisoner on land about five months and was then put on board a prison ship where he remained nine months. From this place he was carried by water up James River in Virginia to Williamsburg, he was here exchanged. From Williamsburg he marched under the command of Colonel Clark to Richmond in the said State of Virginia at this place he was discharged, his time having expired nine days after he was taken prisoner at Charleston.

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present & my name is not on the agency of any State.

1. Where and in what year were you born?

The affiant answers he was born in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina on the 1st day of November A.D. 1761.

2. Have you any record of your age, if so where is it?

The respondent answers he has no record of his age

3. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolution

and where do you now live?

The affiant answers he lived in Guilford County in the State of North Carolina when called into service, where he remained until A.D. 1802 when he removed to Highland County in the State of Ohio where [he] remained a short time and then removed to Fayette County in the State of Ohio where he now lives.

4. How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a Substitute and if a Substitute for whom?

The affiant answers that he enlisted.

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

The affiant recollects several officers, Captain Bowman [Joshua Bowman], who was killed in defending Charleston, General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] was commander at Charleston and others whom he has spoken of in the body of his declaration – he recollects but one Regiment besides one in which he served that was the 2nd North Carolina Regiment, for the answer to the remainder of this question he refers to the body of his declaration.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

The affiant received a discharge from Colonel Clark, which he sent to draw his pay by Major Campbell (of the militia) who never returned it.

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 good behavior and your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer Nicholas Robinson, Thomas Rankin William Robinson, Jesse Millikan can testify and they all live in my vicinity there is no clergyman in my neighborhood.

S/ James Witty, X his mark

[William Robinson, Thomas Rankin and Nicholas Robinson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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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 Witty a private Soldier in Captain McCrory's Company of the 9th Regiment enlisted on the 21st day of May 1777 for the War, and deserted in November 1779 [sic, 1777?] and mustered again in May 1778. A Warrant was issued for 48 months service of the said James Witty on the Certificate of a field Office [sic, Officer]

Given under my hand this 9th April 1833

S/ Wm Hill

[p 3: In a letter dated December 11, 1854 addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions, the writer indicates that James Witty died September 13, 1842 testate at the County of Champaign, Ohio; and that the veteran son Jacob Witty was executor of the estate and a legatee.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 3 years in the North Carolina Continental line.]

Another Transcriptions

Pension Application of James Witty, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 2622, Application

#S18662

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

JAMES WITTY, a resident of Fayette County, Ohio, aged 71 years in October 1832:

“He (this affiant) states that he entered the service of the United States in **Guilford County** in the state of North Carolina in the year 1777 on the 21st day of May. He (this affiant) enlisted in the regular army of the United States under the command of Captain MCCRORY of the 1st regiment commanded by Colonel THOMAS CLARK. He marched soon after enlisting to **Halifax** in the said state of North Carolina. At this place the affiant states that he deserted from the army and returned home. He was absent from the army about 6 weeks.”

“He (this affiant) then gave up to Lieutenant ROBERT HAYS, a recruiting officer at **Salisbury** in the said state of North Carolina. He remained at this place during the winter. In the succeeding spring he marched to Pennsylvania and joined the army at **Valley Forge** commanded by General GEORGE WASHINGTON. From thence he (the affiant) marched under the command of WASHINGTON to **Monmouth** and was in the memorable battle [*per Heitman, June 28, 1778*] fought at that place. From thence he marched to the **White Plains**. The British were at this time in New York. From the **White Plains** he marched to **West Point**.”

“After remaining at this place **West Point**, some time, he marched to **Charleston** in South Carolina and was here taken prisoner by LORD CORNWALLIS. He remained a prisoner on land about five months and was then put aboard a prison ship where he remained 9 months. From this place he was carried by water up **James River** in Virginia to **Williamsburg**. He was here exchanged. From **Williamsburg**, he marched under the command of Colonel CLARK to **Richmond** in the said state of Virginia. At this place he was discharged, his time having expired 9 days after he was taken prisoner at **Charleston**...”

“...This affiant recollects several officers, Captain BOWMAN who was killed in defending **Charleston**, General LINCOLN was commander at **Charleston**, and others whom he has spoken of in the body of his declaration.”