

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Sykes S1892

fn18NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/27/11

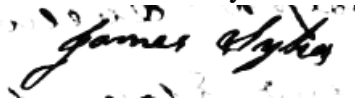
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 Tennessee Lincoln County: On the 17th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before Samuel Buchanan, William Edmiston and Jacob E. Waggoner Justices of said court of Pleas and quarter Sessions now sitting, James Sykes a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged seventy or seventy-two years, who being first sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. I was born in Norfolk County in the State of Virginia in the month of August 1760 or 1762 but cannot be positive as to which date as I have no family record to which I can refer to be assured of the fact, that have to rely entirely on my recollection of what was told me by my parents: – My father with the family including myself removed to the State of North Carolina Halifax County, when I was about twelve or thirteen years old where we resided until I became free from my father say twenty-one years of age: about this time I enlisted in the Continental Army under Captain Coats [Peter Bacot] for the term of eighteen months, his Lieutenant's name was Ford [probably John Ford or Foard]. I distinctly recollect that I enlisted in the month of July of the year next after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis; After the officers had enlisted between three and five hundred men, we were marched to Warren Courthouse in the State of North Carolina: we remained there not exceeding ten days, when we proceeded to Hillsboro and the State aforesaid, where we were joined by Lieutenant Lamb with a few men: from thence we marched to Salisbury where we were joined by a few men Continental troops under the command [of] Lieutenant Thomas Pastures [Thomas Pasteur] from thence we marched on by the Eutaw Springs by Camden, by Charlotte to Bacons bridge in the State of South Carolina. We took charge at Salisbury of 10 or 15 British prisoners and escorted them to Bacons bridge where we joined the main Army under the command of General Green [Nathanael Greene]; the other officers at that time attached to that Army were Colonel Litle [Archibald Lytle], Captain Litle [William Lytle], Rafor [Robert Raiford], Hall [Clement Hall], Rhodes [Joseph Thomas Rhodes] and Coleman [Benjamin Coleman] Lieutenants Campain [James Campen] and Campbell, Adjutants Ivey and Bush and Sergeant Major Nicholson. The troops

that were carried out by Captain Coats, after we had arrived at Bacons bridge were distributed amongst the companies that were assembled there before we arrived, who had lost men at the battle at Charleston. I was then attached to Captain Raford's company Campaign was the first and Thomas Pastures the 2nd Lieutenant: – we then marched on to James Island, we there expected to have attacked the British, but they declined a combat by getting a board of their vessels in going to Charleston, where we immediately pursued them, but they again took shipping and left us. We remained at Charleston a few days and then returned to James Island where we took up quarters and remained until the 4th of July following, when we returned again to Charleston and stacked and left our arms, and took up our march homewards: Orders were issued that as we arrived at stations nearest our County seat, we should be furloughed, that after we marched a few days Journey from Charleston a Soldier named Thomas Dickens was taken very sick, and at his solicitation as we had been old acquaintances, I was directed to take charge of him. We were both furloughed by Captain Litle, who gave Thomas Dickens \$10 Continental money to pay his expenses home which at that time was very much depreciated: peace ensued and I never was called on to serve out the balance of the time for which I enlisted. I was in the Army over more than twelve months. About four years after we were discharged I gave my furlough to a certain John Eaton a citizen of Halifax town North Carolina, who promised to attend and get what I was entitled to for my services as I had never received one cent, and as at that time declared to him that I was much in want of some assistance, he handed me \$10, and promised to use every exertion to procure for me the balance to which I was entitled; but before he had done anything for me I removed to Orange County in the same State where I live between twenty and thirty years, from thence I removed to East Tennessee and from thence to my present residence in Lincoln County West Tennessee, and have never seen or heard of Mr. Eaton or any furlough sense. There were 2 witnesses that I have reason to believe are still living who can and have testified to the truth of the above statement, to wit, Thomas Dickens,¹ the soldier who was placed in my care when we were returning home from Charleston as related above who lives in Chatham County North Carolina and Joseph Sullivan who lives in Lincoln County and State of Tennessee, who was present and saw me when I enlisted as above stated, a certificate from each of whom regularly subscribed and sworn to I procured some 2 or 3 years past, and deposited in the hands of Colonel James K Polk who is a representative to the national Legislature from this State, and who not long since assured me they were filed away in his office. Among the persons known to me who can testify to my veracity and their belief in the truth of the foregoing declaration on the following persons now present in court Benjamin Walker, Benjamin Boone and Thomas Shaw, the 2 first of whom are respectable clergyman and the last named a man of unimpeachable veracity – I hereby relinquish all and every claim to a pension or annuity except the present and furthermore declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Robt. Inge, Clk

S/ James Sykes



[Benjamin Walker and Benjamin Boone, both clergyman, and Thomas Shaw gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

¹ [Thomas Dickens S41509](#)

[Note: the affidavits of Thomas Dickens and Joseph Sullivan referred to by the veteran are not contained in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for one-year service as a private in the North Carolina Continental line.]