

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Benjamin Janes (Jones) S1959

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/16/13

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

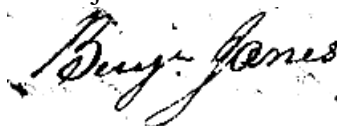
State of Tennessee Smith County:

On this 29th day of August 1832 Personally appeared in Open Court before Solomon Debour, John Chambers & William C Garrison the Court of Pleas [&] Quarter Sessions for Smith County now sitting Benjamin Janes a resident of Smith County & State aforesaid Seventy-two years of age next September 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 on the following named officers & served as herein stated. That on the 10th day of March 1779 in the County of Henrico & State of Virginia he entered a Substitute in the drafted Militia for the term of eighteen months under Captain Howard in Colonel Bluford [Abraham Buford's] Regiment & joined the Regiment at Fredericksburg commanded by General Scott [Charles Scott] from thence we marched northwardly near Philadelphia and thence returned to Petersburg where we remained until the following Spring at which time the troops marched southwardly & I was left sick & carried to Chesterfield Court house & remained there until October 1780 at which time I was discharged by Captain William Davis which I sent to Richmond by John Th. Wells in order to obtain a land warrant, where I understand it was left in proof of the certificate. After the above tour I was frequently called out on short tours put under Captain William Gay under whose command we attacked 7 British Barges & a boat at the mouth of Pigginn Creek on James River & drove them off – a few days afterwards whilst on picket guard I was taken prisoner by the British in Nansmond County near Sleepy hold [Sleepy Hole?] & afterwards paroled, this I think was in the year 1781. The length of this tour I do not recollect, but am very confident that all the short tours (the particulars of which I cannot now recollect) was more than 12 months exclusive of the 18 months tour, above named, I was also in Wells' Regiment at the siege of York when Cornwallis was taken [October 19, 1781]. That he has no documentary evidence & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn and Subscribed in open court this 29 August 1832

S/ J. Pickett, Clk

S/ Benj. Janes

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Benj. Janes', written in black ink.

[John Bransford, a clergyman, and William McClain gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories by the court

Q 1st Where and in what year were you born

Ans. I was born in September 1760 in Isle of Wight County Virginia.

Q 2nd have you any record of your age & if so where is it,

Ans. I have none only as I have heard my parents say.

Q 3rd Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live.

Ans. When first called into service I lived in Isle of Wight County Virginia where I remained until the spring of 1824 at which time I removed to Smith County Tennessee where I now live.

Q 4th How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute & if a substitute for whom.

Ans. There was a call for every 15 young men to furnish one & one of this class employed me to take the tour.

Q 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served.

Ans. All this so far as I can recollect I have stated in my declaration.

Q 6th did you ever receive a discharge from the service, & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it

Ans. All this is stated in my declaration.

Q 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution

Ans. John Bransford a clergyman & William McClain together with many others

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]