

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Tennant S22010

MD RI

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Rhode Island Sc. }

County of Newport } Supreme Court. August Term 1832

On this seventh day of September personally appeared in said Court now sitting at Newport in and for said County James Tennant of Middletown in said County, aged seventy three years, who being first duly sworn according to law on oath declares as follows, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1832. – that about the middle of the year 1777, as nearly as he can remember, being then a resident of South Kingstown in said state, he enlisted in Capt. Christopher Dyer’s company in Colonel Tophams [John Topham’s] Regiment, in the service of said State, for the term of nine months, & served to the end of his term – that during this term of enlistment he was engaged in a skirmish with the enemy on Scott’s Neck on Rhode Island in which Capt Dyer was wounded in the thigh. That during said nine months service he was a Sergeant in said company, and was stationed at and near Howland’s ferry in Tevaton [sic: Tiverton] in said state – that he went with Col Barton [William Barton, pension W23503] as a volunteer to aid in the Capture of Gen. Prescott [Richard Prescott, 4 Jul 1777] – that after the time of his enlistment had expired he immediately enlisted again in Capt. Henry Dayton’s [W24036] Company in Col Barton’s Regiment in the State Service for one year. The first ten months of this last enlistment, he served in Providence – the two last in Newport and at Howland’s Ferry where he was sent with twelve men to take one of the boats and stores – that during the whole time of his service as above set forth, he served in the capacity of Sergeant. That soon after this last term of enlistment had expired, he went to Boston & there entered on Board of the General Mifflin, a privateer of twenty guns, George Waite Babcock commander, for a six weeks service and after being out for four weeks, during which they captured a ship of eighteen guns and a schooner, and several other vessels, they were captured by the British ship of war Raleigh & carried into Charleston in South Carolina, where he was detained a prisoner for upwards of twelve months – that he left Charleston in a cartel, which put into Edenton in North Carolina in distress, where he left her, traversed by land to Maryland and in Annapolis in that State took the place of Israel Frey[?] a private in one of the Maryland Regiments of drafted militia and was marched immediately to York Town where he served until the Surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781]; soon after which he was discharged from the regiment, and the next spring returned to Rhode Island, where he has ever since resided – that he was acquainted with several officers of the Continental army – and among them with Col. Christopher Greene & Lieutenant William Ennis [W7110] & Henry Shearman [Henry Sherman S43127], who were first sergeants in Topham’s Regiment, & afterward Lieut in Angel’s [sic: Israel Angell S38496] regiment of which Jeremiah Olney [W24366] was Lt Col. commandant – that 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.

James hisXmark Tennant

I Ebenezar Smith [Ebenezer Smith S39846] of South Kings town in the County of Washington and State of Rhode Island Aged Seventy five year on Solem oath Testify and Say that in the year 1777 in the Month of June James Tennant and Myself Inlisted in Capt Christopher Dyre’s Company Belonging to Col John Topins Regment of State Troops Raised By the State of Rhode Island, and to my Certain knowledge said Tennant served in said Company Nine Months, at the Expiration of said time we Were Both Discharged, and that Barber Peckham [W13803] Late of said South kingstown Lieutenant and Randal Rice Late of East Greenwich dec’d was Ensign of said Company and that said Tennant was Engaged in a Schirmish with some of the Enimy on Scotts Neck on Rhode Island at which time Capt Dyre was Wounded in his thigh that during said Term he served at or Near Howlands Ferry in Tivertown and Went as a Volunteer with Col Barton to Capture General Prescott and after he served said term out the said Tennant to My knowledge Enlisted in Capt Henry Daytons Company in Col Bartons Rignent for one Year and did serve

to the End of said Last Mentiond time in the State Service a part of which time he served in Providence  
and part of the time in Newport and of Rhode Island Ebenezar hisXmark Smith