

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

Pension Application of James Gay S2568

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Clarke [sic: Clark] County Sct

On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833 personally appeared in open court, before the justices of the Clarke County Court now sitting, it being a court of record, James Gay Sen a resident of Clarke County and state aforesaid aged seventy five, 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<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated

In the first of September in the year 1776 he entered the service as a volunteer in a Company commanded by Andrew Loghridge [sic: Andrew Lockridge] Capt James Bratton being the Lieutenant. The said volunteer company was raised in Augusta County Virginia in which county he then resided. He marched in said company the rout then called the Indian road to Clover Lick [in present Pocahontas County WV], where the company was stationed, and a fort built. He remained there in said Company something over three months. the company was then discharged, and they went home, there was no written discharge given to him or any of the company as well as he recollects. Whilst at Clover lick said Company acted as rangers, and protected the frontiers. – In the month of March 1777 he again entered the service in a company of Virginia Militia, commanded by Captain McCamey [sic: John McGamey]. He was a substitute in the place of one Michael Kennaday [Michael Kennedy or Michael Cannaday?] for three months. He again marched with said company from Augusta County where it was raised to Clover Lick where he was stationed and where he remained until 1779. Capt. McCamey's company was discharged at the expiration of the three months, but he remained at the fort. In the following year to wit 1778 he acted as and Indian Spy during the whole of said year, by orders from Col. Abram Smith [Abraham Smith] making the fort at Clover Lick his home, to which he returned once every three weeks and during the time acting as an Indian Spy in that section of the Country ranging as far as to the Fork Lick on Elk.

In the year 1779 he served a tour of three months as a substitute in the company of Capt. Robert Thomson [Robert Thompson], a company of Virginia Militia raised in Augusta County, and stationed at the same place, and serving during the time as an Indian spy, his whole sevice as a spy during 1778 and 1779 being eighteen months at the same place

In September 1779 he removed to Lexington Kentucky, and in the month of February 1780 he joined a minute [Minute-Man] Company of volunteers commanded by Captain John Hagen, John Morrison being Lieutenant. He marched in said Company to the blue Licks. From that to Martin's station on Licking [on Stoner Creek 3 mi N of Paris KY, near South Fork of Licking River]. From Martins station we marched to Riddles station [sic: Ruddle's Station near Lair KY] remained there a short time, and returned back to Lexington, having on our return a small skirmish with the Indians in which four of our men were killed. He was in service in said Company from the last of February to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June following. He then returned to the State of Virginia and in the month of September 1780, he again entered the service as a militia man in a company commanded by Captain Samuel Vance which company was raised in August County Virginia. He was a substitue for a man by the name of Robert Sittlentower. He marched in said Company from Augusta, passing near Richmond Virginia to Portsmouth We were commanded by Col. [Edward] Stevens, who was afterwards General Stevens. We were out three months, a good part of which time we were engaged in marching through the country near portsmouth and watching the movements of parties of the British who were roaming abut plundering the Country.

In the month of February 1781 He again entered the service as a volunteer in a Company of volunteer mounted men commanded by Captain John Oliver. our Lieutenant was named David Guinn

[David Gwin]. for the purpose of serving a three months tour. We marched to the army commanded by General [Nathanael] Greene in North Carolina, and reached it near Guilford Courthouse. The regiment was under the command of Colonel John McCreery until it reached Greens army when the men were dismounted and put under the command of Col. [William] Campbell. He was in the battle of Guilford in March 1781 [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. He was in said battle in the regiment commanded by Col. Campbell. Said regiment was on the left of the American Army at the time of the battle. General Green was Commander in Chief on that occasion. General Stevens was also there. After the battle we followed the British army near to Charleston, in South Carolina, where we were discharged if he obtained a written discharge he has lost it. After his return to Virginia, viz in the month of September 1781 he again entered the service in a company of Militia commanded by Captain David Bell, he was a substitute. The company marched to York where Cornwallis was with the British army. About four days after he reached Washington's Camp, Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct 1781]. They went to serve a three months tour but were discharged before the time was out. He served altogether as before detailed upwards of two years. The exact time of his actual service he cannot state, but he knows it was upwards of two years.

He states that he was born in Augusta County Virginia on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of August 1758.

He has a record of his age at his own house in Clarke County, in a Bible, which record was taken from one made by his father in a family bible which now belongs to one of his sisters.

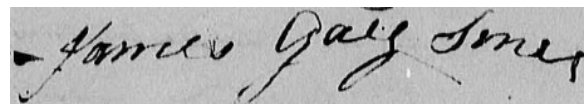
In the Fall of the year 1783 he returned back to Kentucky and has been residing here ever since, and now resides in Clarke county, and has been living for near forty years on the farm He now occupies.

He lived in Augusta County Virginia where he was born until he removed at the State of Kentucky. His whole service during the revolutionary war was eighteen months as a spy, and not less than sixteen months as a private militia soldier, making altogether two years and ten months, although he is of opinion from the best of his recollection that his service was a month or two more than here stated. He has already stated the names of all the regular officers he can recollect. He can prove a considerable portion of his services by the testimony of John Lee [pension application S31208] and John Locheridge [John Lochridge (Lockridge) S31218] of Montgomery County, both of whom were in the revolutionary war, and their affidavits he has obtained. He is known in his present neighborhood to Thomas Wornall, Thomas Wright, Matthew Anderson Sen and Rev'd. Joseph Sewell who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services in the revolutionary war.

He has no recollection whether he ever received at any time a written discharge from the service If he did however he has long since lost it.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Gay Jones". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: A note on the pension certificate states that Gay died on 22 June 1840.