

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Horsley S30490

f9VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/28/14

[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.]

Declaration of James Horsley

States that he lived in Culpeper County Virginia and substituted about the year 1780 or '81 as a Militia man to guard prisoners at the Albemarle Barracks Virginia & was then Discharged after serving out his time which I think was three months & returned home, ___ Conn was Captain at the Barracks, and other officers names I have forgotten.

I then substituted on a second tour for three months in Culpeper County Virginia & was marched from there to Petersburg thence to Springfield & then returned to Culpeper again & from there I was marched to Williamsburg, I was then marched to a Redoubt between Yorktown & Pigeon Hill which the British had in possession which we succeeded in taking, I was then marched to Yorktown, at which place I enlisted as a regular soldier for five years or during the war. I think I was in enlisted by a man by the name of Arnold who was a recruiting officer at that place, my officers of my second tower [tour] were Colonel James Barber [James Barbour], Major John Gray, Captain Thomas Watts, Lieutenant ___ Blake, Ensign Reuben Winn, Captain Watts resigned after I had been in the service some time & Jasper Hanes succeeded him as Captain and served [as] Captain until my term of service expired, that I had substituted for, ____, a few days after I had enlisted I was marched against Lord Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] who was then in possession of York Town and Gloucester on the opposite side of the River. In making the attack the American Army was divided in Two divisions the French having assigned to the command of one of the divisions & the Americans the other. I was in the French division which was commanded by Marquis De St. Simon & Lafayette both divisions was successful & Wallis [Cornwallis] was forced to surrender. I was within thirty or forty feet when Wallis gave up his sword & I think it was returned, again by Washington to Wallis. This battle I think was in the fall of 1781 or '82 [October 19, 1781]. – I was then marched from York Town [to] Cloves Marsh in South Carolina, my officers at that time was Captain Connet Blue, Robert Colvin Sergeant & Steuben or some such name was my Colonel, my messmates during the greater part of my Regular Service was Joseph Grace, William Sulivan [William Sullivan], and William Estil I have a very distinct recollection of those men missing with me, before I was Discharge. I was marched from Cloves Marsh to Richmond Virginia and was there Discharged & my Discharge was then handed and about thirty-five years ago my house was burned down & my Discharge was burned up among a great many other valuable papers on Licking River, Bath County Kentucky.

S/ James Horsley, X his mark

Deposition of Elijah Horsley who is about eighty years of age taken at the House of Samuel Ratliff Esquire Greene County Kentucky on the 20th day of December 1842 to be used as evidence in obtaining a pension for James Horsley an old revolutionary Soldier after he first duly sworn deposeth and saith

That he was present when James Horsley enlisted near York Town Virginia as a Regular Soldier in the Revolutionary War for five years or during [the] war, I was not in the Army myself, I sold James Horsley frequently during this Servitude and believe he was in the Battle of York Town, and was after the taking of York Town marched to South Carolina, I have frequently seen his Discharge and believe it to have been an Honorable one and further this Deponent saith not.

S/ Elijah Horsley, X his mark

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