

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Jones S31170

Transcribed by Will Graves

f28NC

rev'd 3/7/16

[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 'indecipherable' 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 Kentucky, County of Daviess: Sgt.

On the 13th day of Eighth 1833 personally appeared before Samuel Hawes, Creed Burton, Elijah McCreery & William Medcalf Justices of the County Court of said County now sitting James Jones a resident of said County of Daviess & State aforesaid aged near Seventy-three years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he volunteered in the month of September 1778, in the County of Rowan North Carolina, as a private under Captain William Wilson, John Todd Lieutenant and Alexander Dobbins, Ensign. This Company was attached to Colonel Francis Locke's Regiment and General Rutherford's [Griffith Rutherford's] Brigade, we rendezvoused at Salisbury in North Carolina, from whence we marched under the above named officers through Mecklenburg County to Camden in South Carolina, from thence to the River Santee crossing the same at Nelson's ferry from thence to the Ten miles house from Charlestown [sic, Charleston], where we remained some days, from thence we marched to Purysburg on the Savannah River, where we joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] and the Main Army, at this time the British Army were marching near the Savannah River in the State of Georgia, both armies remained for some time watching each other on opposite sides of the Savannah River. Captain Wilson was ordered from the Main Army & posted on a Lagoon, putting into the River Savannah between Tubler's ferry [Tubley's ferry?] & the Two Sisters ferry, and I was one of the guard sent with him, during the winter we had a skirmish with the British who were ascending up the Lagoon in boats, near a place called the White House where our Commissaries stores were deposited, from hence by a forced march we went up the Savannah to reinforce General Ash [sic, John Ashe], who was encamped on Briar Creek in Georgia, and we had reached the ferry at the Savannah River opposite where General Ashe was Encamped and heard the firing of the guns [Battle of Briar Creek, March 3, 1779]¹ and a part of the Army had crossed, and we met Ashe on his retreat from the British Army, the whole Army then retreated back & encamped at the Two Sisters ferry where we remained some weeks, and from thence we marched to a place called Turkey Hill, where we remained until the 10th day of March 1779 when we were discharged from whence we however were marched by our Company officers back to our homes in Rowan County. I believe I received a discharge from Colonel Locke, but have long since lost it. In the summer & fall of the year 1780, I served a tour of three months in Mecklenburg County under the command of Thomas Cowan Captain, Lieutenant Samuel Knox and John Morrison Ensign, our Company were horsemen, the Colonels then present with the Army were Colonel Craig and Colonel Barringer, and General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] who commanded the regulars was our Commander as well as now recollected during this tour we were scouting on several occasions, and we made an attack on the British at Polke's mill

¹ <https://www.google.com/search?q=%22Battle+of+Briar+Creek%22+1779&ie=utf-8&oe=utf-8>

[sic, Polk's mill]² under the command of Captains Hart & Dixon. The British Army then occupied Mecklenburg Court house but before our discharge they retreated from Mecklenburg & marched back into South Carolina. Our time of three months having expired we marched back to Rowan County, our homes. I was honorably discharged by Captain Thomas Cowan & have lost the same. In the fall of the year 1781 I volunteered as a private in Rowan County three months under Captain Richard Simmons, Lieutenant Hoodsman & Ensign John Carson we joined the Army on the Pedee [River], our Company belonged to Colonel Smith's [Robert Smith's] Choir [sic, Corps] and General Rutherford was commander from thence we marched to a place called the Raft swamp where we defeated [Battle of Raft Swamp, October 15, 1781]³ a party of Tories said to be under the Command of Col. McNeel [sic, Hector McNeill],⁴ from thence we marched towards Wilmington leaving Fayetteville on the left till we arrived at a brick building opposite to Wilmington where there was a British Garrison, we defeated [The Battle of Brick House, November 15, 1781]⁵ a party of Tories near this place and attempted to storm the Garrison but failed for want of artillery. John Gay was killed at this place, our Commander was Colonel Smith, soon after this, Captain Richardson Simmons was ordered over the Cape Fear River and marched on the North East River which we swam on account of the British having burnt the end of the Bridge, and marched into Wilmington where we remained a few days & then we marched down Captain Fear [sic, Cape Fear River] to a place called the Sounds watching the British vessels which lay in Cape Fear River, here we remained until our three months had expired and we were then discharged & marched home.

This declarant further states that during the year 1780 & 1781 he served Seven tours as a minute man which averaged at the least 10 or 12 days each tour, against the Tories, sometimes called out by the Colonels, sometimes by the Captains – these tours were in Rowan & the adjoining Counties. I was two of the aforesaid Tours under Colonel Locke & Colonel Davidson [William Lee Davidson]. I was under Captain William Wilson on two of the preceding tours, on one of which we met Col. Buford [Abraham Buford] on his retreat,⁶ -- on to other of the aforesaid tours I was with Colonel Locke & Col. Brandon and marched as far as Broad River where Colonel McDowell [Charles McDowell] was camped. I was on one of these tours with General William Lee Davidson and we had a Severe skirmish with Cornwallis' Army at Cowan's Ford on the Catawba River, and General Davidson was killed at this place about the 1st day of February 1781 as well as this respondent now recollects.⁷ This declarant served several other minute tours which he does not enumerate, & claim pay for, but states that in the tours & campaigns before herein specified he Served faithfully fourteen months & upwards, for which he asks for pay. This applicant States that he was born in York County, Pennsylvania in the year 1760 & removed to, Settled in Rowan County North Carolina where he resided during the revolutionary War & for many years after and about the year 1824 he removed to his present residence in Daviess County Kentucky. In all the Tours performed by me I was a volunteer and a resident of Rowan County North Carolina. This applicant has no documentary evidence to prove his said Service and hereto annexed is Testimony of Samuel Calhoun, Clergyman & James W. Johnson being all the corroborating testimony he knows of or can procure to testify to his Services.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed in

² <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/polksmill.htm>

³ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_raft_swamp.html

⁴ Although McNeill was present at the engagement, the command of the Tory forces in this engagement was vested in Colonel Duncan Ray.

⁵ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brick_house.html

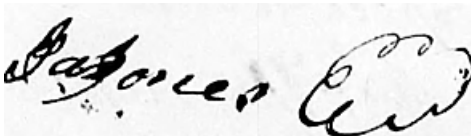
⁶ Buford was retreating from the Waxhaws engagement (also known as Buford's Defeat), May 29, 1780.

⁷ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_waxhaws.html

⁷ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cowans_ford.html

open Court the date aforesaid. This applicant annexes the affidavit of Jacob Saunders as proof of one of the Tours and knows of no other person by whom he can prove anything further the said Jacob Saunders is now in ill health & Cannot be got to Court to Testify.

S/ Jas. Jones

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "James Jones", written in a cursive style.

[Samuel Calhoun, clergyman, and James W. Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina, Secretary's Office 18th of February 1823

I William Hill Secretary of State in & for the State aforesaid, certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State, that two persons by the name of James Jones privates in Captain John Yarborough's Company of the 10th Regiment was mustered in the year 1781 for 12 months, one "left the service 13th of April 1782", the other on the 27th of April 1782.

Given under my hand at office the date above.

S/ Wm Hill

[Transcriber's Note: This certificate would appear to relate to some "James Jones" other than this James Jones since he never claimed to have been in the Continental line under Capt. Yarborough.]

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Kentucky, Daviess County

Personally came & appeared before me a Justice of the peace for said County Jacob Saunders an old & infirm man aged about 70 years and made oath to this Statements

I Jacob Saunders do certify that I am well acquainted with James Jones, who has scribed & sworn to this declaration & that I knew him in Rowan County North Carolina & there knew him to be a soldier of the revolution, and believe he served the several tours as stated in his said annexed declaration in the year 1781 [could be 1780]. I saw him frequently in the Army under Captain Richard Simmons & know that he served that tour of three months, as I was at that Campaign and saw him in camp doing duty under said Simmons and the said Jones is now here present & resides in the County of Daviess, and my health is such as to prevent my being present in open Court. May 13, 1833

S/ Jacob Saunders, X his mark

I Andrew Jones Justice of the peace in & for the County of Daviess in the State of Kentucky do certify that Jacob Saunders personally came & appeared before me and subscribed & sworn to the preceding affidavit as to the service of James Jones in the revolutionary war, and I do moreover certify that the said Saunders is too infirm to attend Court this day, and that he was in bed sick when he was called to testify in this case, all which is hereby certified.

Given under my hand as justice this 13th of May 1833.

S/ A. Jones JPDC

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$49.16 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private for 11 months in the militia Infantry and 3 months as a private in the militia Cavalry.]