

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew Patton S31294

f45MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 11/25/16

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky, County of Christian

Personally appeared this 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 1834 before the Honorable Justices of the Christian County Court and State aforesaid Mathew Patton Senr. aged Eighty four years next June who being duly sworn doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June \_\_ 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in the year 1775 and continued therein to the close of the war under the following named Officers -- Mordecai Gist as a Captain who was afterwards taken & commissioned in the regular service and promoted to a Majority next under Capt. John Sterrett & after his death under Capt. Nicholas Ruxton Moore. --

Mathew Patton Senior states he was born in May 1750 old style & next June will be (according to the register of his age) Eighty four years old. Was born in Augusta County State of Virginia but now called Pendleton. That he moved to Baltimore when a young man and in 1775 was one of about sixty Gentlemen of handsome property who organized themselves into a Company of Infantry under Captain Mordecai Gist as the Baltimore Independent Company: that their services were tendered to the Governor of Maryland for and during the resistance to British oppression—The first services rendered was the quelling of Tories on the Eastern shore of Maryland in which we were engaged.

The next actual service was at the head of Elk where Lord Howe landed the British army then on the south of Philadelphia – Capt. Gist was before this transferred to the regular army and Captain Joshua Sterrett was our commander. We commenced our march early in August & was in the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] & Germantown [October 4, 1777] & returned home to winter quarters -- when in Battle we were under the command of Genl. Smallwood [William Smallwood].

We were engaged in this service three months or more. Sometime after our return Captain Sterrett died, when by unanimous consent we equipped ourselves as a troop of Cavalry and Chose Captain Nicholas Ruxton Moore as our Captain and was received as a State troop of Volunteer Dragoons always prepared and always willing to do any kind of service -- This was in the year 1778 or 1779. In this Company I was a Sergeant and acted as such to the termination of hostilities. In the foot Company Genl. Saml Smith [Samuel Smith] of Baltimore was a private & after leaving us for the regular service was made a Colonel in the same & bore a conspicuous part in the defense of Mud Island fort [sic, Fort Mifflin]-- In the Dragoons Alexander McKim (since a member of Congress) was a private -- In the spring or summer of 1781 we joined the forces of General Lafayette on his way to Virginia to arrest Cornwallis in his career and


remained with him until Cornwallis was shut up in York [Yorktown, October 19, 1781], where it was found inconvenient to keep our horses and we were permitted to return home -- During the whole War I nor any of my comrades ever received one dollar of compensation for our services, nor did we ever ask it. Frequently when on duty we were compelled to sustain ourselves and horses & always when at home our horses & arms were kept in readiness to move at a moments warning.

I would refer to each and every member of the court, to the Hon Henry Clay & the Honorable Chittenden Lyon now in Congress for my character for probity, integrity & veracity and their general belief of my voluntary services ---

He then states that owing to his old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot State these various services he performed at various times during the years 1775 '76 '77 '78 79 & 81 but states positively that he was a volunteer for & during the war and sustained horses frequently when in duty -- He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity, except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State -- and states he never received any written discharge.

Sworn and subscribed to in open court the day & year aforesaid  
Interlined "Senior" & "leaving us for the regular services"

S/ Matthew Patton Sr. {Seal}

PF  
*regular services*  


We Thomas Kirkman a clergyman residing in Christian County, Ky and James C Anerson residing in the same county & State that we are well acquainted with Matthew Patton Sr. who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be Eighty four years of age next June as he has stated -- that he is reputed & believed to have been a soldier of the revolution in this neighborhood where he has resided upwards of twenty years, and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Kirkman

S/ Jas. C Anderson

State of Kentucky County of Christian: SS

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in & for said County & State aforesaid Mathew Patton Senior who being duly sworn deposes and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades viz. = For a period of four weeks on the Eastern shore of Maryland under Captain Mordecai Gist sometime in the winter 1776-1777 I served as a private. For three months as a private under the command of Captain Sterrett as a private. For three months as a Dragoons under Captain Nicholas Ruxton Moore and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn & subscribed to before me the [obliterated] day of June 1834

S/ Jno. P. Campbell, JP

S/ Matthew Patton Sr.

[Attested: June 13, 1834]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25.60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 for service as a private for 6 months in the Maryland militia.]