

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James True [Trew] S31438

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/27/11: rev'd 10/25/17

[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 Fayette County Sct.

On this 22nd day of October 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Thomas M Hickey sole and presiding Judge of the Fayette Circuit Court, now sitting, James True, a resident of Fayette County and State of Kentucky, aged eighty-four years, 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He was drafted with seven or eight others to guard the public magazine in Fredericksburg Virginia in which service he was engaged at least six months, at that time he resided in Spotsylvania County, the squad was commanded by a Sergeant whose name he thinks was Blanballard. Allen Wiley, William Hayden and Edmund Bryant were engaged with him in this service, which was rendered he thinks in 1776 Major Forsyth [perhaps Robert Forsyth] had charge of the magazine. He was then discharged and in the latter part of the year 1780 was drafted and marched to Sandy Point at old James Town, through Caroline, Hanover & Henrico Counties, under the following officers, Colonel Winslow [Beverly Winslow], Captain Thomas Croucher [Thomas Crutcher] & Lieutenant Coleman [perhaps, Francis Coleman]. The Troops were sent to Sandy Point, expecting the British to land there from their shipping, which they were designed [?] to prevent. After serving about three months, he was marched to Petersburg and discharged.

After his discharge, about two or three months after it, he entered the service at Fredericksburg with his wagon and Team, under Richard Young, the Quarter Master and was engaged in hauling public stores, to Prince Edward Court House, to Williamsburg, Richmond, and a great many other places, when Lafayette came to Fredericksburg, Affiant went with the troops transporting their baggage, to Richmond and the various places to which the General went to defend the Country against the enemy, he was with him about six weeks, and was engaged in this service about eighteen months. He lived in Spotsylvania County, when he entered the service. He knew in the service Captain Richard Stephens of the regular Army. He has no documentary evidence of his service, but can prove it by Jesse Bryant, Thomas Bryant and John Darnaby.

Affiant was born in Spotsylvania County on the 29th of August 1748, he has no record of his age. He lived in Spotsylvania County Virginia when called into the service, he lived in Caroline County two years after the war, when he removed to Fayette County Kentucky where he has lived ever since. He received a discharge from the service, but has lost it many years

since, he does not recollect from whom he received it.

He refers to the following individuals resident in his present neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, Hubbard Taylor, Rheuben Taylor, William Prewitt, Richard Chiles, Benjamin Hayley, Jacob Hughs and Edward Darnaby.

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.

S/ James True, X his mark

Jesse Bryant states on oath that he is well acquainted with James True, whose name is subscribed to the above declaration, that he knew him in Spotsylvania County Virginia during the Revolutionary War, and resided within a mile of him, that said True to his knowledge was one of a party who was engaged, he thinks in 1776, in guarding the public magazine in Fredericksburg & thinks he served about six months during this period he saw him repeatedly in Fredericksburg. He likewise knew the said True was drafted into the service in the year 1780 and served about three months; affiant understood at the time, when said True left home, that he had gone to old James Town. Affiant saw True frequently while he was in the service as a Waggoner to the Army, and thinks he served in that capacity for 15 or 18 months, he has known him ever since and has lived his neighbor in Fayette County Kentucky about 29 years.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.



This day Thomas Bryant¹ personally appeared before me, Mayor of the City of Lexington and made oath, that he lived in Spotsylvania County Virginia in the year 1776, and knew that James True who has signed the above declaration, was drafted to guard the magazine in Fredericksburg in which service he supposes he was engaged about six months. In 1780 affiant went down to old Richmond to join his Company, and James True belonged to Thomas Croucher's Company and they were together until they reached Old Richmond when affiant stopped with his Company and True continued on to Sandy Point. Affiant was in Petersburg when True came there with his Company, which was discharged after a service of about three months.

Affiant recollects that said True was in the service as a Waggoner for about 18 months.

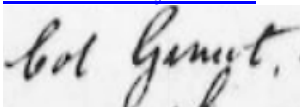
October 18 1832

S/ Charlton Hunt

John Darnaby² states on oath that he knew the above named James True during the Revolutionary War when Lafayette came from the North to Virginia at Fredericksburg, his teams were discharged and True was taken into the service as a Waggoner, and transported the baggage of Colonel Genut [?]³ of the regular Army below Richmond, Cornwallis was on the opposite side of the River with his Army, he started down the River and Lafayette pursued him, a little below

¹ [Thomas Bryant S30288](#)

² [John Darnaby S16360](#)

³ 

Gennet?

Richmond Affiant was detached from the Army, but True continued with the Army, who were watching the movements of the enemy. Affiant thinks True must have been in the service as a Waggoner some 18 months, affiant has lived True's neighbor in this County for 46 years.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Darnaby

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Darnaby". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for Fayette County Kentucky, James True who being duly sworn deposed and saith, that by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot positively swear 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: – In the first tour, for six months I served as private, in the second tour for three months I served as a private, In the third tour I served for eighteen months as a waggoner in the Revolutionary Army and for such service I claim a pension. July 16, 1833

Sworn to before me this 16 July 1833

S/ James E Davis, JP

S/ James True, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for nine months in the Virginia militia.]

[Note: Thanks to John Bunnell for identifying Beverly Winslow and Thomas Crutcher.]