

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of James Swords S32002

Transcribed by Joy King and Robert W. Klebs

National Pension Claim number :S.32002 transcribed.

The following was provided by Joy King from Doug Swords in May, 1998. The seven questions were originally omitted from the original and obtained by this writer on Oct.2, 2002 and inserted into the body of the text. The replies have not been altered in any way [[Robert W. Klebs]].

Rev. War Pen. #S.32002: 19th May 1834 - Walton Co., GA - James Swords.

Source: From information provided by Joy King on Sept. 28, 2002.

The following is a transcript of his statement:

Declaration of James Swords in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832. State of Georgia County of Walton. The following is a transcript of his statement:

"Declaration of James Swords in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832. State of Georgia County of Walton.

On this nineteenth day of May eighteen hundred and thirty four personally appeared before the honorable the Inferior Court of said county of Walton being a court of record. James Swords, a resident of the county aforesaid, and State of Georgia, aged seventy nine years on the tenth day of June last, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of congress passed June 7th 1832 depose that he enlisted in the Army of the United States as a Georgia Militiaman on the first of March 1777 for the period of three months with Captain Henry Walker, and served in the first regiment of Georgia Militia under the following named officers: John Stewart, Colonel Elijah Clark, Lt. Colonel Henry Walker, Captain Henry Carr, 1st Lt. Charles Stewart, 2nd Lt. Joseph Harper, First Sergeant David Fennel, Corporal That this deponent lived at the time of said enlistment in the Village of Wrightsboro, Columbia County, and State of Georgia, that during the three months he was not engaged in any battle. During this time he marched first from Wrightsboro aforesaid to a place called Rogers Fort upon the Ogeechee river where he rendezvoused and was stationed during said three months in said fort guarding the frontier of Georgia against the invasions of Tories and Indians.

Deponent, immediately upon expiration of said three months, without ever leaving the army, was enlisted upon the first of June 1777 for another three-month tour under the same officers. That at the date of said last named enlistment the place of deponent's residence was still at Wrightsboro, Columbia County, and Georgia. Deponent declares that he was not engaged in any battle during his previous three month tour, and was stationed only a few days after said last named term of enlistment at Rogers Fort on Ogeechee river. He marched during said last term of enlistment from said fort through a part of Hancock County, across a part of Warren County to a place called Dennis Mill on Little River in the County of Wilkes where this deponent was stationed about four weeks-thence this deponent marched to a place called Awls Old Place on the waters of Long Creek; thence up Long Creek to its fork where this deponent was stationed for the balance of said last named three month tour and was engaged in building a fort and guarding the frontier of Georgia against Indians, an absence of one fortnight being excepted from last three months, this deponent having been away for that length of aforesaid to visit his wife in the County of Columbia and this deponent further declares that immediately upon the expiration of said last named three months without leaving the station at Long Creek aforesaid he was on the 1st of September 1777 enlisted for another three month tour. John Stewart still being first colonel, Elija Clark Lt. Col, Henry Carr Captain (Walker having died) Charles Stewart 1st Lt, Thomas Adams Sergeant, Harper having died, the corporal's name this deponent cannot remember (Fennel having also died). This deponents residence at the date of his said last enlistment was still Wrightsboro

Columbia County, State of Georgia and deponent says he was not engaged in any battle during his said last named tour of enlistment, but was stationed during the same in the fork of Long Creek aforesaid and this deponent, immediately upon expiration of said last named tour of three months, was, without having left the station in the fork of Long Creek, upon the first of December 1777 enlisted for another three month tour under the same officers and the deponents place of residence was still at Wrightsboro County of Columbia State of Georgia at the date of his said last named term of enlistment. The deponent was not engaged in any battle during his said last named three months enlistment and this deponent was stationed at the fork of Long Creek aforesaid guarding the frontiers of Georgia. Near a quite eight weeks after the date of his last term of enlistment, where he marched from the fork of Long creek aforesaid through a part of the County of Wilkes to a place near the Village of Washington called Gourdvine Station in Wilkes County aforesaid, this deponent further declares that without ever having left the service he, on the first of March

1778 at the Gourdvine Station aforesaid enlisted for another three months tour under the same officers as named and Andrew Lethcoe, Sergeant and this deponent says that his place of residence was still at Wrightsboro aforesaid Columbia County State of Georgia that he was not engaged in any battle during this his last named tour of duty. During the same he marched as follows- first from Gourdvine Station in the County of Wilkes through Warren County to Measels Ferry from the Ogeechee thence this deponent marched to Midway Meeting house in the County of Scriven and this deponent further declares that immediately upon the expiration of said three months he was enlisted again upon the first day of June 1778 for another three months tour under the command of same officers last are herein before named and that this deponent's place of residence was still in the Village of Wrightsboro County of Columbia State of Georgia. He was not engaged in any battles during his last named tour; that during said last named tour he marched from Midway meeting house in Scriven county to Fort Tony upon the St Mary's River where the deponent was stationed until some time late in August 1778.

Deponent marched back again to Midway Meeting house where deponent was honorably discharged in writing under the hand of Captain Henry Carr aforesaid, but which discharge the deponent declares has been long since lost or destroyed consequently ... be by affidavit obtained and this deponent further declares that on the 10th day of April 1780 that he volunteered for another three months tour into the service of the United States as a Georgia Militiaman with George Dooley Captain in the regiment commanded by Colonel Josia Davis; the other field company officers this deponent cannot remember. Deponent's residence at the time was Wrightsboro, Columbia County, Georgia.

Deponent declares that during this tour he was engaged in the battle of the second siege of Augusta and deponent further declares that during this last tour he marched from the place of his residence Wrightsboro, through Columbia County into the County of Richmond to Augusta at it second siege where this deponent was stationed and remained until Augusta was captured, being a period of two months at least from the time this deponent volunteered. When Augusta being taken there being no farther need of the services of deponent for the remaining month he was honorably and verbally discharge by Captain George Dooley.

Deponent further declares that he again, on the 1st of March 1781, volunteered in the service of the United States as a Georgia Militiaman for a tour of another three months with Jonathan Jones Captain under General Anthony Wayne as Commander and this deponent can't remember any other of his officers during the tour but remembers that Jones was permitted to return home when this deponent was under William Camp as his Captain during the three months tour and this deponent further declares that he did not leave the service until the expiration of the said last three months but that he served the same fully and was honorably and verbally discharged by Captain Camp at the expiration of said three months, a relief having arrived and this deponent was not engaged in any battle during this three months tour.

His residence was still at Wrightsboro, Columbia County, State of Georgia.

The deponent marched during this tour from Wrightsboro through the county of Columbia and thence Richmond county upon the south west side of the Savannah River through Waynesboro in Burke County and thence Burke County down to Ebenezer upon the Savannah River at which place and at a place about one mile below this deponent was stationed during said three months last named at which latter place this deponent having fully served last three month tour he was honorably and verbally discharged by Captain William Camp.

In the interrogation directed by the War Department to be propounded to applicants for Pensions the said James Swords makes answers as follows:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

To the first question: He answers in York County, Pennsylvania in the year 1754.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

To the second question: He answers I have no written record of my age. I once had but some years ago it was burned when all of my possessions were destroyed. It was burned up when my house was destroyed by fire.

3rd Where were you living when called to serve and where have you since lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

To the third question: He answers At Wrightsboro Columbia County State of Georgia I have lived since the Revolutionary War in the state of Georgia first in the County of Columbia, then in Wilkes County next in Lincoln County and then next in Walton County where I now reside.

4th How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

To the fourth question: He answers I enlisted during eighteen months service. I then served as a volunteer twice. I was never a substitute.

5th State the names of the Regular officers who were with the corps you served such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your services.

To the fifth question: He answers General Howe when I was at St Mary's in what was called the Florida Expedition. General Wayne, Colonel Lee, Major Eaton.

6th Did you receive a discharge from the service and if so where is it by whom was it signed and what has become of it?

To the sixth question: He answers I did receive a written discharge which was given to me by Captain Henry Carr which has long since been lost or destroyed.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can verify as to your character for veracity and their belief as to your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

To the seventh question: He answers Gen[?] Robert M. ECHOLS Milner ECHOLS Esqr Charles FERGERSON George PARK Esqr Col Timothy PITTMAN & Benjamin HARRIS.