

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of James Ryan S32501

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/25/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Illinois Crawford County: Crawford County Commissioners Court September Term 1832

On this 3rd day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Commissioners Court of Crawford County & State of Illinois aforesaid, now sitting being a Court of Record, James Ryan a citizen of Palestine Township in the County of Crawford and State of Illinois, aforesaid, aged seventy-six years, next November 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, to wit: On the 21st day of June 1780, he entered into the service of the United States under Captain Assel Bradshar being then a citizen of Guilford County State of North Carolina as a volunteer, the field officers he cannot recollect. He then marched from Guilford Court house to Saulsberry [Salisbury] where in the vicinity of said town Captain Bradsher's Company, with whom he then was joined General Rutherford's Brigade, he then marched with said Brigade, down the Adkin [sic, Yadkin] River to the Cheraw Hill or Long Bluff, he then marched South and joined General Caswell; still marching South join the General Gates' Regular Army and four days before Gates defeat at Camden, he was taken sick, and as the Army was broke up & dispersed he was not regular discharge, but did not reach home till the month of November, about the last day.

In the summer of 1781 (he cannot recollect the day or month) he entered into the service of the United States at Guilford Court-House in the County & State aforesaid as a volunteer in the Company of Light dragoons, Commanded by Captain Daniel Galaspy [Gillespie] with Captain Galaspy he marched in various directions after Tories: from Guilford Court House he marched first to Randolph; one whole winter, he was something like one hundred miles from Guilford, and down the East frequently crossing little Pedee [River], after a noted Tory called Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning], but was not in any general Battle though often in small engagement with Tories he served with Captain Galaspy to the end of the war, which term of time was 18 months to the best of his present recollection, at the end of the Revolutionary War Captain Galaspy's company all returned to their respective homes having nothing further to do, and that he received no discharge as he now recollects. He has no documentary evidence, and that he does of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his Services; Save a Recommendation which was given him in November 1800 & by many of his neighbors in Guilford County North Carolina some of them officers of the Revolution, which has the certificate of the Clerk & seal of the court of Guilford County North Carolina, which Recommendation is hereunto attached and made a part of this application. He further states

1<sup>st</sup> That he was born in Guilford County North Carolina on the 25th day of November 1757.  
 2. He has a record of his age, it is at his house set down in a Bible  
 3. He was living when called into service in Guilford County North Carolina; since the Revolution, he lived ten years in Tennessee, then moved to Kentucky where he lived twenty years, then moved to Illinois where he now lives.  
 4. He volunteered.  
 5. General Gates was the only Regular officer who was with the troops he served with.  
 6. He received no discharge from the Service as he recollects.  
 7. Brice Fields & David McGahey clergymen are persons of his neighborhood can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.  
 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 Ryan

[Grice Fields and David McGahey, both clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit; in addition David McGahey stated that he personally was acquainted with every person who signed the attached Recommendation in Guilford County North Carolina.]

State of Illinois Crawford County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned, a Justice of the peace in & for said County James Ryan, who being duly sworn deposes & 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 under the following officers, under Captain Bradshear 3 months as a private, and under Captain Galaspy one year and 6 months as a private making in all one year and 9 months, and for such service I claim a pension

[date and signature missing but it appears that paper was folded he had been copied and that that information was owned the original of this document.]

[fn p. 17—verbatim transcription of text and spelling of names of signatories, as they appear to me.]

Where as Information Heath Reach'd Us the former Acquittance of Jmes Royen –Formerly an inhabitent of Guilford county—but now from Information, an inhabitent of the State of Tennessee or Kentucky Information Says that During the War between Ameria & Great briton, the Said James Ryon was a Grand Torey and a Very Great plunderer—Which facts, We do Aver to be fols, Groundless, and Malilious – and being imprest with a Sence, of how Much the feeling of Every Good Man Must be hurt under Such fals charges, Do think it a Duty, Wee Owes to him and our Contry to Give him the caractor he Meritid While an inhabitent of the State of N. C.

Wee do hereby certify that Wee Ware parsonly acquented with James Ryon from a child; until a Man; which was about the time of the Revelution, and he was a Real friend to the American Cause, was out on Many Exeditons under Some of us who are the Subscribers and as for being a plunder wee never knew him Guilty, Neither did wee ever hear him chaged with anty thing of the kind while in the Contry. Wee Ever held him as a Man of an Untainted caractor & Upwright in all his Dealings, With Mankind

Given from Under our hands this Nineteenth of November 1800

<sup>Rd</sup> S/ George Pope

S/ Daniel Gillaspie LCCor  
S/ D. Caldwell  
S/ Assel Bresher, MeJ<sup>r</sup> [Major]  
S/ Mst Cunningham Esqr.  
S/ J. A. Moore, Capt.  
S/ John Starrat, Esq.  
S/ John Gillaspie, Colo.

S/ Jno Donnell, Major  
S/ Geo. Nicks then Capt.  
S/ Wm Armfield, JP  
S/ John McAdow, Capt. Aty [?]  
S/ Geo Bruce, J. Peace  
S/ Robt. Bell, Js. Peace

S/ Robert McKenie at that time a Justice of the Peace

State of North Carolina Guilford County: I John Hamilton as Clerk of Guilford County Court do hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with each of the Subscribers to the within Recommendation and know them to be the inhabitants of the said County and entitled to the Titles therein given. I myself was acquainted personally with James Ryan and knew him to be a true friend of this Country in our Revolutionary Warr with Great Brittin.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & affixed my Seal of office at Office the 23rd December 1800

S/ John Hamilton,, Clk