

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Gattis S3385

f7NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/4/08 rev'd 8/6/15

[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 Tennessee, Lincoln County

On this 23rd day of January 1834 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of said County now sitting, James Gattis, a resident of said County & State, aged seventy-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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

I was born in the State of Pennsylvania, but do not recollect in what County as my father moved from there to Orange County North Carolina when I was about four years old. I have no record of my age, but according to the information & my best recollection I was born about the 27th of November 1759. -- I was living in Orange County North Carolina when I entered the service of the United States -- I volunteered in Captain Allen's [Abraham Allen's] Company of Cavalry for a three months tour. -- we marched up into Randolph County & were engaged in scouting parties against the Tories in that quarter, and also in procuring baggage wagons for the use of the troops that were marching from the North towards South Carolina -- the exact time of my entering the service I cannot recollect, but I think it was about the month of May in the year 1779 or 1780, after we had procured the baggage wagons, we took them to Kingston [sic, Kinston] N. C. where the troops then were -- we then went home having been out about two months, & there being no particular call for our services we staid at home, perhaps for 2 or 3 weeks, subject to being called on by our Captain at a moments warning. At the end of that time we were called on by our Captain & were engaged in scouting against the Tories until we had made up the time of our three months tour. --

About the first of October 1780, a few weeks after Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780], I became a substitute for a man whose name I now forget, in the company of Cavalry commanded by Captain Mark Patterson, Lieutenant Powell Riggans Ensign -- Matthews -- we marched through Chatham & Anson counties & went down over the South Carolina line on the Pedee River -- we were accompanied in our march by a company under command of Captain Grissom [sic, Gresham?], one under Lieutenant Taylor & one under Captain Douglass & also one company from Wake County (the Captain not recollected) and all under the command of Major McCalla (I think was his name) when we arrived on the Pedee, we were placed under the command of a Col. whose name was Kinyon or Kenyon [Benjamin Kenan?] (or some such name) we were principally engaged in marching down on the North side of the Pedee, and searching & scouring the swamps & pursuing the bodies of Tories who were infesting that part of the country we went on till we came within 30 or 40 miles of Georgetown when the time for which the companies been raised having expired, we were discharged by companies & went home -- I was in service this tour for two months.

About the first of May 1781 I volunteered in a company of Cavalry under Captain William Douglass [William Douglas] for a two months tour -- we [were] accompanied by a company from Wake County under Captain Hunter, one from Caswell County under Captain Bledsoe (I think) one from Chatham County Captain Roper (or Ropian) -- these different companies met near the Rocky River in

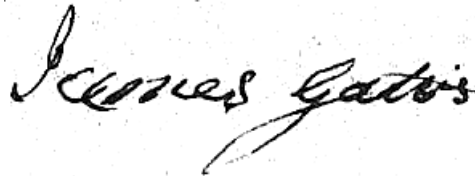
Chatham County & were placed under the command of Colonel Dudley [Guilford Dudley] – we were engaged in marching through the four counties above mentioned, after the Tories, until the time for which I volunteered expired – we were then discharged & went home, -- a week or two after this last tour, a body of Tories supposed to be about 300, came suddenly & took Hillsboro our County seat [September 12, 1781], -- after they had remained two or three days they left Hillsboro, for fear of General Butler [John Butler] who was marching upon them, as soon as I heard of the approach of General Butler I went & joined him & we pursued the Tories about 60 miles. After I had been with General Butler about two weeks, he gave all those who had joined him for the purpose of pursuing them leave to go home. A few weeks afterwards another body of Tories committed several robberies in our County, when Colonel O'Neal [William O'Neal] & Major McCuller [sic, perhaps William McCauley?] raised a company of volunteers for the protection of our citizens – I joined the company & we marched about in different parts of Orange County & into Chatham, -- but the Tories immediately dispersed & we were dismissed in about 10 days. I never received a written discharge from service. I continued to live [in] Orange County until about eight years since when I moved to this County where I have lived ever since. I would refer for my character for veracity & revolutionary services to the Reverend John Coapland, & Drury M. Connally, Robert Ervin & I have no documentary evidence, nor do I know of any person whose testimony I can conveniently procure to my services --

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid --

S/ F. L. Kincannon, Clerk

S/ James Gattis

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Gattis". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ James Gattis".

[John Coapland [sic, John Copeland], a clergyman, Robert Ervin and Drury M. Connally gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30.83 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private for 7 months in the North Carolina Cavalry and for 15 days as a private in the Infantry.]