

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Wells S3499

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Transcribed by Will Graves

6/27/10

[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. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

### Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832

[State of Tennessee, Knox County]

On this 23rd day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court the Circuit Court of Laws and Equity for the County of Knox in the State of Tennessee, now sitting at the Courthouse in Knoxville, being a Court of Record having the power of fine and imprisonment -- Jesse Wells, a resident of Knox County in the State aforesaid, aged about eighty-two years in October last, as he believes, having no certain record of his age -- 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, or the Colonies against the British & Tories under the following named Officers and served as herein stated, -- In the year 1775, as he believes, he entered the service under the command of Captain Simon Bright,<sup>1</sup> whose Lieutenant was John Herritage, and the Ensign was William Caswell -- Major William Patron,<sup>2</sup> being an Officer in command, that he entered the service at this time, for the period of six months, whether he was considered as an enlisted soldier, or a volunteer, under the regulations and loss of North Carolina he knows not -- As the place at which he entered the service was Dobbs County North Carolina and was mustered into service at New Bern North Carolina he was immediately marched towards the great Bridge in Virginia at which place a battle was fought, but the troops to which this applicant was attached did not arrive until the day after the battle, they were then marched to Norfolk, and were there in that town was burnt and was detained in service two months longer, then the period for which applicant engaged -- After this state in marched to Suffolk in Virginia, and from thence to New Bern, North Carolina -- applicant was then dismissed, from the service but received no discharge being informed that his Captain who had retired, being sick, was the person who should sign a discharge -- applicant went home to the neighborhood where his Captain was, who died in a day or two after applicant's return and so no

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<sup>1</sup> Simon Bright was a captain in the NC Continental Line. He died in December 1776 having resigned his commission in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt. on May 3, 1776 for reasons of bad health.

<sup>2</sup> This MAY be a reference to William Pasteur who was the surgeon in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regt. at the time referred to by veteran.

discharge was never obtained -- in this tour he received one month pay at the start -- but never received any further pay for service, -- He afterwards served a three months tour under the command of Captain Joseph Greene, who is the only officer he recollects -- making in all his services during the revolutionary war eleven months -- he was born in Amelia County Virginia in October 1749 -- as he believes -- but knows of no person now by whom he can establish the actual service -- nor has he any documentary evidence -- that he lived for some time [in] Dobbs County NC & sundry other places since the War. 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 23rd August 1832 in open Court  
Test: S/ Wm Swan, Clk  
S/ Jesse Wells, X his mark  
[James McNutt, James Campbell & James Coleman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Knox County: Amendment to the Declaration of Jesse Wells in order to obtain a pension under the provisions of an act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832.

This declarant further states in addition to the facts stated in his Declaration, to which this is an amendment, that the reason why he did not, and cannot, procure the certificate of a clergyman as required by the rules of the Department to his Declaration that for a long time perhaps about twelve years, he has resided with his son, and a part of the County of Knox near which there is no established preaching, that owing to his feebleness he has seldom left home, to attend church and a clergyman with whom he was acquainted when in the habit of leaving home, have removed from the Country, and those now in it are not in the habit of visiting him at his present residence and therefore he has no particular acquaintance with them or they with him, & for this reason he is unable to procure the certificate of alluded to. He therefore makes this amendment, & prays it to be taken as a part of his Declaration by the War Department, at the pension Office.

S/ Jesse Wells, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for 11 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]