

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Prim (Primm)  
Transcribed by Will Graves

fn20NC  
rev'd 9/28/09

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State of Tennessee, Wilson County: Circuit Court October Term 1832

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable James C. Mitchell one of the Judges of Law and Equity for the State of Tennessee James Primm aged 76 years (having been born on the 25<sup>th</sup> of December 1775 according to the family Register) who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war in the Summer of 1778 in Franklin County in the State of North Carolina under Captain Cader Parker of the Continental establishment for the period of thirteen months his Corps rendezvoused at Halifax in said State where they were attached to the 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Continental line commanded by Colonel Armstrong the command in chief was under General Pinckney Eaton [sic, Pinkatham Eaton] they marched from Halifax to Purrysburg in South Carolina where they joined the Main Army under the command of General Lincoln they went into winter quarters at that place after the breaking up of winter they marched up to the Savannah River towards its head to a place called Black Swamp where the [indecipherable word] encampments preparatory to entering the interior of Georgia after going about 150 miles of the Savannah River they then returned recrossing said River in pursuit of the British who it was said were making for Charleston in South Carolina & they overtook the British at a place called Stono ferry where an active engagement took place between the American and British armies. Declarant was engaged in that action (and saw a cousin of his Abraham Primm fall by his side who died from his wounds about 10 days afterwards) after this engagement he marched toward Savannah to a place called Beaufort where General Lincoln formed an encampment at this place he was discharged having been in actual service for 13 months. After he was discharged he returned home to Franklin County North Carolina – in the month of June or July 1780 Josiah Johnson was drafted for three months and declarant entered the service as a Substitute in his place in the militia of North Carolina they rendezvoused at Louisburg in Franklin County and was placed under the command of James Richards as Captain and William Woolbright Lieutenant Benjamin Seawell the Colonel of the County commanded the detachment they marched towards South Carolina with a view of joining General Gates when they got to Pedee River in said State they heard of Gates defeat Col. Seawell returned into North Carolina where they remained until declarant was discharged at the expiration of his tour making a service of three months. Declarant was again drafted and entered the service under the above named officers in the month of January 1781, they marched towards Guilford Courthouse to join the Main Army under the command of General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] a few days before the Battle of Guilford Captain Richards had his hand cut off in an encounter with one Benjamin Eakes who was likewise a militia Captain – as declarant's Captain was rendered unfit for service the company to which he belonged was placed under the command of Captain Harris under whose command Declarant was engaged in the Battle of Guilford a short time after the Battle of Guilford Declarant was discharged at Ramsey's mill having served out his tour of

three months making in all 19 months service applicant has long since lost or mislaid his discharges – he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove the length of his service – Benjamin and Jesse Hunt and Mathern Johnson know that he entered this service in the Revolutionary War – but perhaps are unable to state how long he served in the absence of better proof he must rest his application on his character for truth and honesty which he hopes can be sustained by all who know him – applicant was born and raised in Franklin County in the State of North Carolina – from there he moved to Wilson County Tennessee where he has resided for the last 30 years. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any Agency of any State in the Union.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832.

S/ James Prim

S/ Wm. L. Martin, Clerk of the Circuit Court for Wilson County

Jesse Hunt aged 62 years and a citizen of Wilson County in the State of Tennessee hereby certifies that he was born and raised in Franklin County in the State of North Carolina within 2 miles of where the applicant James Primm lived has known him from his childhood up to the present time he knows that he was a soldier of the Revolution the father of affiant was a soldier of the Revolution and marched into South Carolina at the same time that the applicant did to join the Southern Army under the command of General Lincoln – he cannot State how long with certainty applicant served on this tour of duty but remembers he was absent from home a considerable length of time perhaps a year or more he well remembers to have heard his father say and the applicant on their return from the South that Abraham Primm was wounded in the Battle of Stono and lived but a few days afterwards – he knows that the applicant went on two other tours of duty how long he served he cannot say – he understood from the applicant and from a number of his neighbors that were out on these last tours of duty that the applicant was in the Battle of Guilford – affiant saith as Captain Richards after his hand was cut off and always understood that he had lost his hand in the encounter with Captain geeks as stated by applicant – affiant further states that the applicant James Prim has always sustained a good character for truth and honesty and he has no doubt but that he has served as stated in his Declaration – it has never been doubted in his neighborhood but what he was a faithful Soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 25<sup>th</sup> of October 1832.

S/ Jesse Hunt

S/ Wm L. Martin, Clerk

Mathern Johnson [sic, Mathew Johnson] a citizen of Wilson County aged 58 years certified that he has known the applicant James Prim from his childhood to the present time – having been born and raised in Franklin County in the State of North Carolina where the applicant was born and raised – although he was then very young he has a distinct recollection of his father Josiah Johnson having hired said Prim as a substitute on a three months tour in the Militia raised in Franklin County in the said State of North Carolina – he recollects to have seen the applicant on his return home at his father's house where he came to receive his pay as a substitute which he received partly in cattle it was always understood in the neighborhood that the applicant performed important services in the Revolutionary War. The applicant has always sustained a high character for truth and affiant has no doubt but that he served as stated in his Declaration.

S/ Mathew Johnson

Sworn to and subscribed in open court this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October 1832.

S/ Wm L. Martin, Clerk

Benjamin Hunt a citizen of Wilson County Tennessee hereby certifies that he has known the applicant James Prim from his childhood up to the present time affiant has read over the affidavit of Jesse Hunt he knows the same facts as therein stated concerning the Revolutionary services of the applicant to be

true he knows he was a soldier of the Revolution and he has no doubt but that he has served as stated in his Declaration-- Applicant has always sustained a good character for truth and honesty – witness is in his 64<sup>th</sup> year.

S/ Benj. Hunt

Sworn to in open court 31<sup>st</sup> of October 1832.

S/ Wm. L. Martin, Clerk

[John Jones, a clergyman gives the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State and for the State aforesaid do hereby certify I find in a book of settlements of the Army accounts of the revolution, that James Primm was allowed for his services as a Corporal in the line of this State, by Board Commissioners the sum of 45 pounds 18 shillings and five pence (£45.18.5)

Given under my hand this second day of April 1833.

S/ Wm Hill