

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Trail S3828

f10VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/22/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Greene County: September Term 1832

On this fifth day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Samuel Powel Judge of the Circuit Court of Law & Equity for the first Circuit of said state James Trail aged seventy-five years and a resident citizen of said County of Greene 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 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, to wit that he in the County of Amherst State of Virginia in the year 1777 was detailed from the company class to which he belonged to go to guard the prisoners taken at Burgoyne's defeat & which had been sent to Albemarle Barracks near Charlottesville for safekeeping, which service he engaged and under one Ensign Matthews, Colonel Hatcher of the regulars and probably had the command of the Barracks, that [he] continued there as a guard for the term of three months and was at the expiration of that time relieved by another recruit sent to take the place of those whose service was about to expire.

Second service – in the last of the month of January 1781, he was drafted from the class to which he belonged in the County of Amherst, State of Virginia to perform a tour of duty in the South against Cornwallis, and was enrolled at Amherst under Captain Young Landram [Young Landrum] of the Virginia militia, and marched to the Guilford Court House in North Carolina where his company joined the main Army under General Lawson, Colonel Holcomb & Major Hubbard, and was at the battle of Guilford and continued on as far as deep river after the said battle of Guilford, and from the fact that the Tories were so numerous, the Army was marched on return together back to Dan River and was there discharged & returned home in Captains companies for self protection. Said tour of duty being four months from the commencement until the first discharge, that the regular troops and militia work but little together, say that the Battle of Guilford, where was the eighteen months regular troops, with the militia in the aforesaid battle. That on their way to Guilford they passed through Buckingham, Prince Edward, Halifax, Pittsylvania &c to Guilford that he has no documentary evidence having lost his discharge, that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service save that of the Rev. Mr. Landram annexed.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. Sworn to & subscribed before the aforesaid Court in open Court this the [paper folded, text missing] day of September 1832. He further adds & which was omitted in its proper place that after the close of the aforesaid expedition he was again drafted, that under Captain John Loving & went to the mouth of Rock Creek to join the Army against Cornwallis, when the news of his surrender

reached them & they returned being in service but one month.

S/ V. Sevier, Clk

S/ James Trail, X his mark

We James Landram a clergyman residing in the County of Greene & Vincent Jackson residing in the same, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with James Trail who has sworn to & subscribed the foregoing declaration that we believe him to be seventy-five years of age, that he is reputed & believed to have been a soldier of the revolution, & that we concur in that opinion. The Reverend James Landram further deposed that he personally [is] acquainted with the said James Trail – heard of the service which he performed in Amherst County in guarding the prisoners at the Albemarle Barracks and personally knew of the service specified by him in the expedition to the South, that said Trail did volunteer under Captain Young Landram the father of witness who was a Captain & to the knowledge of witness did serve as stated by him, four months in the said southern expedition and was in the battle of Guilford.

S/ James Landrum

S/ Vincent Jackson

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23 33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for seven months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]