

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Simmons S39071

f40VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/16/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: August Sessions 1818

Personally appeared in the Court of pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County aforesaid James Simmons who being sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he enlisted at Lynchess ferry in the State of Virginia on the first day of January 1777 in the Army of the United States and was enlisted by Ensign William Powel in Captain James Franklin's Company of the 10th Virginia Regiment in General Weeden's [George Weedon's] Brigade and was attached to Captain Franklin's Company until he quit the command and then remained in the company it being commanded by Captain Cluff Shelton [Clough Shelton] until the end of his service which was 3 years. Deponent states that he served the tour of 3 years and 3 days and was discharged by Colonel Febacker [Christian Febiger] in the City of Philadelphia on the 4th of January 1780 during all which time he had served without any parole or discharge. Affiant states that he was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777], Monmouth [June 28, 1778], Stony Point [Stony Point, July 16, 1779] and two skirmishes one under Colonel Stephens and the other Colonel Frora [?] of Genl. Wayne's Command and was after the Battle of Germantown in the 6th Regiment General Scott's Brigade from which Regiment he was discharged.

He states that after his return from the service he gave his discharge to his father who lives in North Carolina Rutherford County with the same now is (if not lost) and which is the reason he does not produce it.

This Affiant states that he was sixty years of age the 10th day of last month and is in very reduced circumstances in life and unable to support himself by manual labor and stands in absolute need of the aid of the Government for support & never has received any pension from the Government whatever. Affiant states that he has lived in the County of Hawkins Tennessee where he now lives upwards of twenty-one years.

Sworn to and Open Court

August Sessions 1818

S/ James Simmons



[f p. 29: In August Term 1818 in Hawkins County, Tennessee, Joel Gillanwaters gave an affidavit in support of the veteran's application stating that he resided within 2 miles of Lynchess Ferry in Amherst County, Virginia in 1777 and knew that the veteran listed in the Army and served about the time the veteran claims to have served. Affiant also states that he is aware of the

circumstances of the veteran and that he needs the support of his Country.]

State of Tennessee Hawkins County: August Session 1820

On this 30th day of August 1820 Personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for said County James Simmons who being of the Age of sixty-two years, Resident in Hawkins County. And being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows. Enlisted in Captain James Franklin's Company who shortly afterwards resigned and was succeeded by Captain Cluff Shelton of the 10th Regiment Virginia line, which Regiment was afterwards reduced to the 6th Regiment. This declarant refers to his declaration made out in the said County Court the 24<sup>th</sup> 26th day of August 1818, that he has received a Pension Certificate of number 15,461. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed viz. one hundred acres third rate land nearly worn out, a horse & mare & one colt, the horse about 4 years old, the mare 11 years old, 2 cows & 3 calves, & 3 yearlings, 14 hogs 8 of which are pigs: 1 cupboard, 1 dozen earthen plates, 1 set tea cups & saucers, 6 old pewter plates, 2 old pewter dishes, 3 ditto basins, 2 pots, & 1 iron kettle & Dutch oven, 8 old chairs, 2 old plows, 3 old hoes, one hand ax and one small ditto. That this Declarant is by occupation a farmer, but owing to his extreme debility & having his left wrist out of place & crippled in his back, he is unable to do almost anything. That his wife is aged about 56 or 57 years & very frail, that he has a son called James aged about 19 or 20 but who is weakly & subject to sickness and so far from being of any assistance to this Declarant. He is really a charge on account of his bodily infirmities.

Schedule

100 acres of Land at \$1.50 per Acre	\$150.00
a Horse	30.00
Mare & Colt	30.00
2 Cows & three calves	16.00
3 Yearlings	10.00
14 Hogs (8 of which are pigs)	14.00
Household furniture Ploughs &c &c	<u>27.33</u>
	\$277.33
Knives & forks spoons &c	<u>1.25</u>
	\$278.58
Debts to the amount of	<u>12.00</u>
	\$290.58

S/ James Simmons

[f p. 19: petition dated January 1, 1821 signed by a large number of residents of Hawkins County TN attesting to the poverty and need of the veteran. The surnames of a few of the signers include Malsbee, Brice, Lewis, Graves (or Groves or Grover), Harlin, Wilson, Gillenwaters, (or Gillanwaters, Gillunwaters), Starns (Starnes), Klepper, Williams, Carmack, Sherfy, Myers,

James, Coal, How, Younas, Steely, Eidson, &c ]

[f p. 39: on February 26, 1822, in Hawkins County, TN, the veteran filed yet another application restating his services and listing property having a total value of \$126.75 and stating the following:

"That I am by occupation a farmer but now feeble and having my wrist put out of place for many years so as to disable me from doing much work and not able to support myself. I have a wife & a daughter about 15 years old my wife about 68 years old very frail also a son aged about 21 next May but who is so sickly so much as to be a charge on may not being able to support himself on account of bad health nor has he been able to do anything since his birth."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing August 26, 1818, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]