

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Rosson S7423

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/4/12

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

State of Virginia County of Halifax: SS

On this 27th day of November personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Nelson County, now sitting, James Rosson a resident of the County of Nelson and State of Virginia, aged eighty-two 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted in the County of Culpeper and marched early in September 1777 in a company commanded by Captain Reuben Slaughter, there was another company from Culpeper commanded by Captain Mark Thomas and also Companies from the Counties of Orange and Fauquier that marched with them, the whole under the command of Colonel James Barbour, they were ordered to joined the Army of General Washington previous to the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] but did not get to head quarters until some [time] after the battle, he remained until the main Army still under the command of Colonel Barbour until the expiration of his term of service which was two months; he does not recollect the name of his subaltern officers nor of the General commanding the brigade to which he was attached. That he was again drafted in the County of Culpeper and marched in August 1779 in a company commanded by Captain William Bradley (Reuben Zimmerman Lieutenant, but does not recollect the name of his Ensign) to Richmond when that City was threatened by the British where he was discharged, the British Army having left there, although the draft was for two months there was also militia from the County of Orange stationed with them, but he does not recollect the name of the Officers who commanded them, nor the name of the Officer commanding in Richmond – He was again drafted in Culpeper and marched in September 1781 in a company commanded by Captain Lewis Yancey to York Town, that he was at the siege of York and was there at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], after the surrender the company to which he was attached formed a part of the guard of the prisoners and marched from York to five miles below Winchester; the guard was commanded by Colonel Elias Edmunds and Major Welsh, he remained some time at the barracks as a guard making the whole of this tour three months. The whole of his service was seven months he has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service –

He also makes the following answers to the following interrogatories propounded to him by the Court.

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in the County of Culpeper in the 5th day of March 1758.

2. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer – I have none.

3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer – In the County of Culpeper, since the war I have lived in the Counties of Culpeper & Albemarle and now live in Nelson.

4. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if, a substitute, for whom?

Answer – as already stated, I was drafted each time.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer. In my first tour after I joined the main Army General Washington commanded – in my last tour at the siege of York General Washington commanded General Lafayette was also there – the names of all the Officers that I now recollect as well as the general circumstances of my service have been already stated in this declaration.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer – I never received any discharge: I always went with my Captain and returned with him and was discharged when we got at some central place near home.

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer – Samuel Hansbrough & Charles C Patteson.

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 day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Rosson¹

[Charles C Patteson and Samuel Hansbrough gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the Virginia militia.]

¹ the handwriting of the signature is identical to that of the document itself. Consequently, I do not believe it is the actual signature of the veteran.