

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Scales S7459

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/25/09: rev'd 12/14/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of North Carolina Rockingham County: August session 1832

On this 9th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before [indecipherable name], Philip Rose & [indecipherable name], the Court of pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting James Scales Senior aged 79 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 7th of June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

I Volunteered under Captain Wadie Tate [sic, Waddy Tate or Waddell Tate], Lieutenant John Davis & Jeremiah Poston Ensign marched through Guilford County to Salisbury North Carolina thence to Camden South Carolina Joined the Army under Colonel Sheppard we remaining pretty much stationary during our whole term of service which was four months, at the expiration of my term of service I was discharged and returned home. In a short time after, I volunteered with several others of my neighborhood as mounted men were enrolled as a company under Captain West marched to South Carolina and joined the Army under General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] was in the Battle of the Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780] our Army were was only about 6 or 800 strong engaged about 1100 Tories composed of a Colonel Bryant [Samuel Bryan] & about 200 British under the command of a Major Isaack [?]¹ who was killed in the action. I had a severe tour in that Battle had 8 or 10 deliberate fires at the enemy [?] who were defeated with a considerable loss we took 48 prisoners all of their Baggage & about 300 head of horses, our time of service was not yet out, But our General said that as we had acted so very bravely and lived at a distance in another State, he would discharge us & let us go home, which was a distance of near 200 miles -- some few weeks after reaching home I was called into the service again was marched out to the forks of the Yadkin [River] against some Tories who were said to be embodied near that place but when they heard of our coming they dispersed & in about 2 weeks we were permitted to return home. Some short time after this, I was called into service again under the command of Captain Thomas Cook were marched to what was called the Red House in Caswell County North Carolina. I continued in the service until after the Battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] was in that Battle under the command of Captain Richard Vernon as a reconnoitering party But I expressed a wish to the Captain to joined the

¹ The Loyalist forces at Hanging Rock were commanded by Major John Carden. No officer with the surname Isaack is known to have been at Hanging Rock in command of Loyalist forces.

infantry under Joseph Winston which he permitted me to do, that line of troops being thrown into a state of confusion we did not do much signal service on that occasion. Some short time after this battle I was discharged [from] the service & returned home. I suppose that I was in active service between 2 and 3 months under that engagement. After this I was engaged [obliterated word, probably "as"] one of the minute service until the close of the war and always to be in readiness at a moments warning I would be called out or 5, 6, 10 & 12 days sometimes 20 days together & then permitted to return home again. The troublesome times lasted something near 3 years in our part of the County in which I think I served in the militia near all that time in active service.

On one occasion under an act of the General Assembly of our State 8 men were permitted to furnish one man for 12 months by which they were exempted for one term of service, myself & 7 others hired a man for a term of 12 months & paid him \$100 for the same & I surrendered him up to Captain John Luti [?] the Commanding officer.

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 whatever.

Int. 1. Where & in what year were you born

Answer I was born in the year 1751 [could be 1752 or some other last digit] directly in the neighborhood where I now live

2nd Where were you living when called into service

Answer I was living in the upper part of the County of Guilford, now Rockingham County North Carolina at the time of the revolutionary War & have continued to live at the same place ever since.

2nd [sic] How were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute.

Answer at each & every requisition for the Militia I always volunteered.

State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served.

Answer. My service was always in the Militia & at this late period I do not recollect the names of any other officers except those already mentioned in the declaration.

Int: Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom was it given & what has become of it

Answer I suppose that I was discharged by my Captain we were generally at the end of our terms of service called up & laid [?] off & accordingly discharged, which discharges are lost not now recollect what has become of them

Int: State the names of persons to whom you are known in your neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. William Wright Senior & Chesley Barnes can testify to the fact of my being in the service of the revolution & James Scales Esquire, Nathanael Scales Esquire as to character, also Mr. M. Ware

Sworn to & subscribed in open court

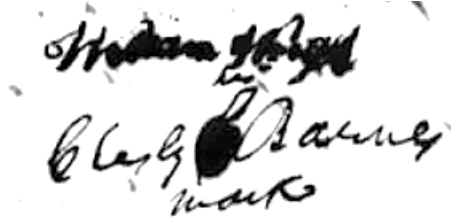
S/ Robert Gallaway, CCC

S/ James Sc [sic]

We William Wright Senior² & Chesley Barnes³ due to testify that we live in the immediate neighborhood of the present applicant James Scales Senior & that we do know that he served in the war of the revolution as one of the State troop in the militia of North Carolina.

S/ William Wright

S/ Chesley Barnes, X his mark



Handwritten signatures of William Wright and Chesley Barnes, with an X mark next to the name Chesley Barnes.

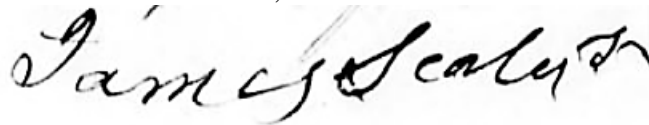
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State of North Carolina Rockingham County Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions of the County of Rockingham & State aforesaid, James Scales Senior who being duly sworn, depose and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he volunteered as a private in the militia of North Carolina in the year 1779 and served in that engagement a tour of 4 months, the 2nd tour was also a volunteer as a private soldier under Captain West in General Sumter's Brigade in the year 1780, & served precisely one month the 3rd engagement was near the close of the year 1780 he served as a volunteer for a term of about 2 weeks, & was discharged. The 4th tour that he took was in the latter part of the winter & first of the Spring of 1781 he entered the service as a volunteer in the State troops of North Carolina, and served a tour between 2 and 3 months & was discharged; with regard to the other small tours he took in the service of the revolution, his recollection will not at this advanced state of his age justify a particular statement, but can very safely swear that he served not less than 8 months in the war of the revolution, as a private soldier.

Sworn and subscribed to this 21st of January 1833

S/ Richard Wall, JP

S/ James Scales, Sr



Handwritten signature of James Scales, Sr.

[John L. Wilson, clergyman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]

² [William Wright R11910](#)

³ [Chesley Barnes W4877](#)