

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Vance S7782

fn24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/16/09 & 10/27/11

[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.]

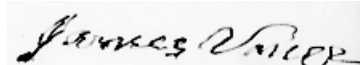
State of Virginia, Washington County

On this 24th day of September 1833 personally appeared in open court before the justices of the court of Washington County, now sitting, James Vance, a resident of the said County, aged Seventy three years on the 15th day of this month, 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 7, 1832.

The said James Vance states that he was born in the County of Frederick in this State and came to this part of the country with his father when he was ten or eleven years old. In the year 1776 Colonel William Christian made a campaign from this part of the country against the Cherokee Indians. The said James Vance not then quite 16 years old volunteered under Captain Robert Craig of this County and served two months as a private in said company marching from home in the latter part of August, and was honorably discharged. In the year 1777 the said James Vance was, with other militia men, ordered out to guard the frontiers against Indians hostilities and he served one month as a private in a company commanded by Lieutenant Samuel Newell in the Fort at Long Island. The said James Vance also served four other months or more in similar services guarding Cowan's Ford on Clinch [River], Moore's Ford on Clinch and other frontier points under Colonel Evan Shelby, Captain Andrew Colvill [or Colville], Captain Robert Trimble and others; -- but he cannot now with certainty state all the dates. In addition to the above places he recollects of being part of one tour stationed at the house of old William Robinson. And he says that he served at least five months in these different tours and was each time honorably discharged. In the year 1780 in the fall of that year the said James Vance volunteered and served under Captain Andrew Colvill on the expedition to King's Mountain. In this service he served two months having to remain with and take care of his Lieutenant Samuel Newell who was very badly wounded -- after this service he was honorably discharged. In the year 1781 he was ordered out under Captain James Montgomery and served a tour of one month into Guilford County No. Carolina at the time the battle was fought at Guilford Courthouse between Genl Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and Lord Cornwallis. After this service he was honorably discharged. The said James Vance therefore says that he faithfully served in the different tours herein mentioned ten months -- and that there is no clergyman in his neighborhood or elsewhere now living that he knows of, who knows anything about his service in the revolution. He hereby relinquishes all 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 first aforesaid.

S/ James Vance



And the said court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the above named applicant was a Revolutionary Soldier, and served as he states. And the court further certifies that it appears to them that James Keys¹ who has given an affidavit as to the said James Vance his service is a resident in the County of Washington and is a credible person, and that Andrew Cresswell² [sic, Andrew Creswell] who has also given an affidavit as to the service of said Vance is a resident of Sevier County in the State of Tennessee, and is a credible person and that the statements of said Keys and Creswell are entitled to credit.

I, David Campbell, clerk of the court of Washington County aforesaid do hereby certify that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of the said court in the matter of the application of James Vance for a pension.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my name and affixed the seal of the said County this 27th day of September 1833 in the 58th year of the Commonwealth.

S/ David Campbell

[fn p. 21]

Washington County to wit

This day Captain James Keys came before me John Preston a justice of the peace in and for the said County, and being duly sworn, doth, on his oath declare and state, that he was on the campaign made by Colonel William Christian in the fall of the year 1776 -- and he perfectly recollects that Captain Robert Craig had a company on that campaign. This affiant was not then acquainted with Captain James Vance and therefore has no particular recollection of seeing him on said campaign, but within a few days passed he has conversed with the said Vance and heard him relate many incidents which happened during the campaign and he is very certain that no one except some person who had been there at that time could have known all which the said Vance stated and the facts stated by him were all true and within the knowledge of this affiant.

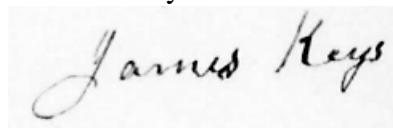
This affiant further knows that the militia of this County were called in every season during the revolutionary war to guard the frontiers from Indian hostilities.

This affiant has some recollection of hearing Mr. Vance's name mentioned on the expedition to King's Mountain though he was not then acquainted with him -- But he is satisfied he was there and he well recollects Captain Colvill's company on that expedition

Sworn to and subscribed this 13th of September 1833

S/ Jno Preston

S/ James Keys

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Keys". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and legible.

[fn p. 23]

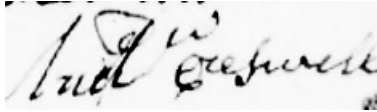
I Do Certify that James Vance now a Citizen of the County of Washington Virginia was a Soldier in the War of the Revolution and that his Services in said War as near as I can Recollect was as follows (viz.) I would suppose him to have served five months, at monthly tours guarding the Different garrisons on the Settlements of Clinch River at Different times the officers he served under on every Route I cannot say but part of them was under Lieutenant Newel and

¹[James Keys \(Keyes\) S15907](#)

²[Andrew Creswell S1948](#)

perhaps some under Captain Colvill. Said Vance was on the King's mountain expedition which lasted one month but owing to Lieutenant Nowel being wounded he was left to take care of him till he would be able to come home which I think might have been another month. Said Vance was I think under the command of Captain Colvill or if not he was under Captain Dysart. Said Vance was on the Guilford expedition under the Command of Captain James Montgomery which was another month but owing to an accident that took place in the Moravian town North Carolina said Vance had an uncle wounded where said Vance was left to take care of him till he was able to come home which might have Consumed another month which is all that I can recollect at present &c.

S/ And^w Cresswell

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "And^w Cresswell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

I likewise Certify that James Vance and myself was Raised from our boyhood close neighbors till some years after the War and I do not hesitate in believing that he is as unblemished a character as the above stated County can produce &c.

S/ And^w Cresswell

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]