

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Gray S8594

f34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/7/06 rev'd 9/30/15

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

State of North Carolina, Rutherford County

On this tenth day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court now sitting Major James Gray a Resident of the United States in the County of Rutherford & State of North Carolina aged Seventy Seven years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration and ordered to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832.

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

In the year 1775 I was living in Tryon now Rutherford County North Carolina the Indians & Tories mustered very strong we was divided into two parties the King's party & what called the Liberty men there was considerable disturbance at all of our gatherings each party rallied to his standard the Young men formed a Company of Minute Men under Captain James Miller we held ourselves ready at the call of an officer to perform duty we was kept moving from post to post in the County until Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] marched into the County with a considerable force when we had to cross the mountain to recruit our forces we joined the Regiment under the command of Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] we then came back and met Ferguson & his forces at Kings Mountain [Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780] where we paid him back in his own way. I had some satisfaction on that in taking some of my acquaintances that I knew pursued me when I was not able to defend myself I think I was up to this time upwards of three years that I was not at any one time two weeks together at home we was in a much worse situation than those who was in the Regular Army after the Battle of Kings Mountain. I came home immediately went on & took a Fort on Thicketty [Creek] [presumably thicketty Fort, July 26, 1780].<sup>1</sup> I was then under Captain Edward Hampton soon after that I was at the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781]<sup>2</sup> I continued there until the Siege was raised I think I was at that four or five weeks I was under Captain Inman [Joshua Inman] I came home from that place was appointed Captain by Colonel Hampton and ordered to guard four stations, Russell's, Waddleton's, White Oak & Earle's. I was on that tour more than 6 months during that time we had a Scrimmage with the British & Tories on Pacolet River we defeated them they made a stand at a strong fort on the Tiger River [Tyger River] we pursued them to that place we found that they was too strong for us to meddle with we returned home in a short time after General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] came on with his force I joined him at the head of the

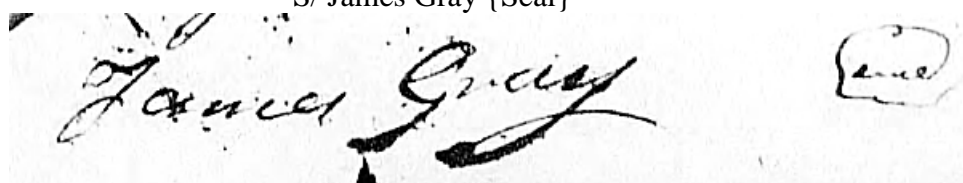
<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_thicketty\\_fort.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_thicketty_fort.html)

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_ninety\\_six.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ninety_six.html)

Catawba [River] we crossed the mountains in pursuit of the Indians and we overtook them we killed several burnt several of their towns we return home very soon after I was ordered out again by General McDowell [Charles McDowell] made a trip across the mountains we on that tour killed several Indians burnt some of their towns we then had a number sufficient that we could defend ourselves I kept no memorandum of my service went at every call which was often in fact from the year 1775 to the end of the War I was in continual service. There was a large frontier for us to guard at one period of our difficulties our service was hard the Indians pressed us on one side the British on another & in the midst of the Tories & Ferguson at their head with a number of our citizens taking refuge under him and was alarming times with me I knew I was a mark for them to shoot at & if they could by any means take me I had to suffer many deaths but I always took advantage of them I do not know main Service was to keep the Tories from embodying & it was a continued service. I cannot say as to any certain time but I am confident that during the Revolutionary War I was at different periods more than two years in actual Service & often in the most dangerous Service. I hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declare that my name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State. Question 1<sup>st</sup> By the Court where and in what year were you born Answer I was born in the year 1755 in Augusta County the State of Virginia. Question 2<sup>nd</sup> have you any record of your age Answer I have the record of my age in my possession at this time. Question 3<sup>rd</sup> where was you used living when called into Service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War & where do you now live Answer I was living in the County of Rutherford North Carolina when first called into Service and have lived there ever since & expect to continue there as long as I live. Question 4<sup>th</sup> how was you called into service was you drafted did you volunteer or was you a substitute, if a substitute for whom Answer I was a volunteer from the commencement of the War in the year 1775 to the end in 1781 & made several tours over the mountains in pursuit of the Indians after the close of the Revolutionary War. I cannot confine myself to the dates of the different transactions it was almost one continued service. State the name of some of the Generals & field officers when at the battle of King's Mountain Colonel Campbell Sevier Cleveland McDowell at the Siege of 96, General Greene General Rutherford

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Gray {Seal}



[p 30: Jonathan Hampton & Danza Metcalf<sup>3</sup> gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 32: Allen Hamby, a clergyman, and John Carson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 33]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County Warner Metcalf<sup>4</sup> and after being duly sworn saith that he was well Acquainted with James Gray During the Revolutionary War and from that time to the present time I know that he acted as a Captain in the Revolutionary War but how long I do not

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<sup>3</sup> [Danza Metcalf W4280](#)

<sup>4</sup> [Warner Metcalf W4281](#)

know neither have I any Recollection that I served under him But he fought bravely for his Country was his General Character. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833

S/ John Logan

S/ Warner Metcalf {Seal}




[p 33]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the Subscriber Justice of the peace for said County Alexander M Fadden [Alexander McFadden]<sup>5</sup> and after being Duly sworn saith on Oath that he was well Acquainted with Captain James Gray During the Revolutionary War and have lived a Neighbor to him from before the Revolution to the present day. I served under him as Lieutenant in the year 1780 and 1781. I was with him at Waddell's Station and at Earls Station and at Russell's Station on Broad River under the command of Colonel Robert Porter and on the Indian Nation we was then under Colonel Singleton and Colonel Porter we was out on this Tower 3 months this is what I Recollect of his service. I know he was one of our leaders and Brave man in the defense of his Country. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833.

S/ John Logan, JP

S/ Alexr McFadin {Seal}

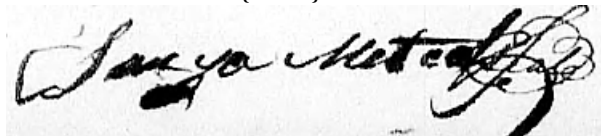


[p 33]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the said County Danza Metcalf and being duly sworn saith that he well remembers that James Gray the above applicant did act as a Captain in the Revolutionary War and was at all times and looked on as one of our Brave men. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833

S/ John Logan JP

S/ Danza Metcalf {Seal}



[p 34]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County Major James Gray and after being Duly sworn Saith that he can only make and give the following statement as to the length of his Service in the Revolutionary War in the year 1780 we was called on to Rally and be in Readiness soon after came in our County Ferguson and his Army we was Ordered to Cross the Mountains to a settlement on Chuckey [Nolichucky River] and Watauger [Watauga River] under the command of Captain James Miller we were joined by William Campbell

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<sup>5</sup> [Alexander McFadden S8887](#)

1<sup>st</sup> Tower I served under Captain Miller and Colonel Campbell at the Battle of Kings Mountain it was a Tower of 3 Months

2<sup>nd</sup> – 1780 under Captain Edward Hampton Major Singleton commanded we took what was called Thicketty Fort we was under the command of Colonel McDowell this Tour was

3<sup>rd</sup> – 1781 I was at the Siege of 96 under Captain Inman we was under General Greene

1 ½

7 ½

On my Return home I was appointed a Captain by Colonel Hampton and Ordered to guard for Stations Russell's, Waddleton, White Oak & Earls this was a Tower of 6

During this Service we had a Battle at Pacolet with British and Tories under Colonel McDowell

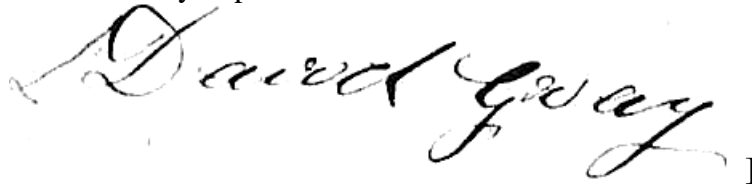
4<sup>th</sup> 1781 Tower I was under General Rutherford against the Indians I joined the main Army with my Company at the head of the Catawba 3

My memory has failed so much that it is not in my power to give the precise times I was Out one thing is Certain we was not at liberty to engage in anything but the Defense of our Country I have made a statement of Sixteen months and one half that I am certain of it is not in my power to procure a Commission as better evidence than I hear with produce. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 29<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833

S/ John Logan, JP

S/ James Gray

[p 5: On February 26, 1852 in Rutherford County North Carolina, David Gray a resident of Rutherford County filed an affidavit stating he is a son of James Gray, a revolutionary war pensioner; that his father died October 21, 1836; that he is interested in obtaining such increase of pension as was due his father under the law and appoints John K Martin of Richmond Virginia as his attorney to pursue his claim.



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$204.99 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private & Captain in the North Carolina militia.]