

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Jones S8768

fn93NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

[p 3]

State of North Carolina, Orange County

This day personally appeared before me William H. Battle one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law and Equity for the State aforesaid Dalia Smith wife of Dr James S. Smith aged Sixty-four years of said County of Orange who being duly sworn according to law -- maketh the following declaration in order to claim from and recover from the Pension office of the United States the amount of pension due to her late aunt deceased father Captain Francis Jones of the County of aforesaid -- who died on the 23rd day of February 1844, aged about 86 years. This affiant claims a Pension in right of her father -- Captain Francis Jones from the 4th of March 1831 to the 20th of February 1844 at which time Captain Jones died -- This declarant is certain that her father served as a Captain two years or more in the Revolutionary War -- she thinks and believes more than two years -- She is confident of this fact from the many declarations in conversations she has heard her father I have on the subject of his revolutionary services with many persons and especially old soldiers during his life in her hearing -- She thinks he served in other stations but in what capacity and in what time she does not know.

At what time he entered the service and at what time he left it she does not know nor does she know who was the Colonel Commandant of the Regiment in which he served; She has heard him speak of being under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and of being at the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and being sent in command of a company to destroy the boats on Dan River. She has heard him say that he served in South Carolina and was in several engagements. She is not positive but thinks he was at Camden. She also heard him speak of being in the Eastern part of the State at Newbern [sic, New Bern]. She believes he was engaged in the service and this State & South Carolina from all she can recollect to have heard him say. She also has heard him say that he received a great deal of money for his services during the war. She has heard him speak of Colonel Lytle [Archibald Lytle] and thinks of a Colonel Richerson [sic, Richardson?] of this name she is not positive, & he spoke of General Butler [John Butler] being in command --

This declarant does not expect to find nor has she any knowledge of any person now living that served with her father, but she hopes to be able to show that her father did this service from such a chain of circumstantial evidence as will amount to a certainty -- Her father was married about 1786 and her mother died in 1811 -- Her father never married again -- he had 2 children by his wife a son and your declarant the son died in 1836 without ever having been married or leaving any heirs saving your declarant the only surviving child of Captain Francis

Jones --

Captain Francis Jones for many years before his death was a helpless old man that could not walk across the room without aid, and had not been out of his son-in-law's Dr. Smith's yard for 7 years before his death -- your declarant believes that her father had no knowledge of any pension being due to officers of the Militia Service & supposed if there was any pensions for anyone it was for poor destitute soldiers of the war --

Your declarant did not know or have any knowledge of a pension being due her father as a Captain in the Revolutionary war until a very short time since and her husband Doctor Smith has been constantly since the death of her father harassed with debt and very vexatious lawsuits so that he had no time to hunt out persons, nor was his mind in a state to think of anything in the nature of business besides his own fires and it is not until lately that he looked into the matter and became sensible that a pension was due to your declarant in right of her father. Your declarant knows that her father never made an application for a pension of any time.

S/ Dalia Smith



[acknowledged August 8, 1851]

[pp 7-10, copy of the last will and testament of Francis Jones, given in Orange County (although he states that he is 'late of Chatham County') leaving his estate to his son-in-law, Dr. James Sidney Smith in trust her Delia Smith, wife of Dr. Smith and of the testator; and testator's grandchildren: Francis J. Smith; James Sidney Smith, Mary R. Smith]

[p 51]

This day Edward Pendergrass age 72 years personally appeared before me William H Battle one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law & Equity for said state and after being duly sworn according to law maketh the following affidavit (to wit) That he is the son of John Pendergrass<sup>1</sup> who was a regular soldier in the Revolutionary War that his father was placed on the pension Roll of the United States under the act of Congress of 1818 that he remained on said Rolls until his death and that the pension was continued to his mother, Mary Pendergrass until last year when she died. That his father lived many years in the County of Chatham in said State within 3 miles of Captain Francis Jones -- That he has heard many conversations between his father and said Jones about their Revolutionary services and that it always was his understanding from the conversations of his father and said Jones that he was an officer in the service and he thinks a Captain of Militia -- That he has heard said Jones speak of being at the Battle of Guilford and in other engagements at other places which this affiant does not positively recollect. He also states that he has heard his father say that Jones was in the Guilford Battle. He also thinks from the same sources he was informed that the said Jones served a considerable time in South Carolina. It is the belief of this affiant that from what he heard from his father and said Jones the said Jones served a long time in the war but what length of time at this remote period he does not recollect and cannot presume to say. Also that the said Jones was always called of Captain Francis Jones from his earliest recollections and always was the common understanding in the neighborhood in which he lived that he was a soldier of the revolution and was esteemed as such. This affiant now lives and has always lived in 7 or 8 miles and much of the time in 3 miles of said Jones until said Jones moved to Hillsboro to live with his daughter Delia Smith wife of Doctor James S.

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<sup>1</sup> [John Pendergrass W18730](#)

Smith of Orange where he remained until his death, he removed about 1837. The said Jones wife has been dead a great many years, she left by Mr. Jones to Children a son and a daughter, the son died 1836 without ever having been married, the daughter is now living in Orange County and is the wife of Doctor James S Smith and is the only air and child now living of the said Captain Francis Jones.

S/ Edward Pendergrass, X his mark

[p 53-55: On August 8, 1851 in Orange County North Carolina Dr. James S. Smith, son-in-law of Capt. Francis Jones; gave testimony that he married Delia Jones, daughter and sole heir of Capt. Jones, in 1813; Capt. Jones lived in Chatham County; that Jones came to live with him and his wife at Hillsboro in Orange County in 1837 and continued there until his death on 20<sup>th</sup> day of February 1844; the affidavit reads in relevant part as follows:

“That he [Smith] has heard Captain Jones many times speak of being in the war of the Revolution -- that he was in several engagements -- that he was at the Battle of Guilford -- that he was sent in command of a company by General Greene to destroy the boats on Dan River -- That he heard Captain Jones speak of being at Camden and that he was in the service and South Carolina and North Carolina -- This affiant also heard him say he was in the service at one time at or about New Bern in this State.

Your affiant heard him speak of being in General Greene's Army he thinks under General Butler -- He has heard him say that he was in the service with Colonel Lytle but does not recollect whether he was under his command or not -- He thinks he heard him speak of a Colonel Richerson, of this name he is not positive.

From the various conversations he heard Captain Jones have he understood him as having been a Captain and that he was a short time a clerk in some station in the Army what it was this affiant does not know -- Captain Jones spoke of having received a good deal of money for his services in the war. This affiant recollects some 2 or 3 years before his death an old fellow soldier in the war William Hopson<sup>2</sup> called at the house of this affiant to see him Captain Jones and in their conversation called him Major to which Captain Jones replied, "I never was a Major,[""] Billy Hopson replied you are an officer for I saw you in command to which Jones replied I was late Captain -- I never was higher in command -- At another time I heard him not long before his death in conversation with an old neighbor Eli Hill<sup>3</sup> who had been in the service with him. Hill said to him the first time I saw you in the Army Captain you were in command and mounted the finest horse I ever saw --

From all this affiant heard Captain Jones say he must have been in the war several Tours at least as much as 2 years as a Captain and must have been as much as 3 -- 4 years in the service at different times -- Captain Jones was born and raised in the County of Wake in this State -- He removed after the war to the County of Chatham where he married from all this affiant knows and believes about 1786. His wife died in the year 1811. She had 2 children of Captain Jones a son & a daughter, the son died in 1836 the daughter is still living and is the wife of this affiant -- She is the only heir and child living of Captain Jones and makes her declaration to claim and recover the pension money due her father as a Captain in the war of the Revolution -- Captain Jones from all this affiant knows and believes was about 86 or 7 years old at the time of his death which was on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 1844....”

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<sup>2</sup> [William Hopson S7004](#)

<sup>3</sup> No one by this name filed for a federal pension claiming service in NC.



[pp 81-2]

State of North Carolina, Chatham County

Be it remembered that this day personally appeared [before] me Samuel Brewer one of the Justices of the Peace for the County & State aforesaid James Dollar<sup>4</sup> of said State & County who being duly sworn according to law deposeth & saith That he is in the 98th year of his age was a soldier of the American Revolution and is a Pensioner under the Act of Congress for said services -- That for a great many years he was well acquainted with Captain Francis Jones of Chatham County -- who was a son of Colonel Tignal Jones of Wake -- in which County he was born and raised in from which County he removed a few years after the American Revolution to Chatham -- where he resided until the last few years of his life. That the said Jones died in Orange County -- in the year 1844 -- leaving no widow and an only child him surviving named Delia wife of James S. Smith. That the said Francis Jones served in the war of the Revolution and was present at the Battle of Guilford -- in which engagement he served as a Captain of Militia in which action this Deponent first saw him That the said Jones was afterwards in South Carolina upon other service as this Deponent often heard from others -- and from said Jones himself That this Deponent further swears that he is not able to State the Regiment to which the said Captain Jones was attached or the Field Officers under whom he served from his loss of memory -- and old age He further swears that for many years he lived in 3 miles of said Capt. Jones -- that in his neighborhood he was always reputed a soldier of the Revolution and had the title of Capt. in consideration of the Rank he held in the Revolutionary war That Capt. Jones was always highly esteemed by his neighbors as a tried Whig of the Revolution and a man of the strictest honesty & integrity. This declarant further swears that he knows of no other man by the name of Francis Jones in the service of this State of North Carolina during the Revolutionary war This the ninth day of June 1852.

Sworn to before me this ninth day of June 1852

S/ S. Y. Brewer, JP

S/ James Dollar, X his mark

[p 28]

State of North Carolina Wake County June 7<sup>th</sup> 1854

Mr. William Jackson aged Eighty-four years a credible witness this day personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County who being first duly sworn according to law depose as follows To Wit during the Revolutionary war he lived with his Father Numan Jackson [could be Neeman Jackson, possibly a corruption of "Newman Jackson"] in Wake County NC near Crab Tree [Crabtree] Creek and he recollects distinctly that his Said Father was a private Soldier and did Serve one tour of six months and a part of another three months in the latter part of said war under Captain Francis Jones of the Militia, and that he recollects distinctly, that he has often seen said Captain Francis Jones having Command of Militia Soldiers and that he was dressed in Capt. Uniform having Sword in hand and did serve as Captain more than two years He further declares that he was a very distinguished officer in said war who lived in 3 1/2 miles of his said my Father's House, the

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<sup>4</sup> [James Dollar W25535](#)

reason witness' father did not serve his later term of three months to its close during the time peace was made & he returned home and since which time witness has often heard his said Father and said Captain Francis Jones speak of their services he further the players to the best of his knowledge and belief the said Captain Francis Jones Delia married one Doct. James S. Smith who was many years ago a member of Congress of this State & served for many years Sworn & subscribed to before me

S/ William Jackson, X his mark

S/ O. L. Burch, JP

[p 64: Certificate dated August 20, 1851 given by the North Carolina Comptroller of Public Accounts showing payments made in favor of Francis Jones for military services in the revolutionary war as follows:

State of North Carolina  
Comptroller's Office  
August 20th 1851

I, William S. Clark, Comptroller of Public Accounts, in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears of record in said Office among the payments made by said State to sundry persons for military services in the Revolutionary War as follows

Francis Jones

#5 Book A 7 page 34 \$118 specie (one hundred & eighteen pounds) paid March 17 82

3070 Book A 3 page 20 \$36 88 (Thirty six pounds eight shillings) specie, June 10th 1782

3070 Book A 4 page 123 \$20 54 specie (Twenty pounds fourteen shillings)

Book A 10 \$32.60 (Thirty two Dollars six cents)

The following payments made to Francis Jones by Wm. McCauley district Treasurer & paymaster consideration not stated W. McCauley, Book A 1 page 77 \$400 Currency, Book A 2 page 31 \$26 88

75 the latter payment appears to be specie (one dollar)

The following payments to F. Jones

Book A 26 page 57 \$400 specie

Book C. A 16 page 30 \$7 88 - specie

ditto " 10 \$2 88 Cn. specie.

I furthermore certify that the following entry appears in Book D, which is a register of officers

Fr. Jones Capt. Sep. 3 82

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and official seal of said office Wm. S. Clark Comptroller

[p 42: Certificate of the North Carolina Comptroller of public accounts showing payments made to one Captain Francis Jones during the revolutionary war as follows:

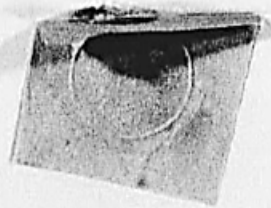
State of North Carolina  
Comptroller's Office.

I, William J. Clarke, Comptroller of public Accounts in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that I am fully satisfied from an attentive examination of the records of this office, relating to Revolutionary soldiers, that there was, but one Captain Francis Jones, I furthermore certify that Francis Jones, of Wake County, was allowed \$3608 specie on the 10th day of July 1783 by the Auditors of Hillsboro' District, for Militia services, as appears by Vol. C. No 2789, which book has been lately received from Washington City having been loaned some years since to the Pension Office

This certificate is additional and explanatory of the certificate in this case, by me heretofore given to wit, on the 20th. day of August 1852.

In testimony whereof I have here unto subscribed my name and affixed my seal of office this 29th day of May A. D. 1852.

Wm. J. Clarke Comptroller



[pp 91-92 appear to be the original of Francis Jones' last will and testament bearing his signature. In this document he names his son-in-law Doctor James S Smith of Hillsboro as trustee for the testator's daughter Dalia Smith; grandson James Sidney Smith; and granddaughter Mary R Smith. The testator also names the following slaves: Yellow James, Samuel, Dempsey, Tempy (and all her children), Rose (and all her children), Amy (and all her children), Betsey (and all her children), Milly, Hetty and Violet. The will is dated February 8, 1841.]

[Veteran's heirs received a pension at the rate of \$305.83 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 and ending February 23, 1844 based upon their ancestor's service as a Captain of Cavalry in the North Carolina militia.]