

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Joseph Pyatt S8986

fn24Ga

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. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Burke County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions April Term 1833

On this 22nd of April A.D. 1833 -- personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of said Court now in session Joseph Pyatt aged about 78 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 the 7th of June 1832.

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

I served for the space of 6 months in the State of Virginia in what was then called the minute men in the year 1776 under Captain Peter Perkins from the County of Pittsylvania Commonwealth of Virginia at the time that Lord Dunmore fled on board a British ship of war at a place called Gwins Island [sic, Gwynn's Island or Gwynn Island].

My next tour of service was an engagement for the regular service in a Georgia Regiment for 18 months under one Captain John Dooly in the last of March or first of April 1777 -- & served for the time of 9 or 10 months first under said Captain Dooly who disobeyed orders for which he was broken & then Captain Stark of a Georgia Regiment took command & marched us to Savannah & sent us up on the Ogeechee [River] to watch the motions of the Enemy from Florida we were in a very sickly country neglected by our commanders -- & such bad discipline that we broke up & went home to Virginia. --

My 3rd term of service was for 2 months when I took the place of George Davis who was a private from Pittsylvania [County]. I was taken as a kind of a guard to serve under General Cadwaladee Johnes [sic, Cadwallader Jones]¹ of the Quarter Masters department and was discharged in the 2 months of George Davis had expired. I then took the place of Samuel Stanley for the Term of 6 weeks the balance that he had to serve in the Brigade of General Lawson of the Virginia Militia who were stationed in the reserve at Williamsburg at the time Lord Cornwallis was besieged at Little York in Virginia. Part of General Lawson's Detachment when on to York but I amongst others remained at Williamsburg & was discharged about 2 weeks before Cornwallis surrendered my time being out. --

That he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify as to his Service. I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension List Roll of the agency of any State and that I always served as a private soldier.

(Questions propounded by the Court)

1st Where and in what year were you born?

¹ [Cadwallader Jones BLWt2308](#)

I was born in the City of Coventry in Warwickshire England -- as I am told in the year 1755

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

I have not

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I was living in the County of Pittsylvania Commonwealth of Virginia when first called into service & lived there until about 1792 when I moved to this County where I now live & have lived here ever since.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

I enlisted the first tour as a minute man in the Service of the Commonwealth of Virginia next enlisted as a private in a Regiment of Georgia commanded by Major Habersham and the same was under General Elbert who died by breaking off a Blood vessel -- I was serving in Savannah at the time of the rejoicing for the capture of General Burgoyne. Was next a substitute for George Davis & next for Samuel Stanley

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

The first campaign we were under no office of a higher grade than Captain -- Peter Perkins until we had gone down to Gwynn's Island & stationed some time when a British ship of war lay in the Rappahannock [River] I think called the Roe Buck [sic, *Roebuck*], when we came up home we were then called out to go over against the Cherokee Indians under Colonel Christy [sic, William Christian], to the Long islands of Holston and from there drove pack horses in the service under Colonel Shelby to the Overhill Towns in the Cherokee Nation on Stitico and Telico -- there was no regular officer with us there

When I will went under Captain John Dooly of the Georgia troops after he was broke I fell under Captain John Bilbo of the Georgia continentals -- when sickness & on the one part & want of attention on the part of our officers of the other part broke us & for the safety of ourselves we came home. When I came to serve as a substitute as before stated in the year 1781 I saw General life yet, Steuben General Wayne and a great variety of French officers.

S/ Joseph Pyatt

Sworn to before me in open Court this 23rd of April 1833

[David Forrel [? Forree], a clergyman, William Ainsworth, and Mark Battin [Britain?] gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina Burke County: 4th day of September 1833

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the Peace for the County of Burke & State of North Carolina Joseph Pyatt who being duly sworn according to law on his oath deposeth & saith that by reason of old age, & 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 served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades. For 6 months in 1776 a private. -- in the spring of 1777 in Georgia Regiment 9 months a private -- 2 months in George Davis his place in 1781 -- 6 weeks in the place of Samuel Stanley in 1781 all this time a private Cadwallader Jones Quarter Master General, General Lawson's Brigade of

Virginia militia Lord Cornwallis then in the South & besieged at York town in Virginia -- these last 2 terms of service General Marquis De Lafayette was look up to for he thinks Cadwallader Jones was providing for him at this time.

Sworn to and subscribed the day above
S/ Thomas Walton, JP

S/ Joseph Pyatt

State of North Carolina Burke County: This 24th January 1834

This day Joseph Pyatt came before me Thomas Walton a justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that he served in the American service in the year 1776 that he never joined the Main Army at all, that he rendezvoused at a place called Batchelors Hall [sic, Bachelors Hall?] from thence marched to Petersburg, then to Cobhan [sic, Cabin Point?] & thence to Jamestown, thence to Williamsburg & from thence marched to little York under Captain Peter Perkins all this time: & then we were marched opposite to Gwynn's Island where the Main Army was on the opposite side we there guarded the shore until Lord Dunmore left it sometime in August of the same year we then marched home & from thence under Colonel Christie against the Cherokees to the Overhill towns & got home & were discharged on the 22nd of December in the same year, was a minute man enlisted under Captain Christie discharged by Colonel Christie: as respects the 9 months service he can say no more than he served under Major Habersham of the Georgia line: & Colonel Elbert. I served in the Virginia militia in the place of George Davis under General Cadwallader Jones for 2 months & in the place of Samuel Stanley in the Brigade of General Lawson for 6 weeks & discharged 2 weeks before Cornwallis surrender my time being out no [indecipherable word] testimony to prove the same.

Sworn to and subscribed this 24th January 1834
S/ Thomas Walton, JP

S/ Joseph Pyatt