

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Gann S9664

Transcribed by Will Graves

f16NC

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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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina, Rockingham County

Personally appeared before me Richard Wall one of the Justices of the said Court Samuel Gann, Sr a resident of said County aged 81 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 provision of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he was living in Guilford County North Carolina at the time of the revolutionary war, entered the service of the United States as a private soldier the year not now recollected (but it was to go against the British who were in South & North Carolina under Lord Cornwallis, Lord Rawdon & Tarleton) for a tour of three or six months, he is not certain which, under the following named officers (viz.) Captain Thomas Cook, Lieutenant John Cook & Ensign Thomas Crawley Joined the Regiment under the following field officers at Guilford Court House, Davie [William Richardson Davie] was Col. Com^{dt} & Brisbourn [DeBrisbourn] Lieutenant Colonel & White [James White] was our Major were marched on to Salisbury in Rowan County where we were put under the Command of Brigadier General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] this officer was killed in a short time [February one, 1781] after this by the British not far from the Catawba River, from Rowan, we marched on to the County of Mecklenburg where we met with the British at Charlotte Court House & had a Battle with them the enemy were too strong for us & our troops were defeated, after which we had a great many skirmishes with the British & Tories, sometime after this we had an engagement with the Tories at Waxhaw Creek Colonel Davie & Brisburn conducted that expedition, which proved successful, we defeated them & took forty-seven horses, saddles and bridles in a short time afterwards our time of service having expired were marched to Salisbury & discharged. I was drafted again in a short time after reaching home. But the situation of my crop requiring that I should stay at home & take care of it or lose it hired a substitute to go in my place. But in a very short time thereafter another draft occurred & I stood my tour & went into service for a term of three months fortunately for me I fell under the same Officers, whilst out on this tour an American officer went to my house & informed my wife that he was a press officer & that he wanted provision for the troops he went into my smokehouse (as my wife informed me) and took as much of my Bacon as he thought proper, which was I suppose between 50 and 100^{lbs} & gave my wife a piece of writing which he said was a ticket on the government for me to be paid for the same. But I never got anything for my meat. The paper was lost & that was the end to my claim. I again joined the Army as a volunteer just before the war Battle of Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] in General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army on the day of the month Battle myself and several others of the troops were detached to take care of some beef cattle for the Army, we were ordered to drive cattle from a place called the iron works to a field within a mile or two of Guilford Court House and there to guard them closely all day, on the day after the Battle we drove the cattle to General Greene's Army, where they were killed & slaughtered for the use of the Army, and a short time afterwards I was discharged and returned home, during the period of the revolutionary war whilst the enemy were so very troublesome in our part of the country the militia had

to be in continual readiness to march against the British & Tories. I was out in a great many different periods of service besides those above mentioned some time for a term of five or six days and sometimes for 10, 15 & as high as 20 days & then permitted to return home again, this condition of affairs continued for two or three years.

Sworn and subscribed to this 25th day of August 1832

Test: S/ Samuel Gann, X his mark
S/ Richard Wall, JP

This petitioner states that he is old and decrepit, & laboring under such great bodily affliction that he is unable to ride to the courthouse a distance of nearly eighteen miles without subjecting himself to serious inconveniences or perhaps endangering his life.

He hereby relinquishes every 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.

Question 1st When and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in Frederick County State of Virginia about 15 miles of Winchester in the year 1748 or thereabouts, I have no record of my age

Question 2nd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was living on the Mayo River in Guilford County North Carolina at the time I was in the service & have lived in the same neighborhood ever since & do now live on a small tract of land within two miles of the place I first lived on in the time of the Rev^y: war – which is now Rockingham County which was taken off of Guilford & never was warranted nor seized in all my lifetime.

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

Ans: Sometimes I was drafted & sometimes I volunteered

Question 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.

Ans: I am unable now to mention any names with any design of accuracy except Colonel Washing[ton] of the Light Horse who served at the Guilford Battle

Question 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: I received several Discharges which I believe were given by my Captain & Col. the whole of them are lost or mislaid

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: Old James Scales, Sr.,¹ the Rev'd John L. Wilson and Nicholas Dalton Esqr. also William Wright, Sr. S/ Samuel Gann, Sr., X his mark

Test: S/ Richard Wall, JP

[John L. Wilson, a clergyman, James Scales Sr., & Nicholas Dalton gave the standard supporting affidavit. In addition, “James Scales Senior certifies that he has perfect knowledge of the present applicants service as set forth in his declaration, that he lived in the immediate neighborhood of the applicant at the time of the revolutionary war & has continued to live at the same place ever since.”]

1 [James Scales S7459](#)

State of North Carolina, Rockingham County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County Samuel Gann, Sr., who being duly sworn deposeth and 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: that his first tour was as a private soldier in the militia of North Carolina in the year of 1778 or 9 of the war of the revolution, that he served in that engagement a term of six months. In the second engagement which was some few months after the first, I served a tour of three months as a private soldier. The third tour that I served was about the year 1780, he served about one month and that engagement also as a private soldier. He further states that he served several other short tours, that he cannot with precision depose to, But according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than one year which he can confidently swear to for which he claims a pension, but is conscious that he served a much greater period of time.

Sworn and subscribed to this 19th day of January 1833

Test:

S/ Richard Wall, JP

S/ Samuel Gann, Sr., X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina State Cavalry for one year.