

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Gassaway Watkins W15857

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 April 2012.

State of Maryland } Gassaway Watkins of the said County and State appeared before Anne
Arundel County } me the Subscriber Associate Judge of the third Judicial District of April
1818 Ss } the State of Maryland and being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of
Allmighty God deposed said and declared that he Enlisted in the Company of Captain Patrick Sim[?] in
the Regiment from the State of Maryland Commanded by Colonel William Smallwood as a Sergeant in
January in the year Seventeen Hundred and Seventy Six.

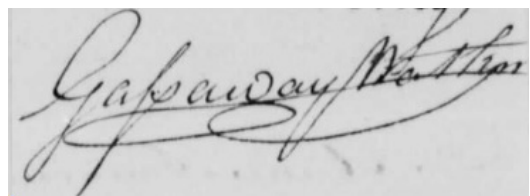
That he was appointed and commissioned an Ensign in the Seventh Maryland Regiment in April
Seventeen Hundred and Seventy Seven and in May of the same year a Lieutenant therein – and that he
was afterwards appointed and Commissioned a Captain and in these several stations served in the War of
the Revolution from the time first mentioned till the conclusion of the War – and that he was in the
Battles of Long Island [27 Aug 1776], White Plains [28 Oct 1776], GermanTown [4 Oct 1777], Monmouth
[28 Jun 1778], Camden [SC, 16 Aug 1780], Cowpens [17 Jan 1781], Guilford [NC, 15 Mar 1781], & Camden
[Battle of Hobkirk Hill near Camden, 25 Apr 1781] Ninety Six [Siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun
1781] and Eutaw [Battle of Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781]
with a wife & thirteen children 11 dependent on him for suporte ten of which is under ninteen years of
age

The said Gassaway Watkins further deposed said and declared as aforesaid that from his reduced
circumstances He needs the assistance of his Country for support.

Sworn to before me this twenty third Day of April in the year Eighteen hundred and Eighteen
Rich'd Ridgely

Clarksville/ Anne Arundel County State of Maryland June 9th 1828

I do hereby declare that I entered in the service of the united states in January 1776 in the
Regement commanded by Colo William Smallwood and continued to the end of the war and was a
captain in the third Rige ment commanded by Colo John E. Howard [John Eager Howard] at the close of
the war and received certificates under the act of Congress 22nd March 1783 in lieu of half pay for life to
which I was entitled to under the Resolve of congress of the third and 21st of October 1780 I have received
no money from the united states since 1820. my Captains Commission is lost but the auditors certificate
of the state of Maryland will be handed also certificates from Colo John E Howard Capt Benson and John
Randell will shew my standing in the army to the south in 1781



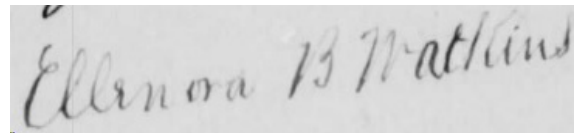
[Power of attorney to Thomas W. Watkins follows, witnessed by William Pitt Watkins.]

State of Maryland

City of Baltimore. To Wit

On this thirteenth day of May in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty
Three personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said City and State Mrs Eleanora B

Watkins a resident of Howard County in the State of Maryland aged Seventy one years who first being duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress of the 3rd of February 1853 granting Pensions to the widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary War; that she is the widow of Gassaway Watkins who was a Captain in the war of the Revolution that he entered the army prior to the 1st of May 1777 as the accompanying certificate under seal of the Land office in Maryland, (Marked A) will show, that he served in the 7th Regiment of the Maryland Line and that he continued in the army until the close of the war. that when he left the army he held the rank of Captain in the Maryland Regiment Commanded by Col [John Eager] Howard, that he was at the battle of Cowpens and several other battles in the Southern Campaign and at the time he entered the army he resided in Anne Arundel County of this state. she further declares that she was married to the said Gassaway Watkins on the 26th day of April 1803 that her said husband died on the 14th day of July 1840 in Howard District of Anne Arundel County, now said Howard County, where she does and always has resided since her marriage; that she was not married to him prior to the Second of January 1800 but at the time above stated; she further declares that she is now a widow and has been ever since the death of her said husband. he received a Pension from the General Government during his life which was paid at Baltimore under the Act of Congress passed in 1828.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellenora B Watkins". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

NOTES:

The Auditor's certificate cited in 1818 cites muster rolls showing that Watkins was appointed Ensign in the 7th Maryland Regiment on 20 April 1777 and Lieutenant on 1 May 1777, as well as payrolls showing he received back pay up to 1 Jan 1783.

The file includes an affidavit certifying a marriage license issued on 22 Apr 1803 in Baltimore for the marriage of Gassaway Watkins and Elaner Clagett.