

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William James¹ W1875

Frances James

f33VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/16/13

[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.]

[p 11]

State of Virginia County of Gloucester

On this 6th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Gloucester now sitting William James a resident of Gloucester County and State of Virginia aged Seventy Four 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 June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the Command of Captain John Camp of Virginia militia in the County of Gloucester and State of Virginia at the age of sixteen years and five months, and served under him from time to time from October 1777 (say seventy-seven) until the 15th of March 1781 at which time he went to sea, and was taken by the British and kept in confinement in the West Indies until the 22nd of February 1782. That he served in all at least two years & six months, but was never in any engagement. That he knew John Peyton, Colonel of the County, and also John Thurston Captain of a Company of minute men. His services were of a local nature and confined chiefly to the County of Gloucester, although he was several times on duty at York town, at which place he was on duty at one time continuously, nearly during the whole winter – Belonging to the state militia he was at all times liable to be called out and was accordingly from time to time.

That no discharge was ever granted and of course he has none to produce, but in evidence of his services he refers to the annexed Certificates of witnesses. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William James, X his mark

[William Figg and Thomas Hogg gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13]

On the 14th day of February 1833 personally appeared before Phe. R. Nelson a Justice of the peace for the County of Gloucester and State of Virginia William James who has sworn to the above declaration and doth on his oath make the additional statement in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

That his first services were at Gloucester Town under the Command of Captain John

¹ BLWt26965-160-55

Camp, at which place he served at least nine months.

He was then stationed at Gainses point on York River and served at that place for three months.

That he was then taken to Yorktown and served at that place to the best of his recollection at least six months. That he is made services were at Mulberry Island in Warwick County at which place he served for two months; and was then brought back to York Town and kept there on duty for two months; and from thence was brought over to Gloucester Town and served again at that place for four months. Besides the above named places, he served to the best of his recollection at Hubbard's old field and Turtle Neck at least three or four months. That he then went to sea and was taken by the British and confined as before stated.

Given under my hand and seal the day and year before written.

S/ Phe. R. Nelson, JPCG

[p 5: On July 15, 1853 in Gloucester County Virginia, Frances James, 72, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of William James, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she was married to him April 15, 1815; that her husband died April 13, 1841; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 9: On March 14, 1855 in Gloucester County Virginia, Frances James, 72, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of William James; that she married him May 11, 1816; and that her husband died in Gloucester County Virginia April 13, 1841. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 16: Copy of a marriage bond dated May 15, 1815 issued to William James and Robert Gibbons conditioned upon the marriage of William James and Frances Cletherlow of the parish of York Hampton and County of York.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]