## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Gaines W25652 Cary Gaines VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization and punctuation partly corrected.]

State of North Carolina } On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February AD 1834 personally appeared in open court before Henry Seawell one of the Judges of the

Superior Court of Law and Equity for the county and state afs'd.

now in session James Gaines Sen'r. a resident of said county in said stated aged about seventy two 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he was born in the County of Culpeper in the state of Virginia in January 1762, that he has in his possession no record of his age, but that one was made and kept by his father who is now dead. That he entered the service of the United States when he was not sixteen years of age in the county of Culpeper & State of Virginia afs'd. under the following Circumstances. That in the year 1777 his father Henry Gaines with whom this applicant lived was Drafted as a militia man for the Term of three months under on Captain Rucker who was a Captain in Culpeper County in Va. and it being inconvenient for his father to leave his family and concerns at that time, this applicant became a substitute and entered the service in his fathers stead as a private The company of Captain Rucker at Culpeper Co. House joined Col. James Pendletons regiment and from thence marched on toward the north passing through the Towns of York and Lancaster [both in PA], toward Philadelphia and after crossing the Schuylkil [sic: Schuylkill River] joined Genl Washingtons Army. Philadelphia was at this time in possession of the British [since 26 Sep 1777] for which reason the American army could not enter it. The main American army remained during a short time in the neighbourhood of Philadelphia, while a detachment thereof was sent down the Schuylkil to attack some Hessians who were on the Delaware one of which detachment this affiant was. He states that while on this service his term of three months for which he had entered the service expired and he received a written discharge from his Captain and returned home. He states that he has lost the discharge above mentioned, having from his youth & inexperience attached but little value to

This applicant further states that after he had returned from the tour of service aforesaid he remained at home some time, how long he cannot say when he again entered the service of the United States as a substitute for one John Reddifer, who was drafted in Culpeper Cty in Va. under one Captain John Waugh for a tour of three months. This was in the year that Thomas Jefferson was Governor of Virginia and was obliged to remove the public documents & papers from Richmond up to Albemarle County where he then resided [22 Apr 1781]; after Captain Waugh had assembled his Company one of which as a private this affiant was, they marched from Culpeper Court House which was called Fairfax and was shortly attached to Genl. Mulenburgs [sic: Peter Muhlenberg's] Brigade; the name of the Col. not recollected. He recollects that his Company was under the command of one Major [Nathaniel] Welch Mulenburgs Army then marched on by Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] passed down and crossed James River at Sandy Point and went by Cabin Point [in Surry County] to Petersburgh [sic: Petersburg]. The American army entered Petersburgh and was soon followed thither by the British Army who came in shortly after them An engagement ensued between the two armies [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781] and the Americans were obliged to retreat across the river over the bridge, which was broken down after they had passed it in order to prevent the British from pursuing & cutting off their rear. From thence the Americans marched toward Richmond until they came to certain mills, the names or owners not recollected, and when the main body of the army marched off they left a Picket Guard stationed at the mills who were afterwards cut off by the British or at least not afterward heard of. That american Army then marched to and crossed over James River and was soon afterward joined by a body of Regular troops now believed to be under the command of Genl [Anthony] Wayne [Anthony Wayne] This affiant

states that shortly after this time he was again discharged, the term for which he had entered the service having expired. His company left the army to which they were attached not far from Richmond and returned home. This affiant states that he again received a written discharge which he took no care of and consequently was lost

This affiant states the third and last time he entered the service of the United States was in the year 1781 about the close of the War. He then lived as before in the County of Culpeper in the State of Va and was drafted to serve a three months tour under Captain William Triplett as a private. They were marched on to York where Cornwallis was besieged by Genl. Washington [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and was stationed at Trebells Landing on James River [6 mi W of Yorktown] as a guard to defend the American Army ammunition &c that were landed at that place. That after the surrender of Cornwallis at York this affiant & his company under Captain Triplett joined the army who conducted the British Prisoners to Barracks at Winchester, when his term of service shortly afterward expired and he was again discharged & sent home. This affiant believes that he again received a written discharge and lost it as above stated. He states that although it is now out of his power to give a more particular account of his services, yet he is well assured that he served three tours of three months each under the above named officers for which he claims a pension. He further states that there are no persons alive, as he knows of, by whom he can prove his services except Julius Hunt [pension application W3819] who can testify as to part of them and whose affidavit is herewith transmitted. He thinks however that the said Hunt must be mistaken in saying that he served a tour of four months as he himself believes that none of his tours of service exceeded three months, and under this impression he claims a pension for only three months each tour, making nine in all. He states that some of his elder brothers were in service with him the last tour he served but that they have gone to the west long since and he does not know whether they are yet alive. This affiant further states that after the war was over he remained in Virginia until he came into North Carolina which was more than forty years ago - that he settled in the County of Chatham in said state; he afterwards lived in Wake County in the same state and again removed to Chatham where he resided until about twenty two years ago when came to Moore County where he now resides. He states that there is no regularly ordained minister of the Gospel in this neighbourhood who can prove his reputation as a soldier of the revolution but that he is known to Cornelius Dowd, Cornelius Shields & Daniel McNeil and others in his present neighbourhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the Revolution.

He Hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Role of the agency of any state

## NOTES:

On 19 Aug 1833 Julius Hunt certified Gaines's first and third tours.

On 28 April 1855 Cary Gaines, 74, of Chatham County NC, applied for a pension and bounty land stating that as Cary Kidd she married James Gaines in 1844, and he died in Montgomery County NC on 4 Dec 1854.