

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Aikens (Aikin) W26780

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } Circuit Court September Term 1832

Roane County }

on this 11th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Judge of the Circuit Court now sitting for the County of Roane & State aforesaid James Aikens aged 72 years who being first duly sworn according to Law makes upon oath the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 that in September 1780 he entered into the service of the united States in graville [sic: Granville] County North carolina as a substitute for his father James Aiken Sen in the 1st Regiment of North Carolina millitia Commanded by Col. Moore, Capt Harison [Harrison?], Lieutenant Grillum marched with sd Regiment to Deep River N.C from thence to the Island ford of the Adkin near Salisbury [sic: on Yadkin River near Salisbury]. from there they marched to little providence [sic: New Providence in present Charlotte] near the South Carolina line where the Regiment joined Col Morgans [sic: Gen. Daniel Morgan's] Rifle Regiment, where we remained for some time & during our stay there took 112 Tories Prisoners from there back to Salisbury [see endnote] where applicant was discharged by Col Moore when he went home after having served three months he has lost his discharge this service was performed in the year 1780

his second term of service commenced in 1781 he went as a substitute for Benjamin Standifer from Mecklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] County Virginia under Capt Browne [sic: John Brown] this was a rifle company and commanded by Col Mumford [sic: Robert Munford] marched from Mecklenburg to the high Rock ford on Haw river in N. Carolina where we joined the main army under Gen Nathaniel Greene [sic: Nathanael Greene]. we beat[?] about there until a few days before the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse] when we moved on to that place and was in the battle at Guilford which was fought on the 15th march 1781 we retreated from the Battle of Guilford to an old forge [Speedwell Iron Works on Troublesome Creek] seven or eight miles from Guilford where we remained until the enemy left Guilford when we pursued them into Chatham County N. Carolina we marched from there to Hillsborough north Caralina where we were mustered out of service after having served six weeks and returned home to Granville County N Carolina.

and on the 14th June 1781 this applicant again substituted for his father in a 12 months tour he went into service at Harrisburg, N Carolina in the 2nd Regiment of N C Militia Capt Dunahoo [Donaho?] Commanded the company this applicant was in at the time the regiment was commanded by Major [blank space; see endnote] a Frenchman there being no Col. at that time from Harisburg we marched on to the high hills of Santee [east of Columbia SC], where we joined the main Army under Gen Greene from there we marched on to the Eutaw Springs in S Carolina and on the 8th day of Sept 1781 it being on Saturday we fought the Battle of Eutaw Springs and defeated the enemy. on the Monday following we pursued the enemy to Monks Corner [sic: Moncks Corner] in S Carolina from thence we marched to the high hills on santee, where we remained about two months and rested our selves from the fatigues of war from there we marched across the Wateree and the Congaree rivers and from thence to a place called the Round O in S Carolina where we staid about six weeks from thence we marched to St. John Island [Johns Island] and attempted to get in but did not succeed, marched from there to Stono Fort [possibly Stono Ferry] and from there to Bacons Bridge on Ashley in S Carolina and there we continued until we were discharged in 1782 this discharge was burnt with several other papers when this applicants house was burnt in granville County N Carolina from Granville NC this applicant removed to Lancaster S Carolina where he remained with his family 8 or 9 years and from there he removed to Roane County Tennessee where he has resided ever since, that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person

whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. that 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 to his knowledge

James hisXmark Aikens

NOTES:

The 112 Tory prisoners may have been the ones captured at Rugeley's Mill SC by Lt. Col. William Washington on 4 Dec 1780. At the Battle of Eutaw Springs the North Carolina Militia was under Col. Marquis Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne, a Frenchman.

On 16 Dec 1856 Dyce Aikens, about 66, of Cass County MO, applied for a pension stating that as Dyce Henson she married James Aikens in Lancaster District SC about 49 or 50 years previously, and he died in Roane County about 11 years previously. On 29 Jun 1857 she applied for bounty land, giving the year of their marriage as 1808 or 1809 and the date of his death as 23 Mar 1845. On 4 Nov 1858 in Lykins County, Territory of Kansas, she stated that she married James Aikens in 1804, and he died on 26 Mar 1844 in his 78th year.