

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Bates ¹ W5787Lavina (Levina) Frances Bates f62VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

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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.]

Virginia, to wit:

On this 23rd day of October 1832 Personally appeared before the Court of the County of Halifax, James Bates a resident of the County aforesaid, who states that he is in the seventy-second year of his age 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 made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, who states that he served five different tours of duty during the Revolutionary war as a volunteer in the Militia and was at that time a resident of the aforesaid County where he has ever resided since the close of the war, he volunteered as a Private the first time in July 1777 or 78 under Capt. Epaphroditus White and Lieut. Flemon Bates [Fleming Bates] he marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax to a place called Brigg's near Petersburg where he was stationed and discharged by his said Capt. White after serving about 3 weeks, Capt. James Hill commanded a company during the said tour and Lieut. Mastin Clay [Maston Clay] was attached to his company. He volunteered as a Private the second time in July or August 1780 under Lieut. Booker and marched under said Booker from Booker's ferry on Staunton River in the aforesaid County, to Locust Thicket in the County of Bedford and there he was attached to a company commanded by Capt. Clemans [perhaps Capt. Adam Clement of Bedford County], from the said County of Bedford: and from Locust Thicket he marched to New London, then and there he was joined to Col. Charles Lynch's Regiment of volunteers and from New London he marched to the lead [?]² mines, thence to the natural Bridge over Cedar Creek Rockbridge County where he was at the taking of 25 or 30 Tories, and from thence he returned to New London where he was discharged early in October after serving two months. He volunteered as a Sgt. in November 1780 under Capt. Richard Gaines and Lieut. Wood Boulding of the County of Charlotte and marched under the said Capt. Gaines to Cabin Point where he was transferred to Capt. Charles Wall, in January 1781 and Flemon Bates was Capt. Wall's Lieut., and Capt. Wall's company was attached to Col. Charles Flemon's Regiment, he marched from Cabin Point to Sleepy hole and from thence he returned to Cabin Point, where he was discharged by Major Jones the last of January, or the first of February, after serving three months. He volunteered a second time as a Sgt. in February 1781 under Capt. John Thompson of the aforesaid County of Halifax and in a very short time indeed he was transferred into a company of Rifle men, commanded by Col. William Morton of the County of Charlotte and he was marched

¹ BLWt26846-160-55

from the aforesaid County of Halifax to a Camp on Eno River near Hillsboro in the State of North Carolina, where he joined Col. Campbell's [either Richard Campbell or William Campbell] Regiment of Rifle-men and from there he marched to Reedy fork River, where he was in a battle & he recollects the following Officers viz. Colonels: Williams [probably Otho Williams], Lee [probably Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], Campbell, Smith and Howard [John Eager Howard]: Captains Morton, Smith, Barnes & Rudolph and from thence he returned & joined General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army near Guilford Court house in the said State of North Carolina and in a few days thereafter (about the 15th of March) he was in a General Battle between the two armies at or near the said Court house Called the Guilford Battle after which he returned to Troublesome Old Iron Works and from thence he pursued the enemy to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, where he was discharged by the said Col. Campbell the 30th day of March 1781 after serving six weeks. He volunteered as an Ensign the 25th day of July 1781, under Capt. Flemon Bates and Lieut. William Sydnor Capt. Bates company was attached to Col. Peter Rogers Regiment, he recollects some of the other Officers who belonged to the aforesaid Regiment viz. Captains Michael Roberts, John Faulkner and Wiley and Lieutenants John Brown and John Brandon, and Ensign John Maxsy, the aforesaid three the last mentioned officers were from the aforesaid County of Halifax, and from Halifax he marched to Petersburg, thence to Newson Springs thence to York Town, he was at the siege of said place & the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, the 19th of October 1781 and after the surrender of said Place he was one of the Officers of the Guard who guarded the Prisoners from Yorktown to Nowlin's ferry [Noland's ferry] on the Potomac River and delivered them the 6th day of November following and he was allowed 18 days after the delivery of the prisoners as aforesaid to return to his said County of Halifax by Major Wood Jones and on his return to the said County of Halifax he was there discharged by the aforesaid Capt. Flemon Bates, about the last of November after a tour of about 4 months. He is at this time unable to produce his Ensign's commission or a discharge for either of the aforesaid tours of duty. 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.

S/ James Bates³

[p 27]

Virginia Halifax County, to wit;

I Samuel Dunaway,⁴ an old Revolutionary soldier of said County do hereby certify that I lived a neighbor to James Bates an old revolutionary soldier during the war of the Revolution he the said Bates was absent from home a short time some time in the year 1777 or 78 and it was the understanding in the neighborhood and my belief that the said Bates was in the Service under Capt. Epaphroditus White.

Given under my hand this 20th day of October 1832.

S/ Samuel Dunaway

[p 28]

Virginia Halifax County, to wit:

³ The signature appears to me to be in the identical handwriting with the body of the document. Consequently I do not believe it is the actual signature of the veteran.

⁴ This MAY be the same man as [Samuel Dunaway S2530](#)

I Thomas Sparrow⁵ of said County an old revolutionary soldier of said County do hereby certify that I lived a neighbor to James Bates an old revolutionary soldier during the war of the revolution. He the said Bates was absent from home a short time some time in the year 1777 or 78 and it was the understanding in the neighborhood in my belief that the said Bates was in the service under Capt. Epaphroditus White, I further certify that I was drafted as a soldier in July 1781 and marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax to Yorktown under Capt. Flemon Bates and that the said James Bates was an Ensign belonging to the aforesaid Company commanded by the said Capt. Bates to whose company I belonged and I served under said Capt. Bates and the said Ensign James Bates at the siege of Yorktown, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the 19th day of October in the said year and after the surrender of said Place the aforesaid Ensign James Bates was one of the Officers of the guard who guarded the Prisoners from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry, on the Potomac River. Given under my hand this 20th day of October 1832.

S/ Thomas Sparrow, X his mark

[p 29]

Halifax County, to wit

I Elisha Palmer⁶ of said County an old revolutionary soldier do hereby certify that I was in the Revolutionary War in 1781 with Sgt. James Bates and we were stationed together for some time at Cabin Point in the State of Virginia and I have no doubt but what the said Sgt. James Bates served a tour of 3 months. Given under my hand this 19th day of October 1832

S/ Elisha Palmer

[p 30]

Virginia Halifax County, to wit:

I John Camp⁷ of said County and old Revolutionary soldier hereby certify that I was drafted as a private in the year 1781 And I marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax under Capt. Flemon Bates and Ensign James Bates both of the aforesaid Officers were at that time, citizens of the aforesaid County and the aforesaid Ensign James Bates resides in the aforesaid County at this time I marched under the aforesaid Officers from Halifax to Petersburg, thence to Newsom's Springs thence to York town: and that I was at the siege of said place, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the 19th of October in the said year, and the aforesaid James Bates was not Ensign at the time: And after the siege of York I volunteered as a Private to guard the prisoners from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry on the Potomac River and the said Ensign James Bates acted as in Officer of the guard from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry And I further state that the said Ensign James Bates and myself served together in the aforesaid tour a tour of between 4 and 5 months. Given under my hand this 22nd day of October 1832.

S/ John Camp

[p 32]

The affidavit of John Collins⁸ Senior of lawful age taken at the Store house of Barksdale Sydnor &Co. on the 15th day of October 1832. This affiant saith that he served a 6 weeks tour in the Revolutionary War with James Bates under Capt. William Morton from Charlotte County

⁵ Could not find a federal pension application for this man.

⁶ [Elisha Palmer S5874](#)

⁷ [John Camp R1617](#)

⁸ [John Collins R2176](#)

Virginia. We marched from Halifax Courthouse Virginia near Hillsboro North Carolina there we joined Col. William Cammel's [sic, Campbell's] Regiment of Riflemen with whom we continued until the battle at Guilford after which we followed the British to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River at which time and place we were discharged, also this affiant further saith that he always understood that the said James Bates was a good soldier and a true Whig and as well as I recollect he served a tour under Col. C. Linch [Lynch] from Bedford against the Tories in the West in and about 2 months as well as I recollect, and further this affiant saith not.

S/ John Collins, Senior, X his mark

[p 33]

The affidavit of Robert Montgomery⁹ of lawful age taken at the Store house of Barksdale Sydnor &Co. in the County of Halifax Virginia On the 15th day of October 1832. This affiant saith that he marched from the County of Halifax Virginia under Ensign James Bates to Newsom's Springs where we stayed some time from thence we marched to the Old field near Yorktown where we joined Col. Holt Richardson [Holt Richeson] with whom we continued until I was discharged. The said James Bates volunteered and marched as one of the guard with the prisoners to Nolin's ferry on Potomac River as Ensign and further this affiant saith not.

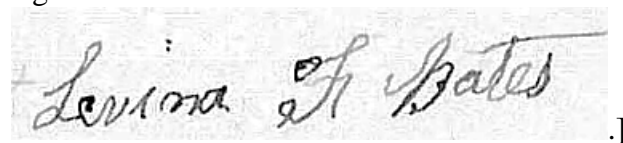
S/ Robert Montgomery

[p 8: On September 18, 1847 in Halifax County Virginia, Lavina F. Bates, the widow of James Bates filed for the amount she says was due her from the 4th day of March 1836 to the 2nd day of September 1847 when her husband died and her pension commenced. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 42: On September 18, 1848 in Halifax County Virginia, Lavina F Bates, 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of James Bates, formerly a Sgt. and Ensign in the revolutionary war and a pensioner at the rate of \$78.33 per annum for his service therein. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 13: copy of a Marriage bond license dated January 28, 1793, issued in Halifax County for the marriage of James Bates to Lavina F. Nance; James Bates and W. H. Hunt, bondsmen.]

[p 25: On February 29, 1852 in Halifax County Virginia, Lavina F Bates widow of James Bates filed a claim for obtaining an increase in her pension. This document bears the following signature



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[p 15: On March 30, 1855, in Halifax County, Va., Lavina Bates, 82, filed for her bounty land entitlement stating that she is the widow of James Bates, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married him January 28, 1793; that they were married by Michael Bates, a Baptist minister; that her husband died September 2nd 1847.]

⁹ I could not find a federal pension application for this man.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$78.33 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 2 ½ months; as a Sergeant for 6 months; and as an Ensign for 4 months in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]