

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Emmons W7108 Sarah Emmons VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 Jan 2014.

State of Virginia }
Giles County }

On this 28th day of August 1832 personally appears in open court before the Justices of the County Court now sitting James Emmons a resident of the County of Giles and State of Virginia aged 71 years on the 2nd day of October 1832 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as follows

That he was drafted in the year 1780. he thinks about the first of October under Capt. Winn he thinks his given name was Minor [probably James Winn] and marched from Fredericksburg in the state of Virginia to Hillsborough in North Carolina distant about 300 miles at which place Capt. Winn resigned his commission and returned home, and that he was then put under the command of Capt. Francis Triplet [sic: Francis Triplett], and at which place he under Capt. Triplet was put under the command of Gen'l. [Daniel] Morgan and under him were Cols [John Eager] Howard and [William] Washington, the latter of the horse, and the Officers under whom he was immediately commanded were Lieutenant Brown[?] and Ensign Combs and they remained at Hillsborough but a few days when Genl Morgan and those under his command marched to a place in N. Carolina (the name of the place not now recollected) where they joined with Gen'l Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] where they remained a few days, when Gen'l Morgan (left Gen. Green) with about nine hundred men and marched to a place called New Providence [near Charlotte NC] where they remained about two weeks and then marched to a fort of Tories at a place called Ruderly's Mill [sic: Rugeley's Mill about 12 miles north of Camden SC] where they succeeded in taking the tories [4 Dec 1780], and sent them up to Salisbury [NC] and then returned to New Providence & remained not more than three or four days & from there marched into the State of S. Carolina upon a river called Pattyors [sic: Pacolet] river at which place they remained about two weeks, during what time Col. Washington discovered and broke up one or two tory forts [Hammond's Store SC. 30 Dec 1780] and brought them to the Camp. One of whom was tried and hanged, from which place Gen'l Morgan and his troops marched to a place called the Cowpens where they was overtaken by Col'n. Tarlton [sic: Banastre Tarleton], where a warm engagement took place [17 Jan 1781], and resulted in the defeat of the British. from there guarded the prisoners that were taken to Salisbury, where they camped but a few days from which place he marched home to the state of Virginia and County of Fauquier in which he resided when he was drafted. when he left Salisbury he received a discharge but he long since lost the same. he arrived at home about the last of February next coming the commencement of his service making five months that he had then been in service. he then remained at home sometime until his brother Wm Emmons [William Emmons] was called out under Capt Helm [probably Thomas Helm] and marched to Yorktown when he entered the service as a volunteer in the place of his brother Wm and continued until after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] was then sent to guard the prisoners then taken to Winchester when he received his discharge and came home but has since lost the same the length of time that he was then in this [illegible word] as a volunteer he cant presently recollect but feels confident that it was considerably more that one month after peace was declared he continued to reside in the County of Fauquier for upwards of twenty years & then moved to the State of N. Carolina, Wake County & lived there about six years, from thence he moved to the County of Giles & State of Virginia where he now lives

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and Year aforesaid James Emmon

Virginia

At a Court held for the County of Giles on Monday the 25th day February 1833

James Emmons appeared in Court and made the following statement on Oath (in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832) as an amendment to his declaration made on the 28th day of August last past Hereto annexed – which statement is required by the war department to enable the said department to determine whether the said applicant is entitled to the benefit of the provisions of the Act aforesaid and to determine likewise to what amount of pension the applicant is entitled.

In answer to the 5th Interrogatory of the said department

He states that his first tour of service was four months. In his declaration he states that tour of service to be five months which was owing to the fact that he believed that travelling to & from the places of service was embraced in the general estimate of services performed. His second and last tour of service was three months, both of which tours are designated in the declaration referred to – the time in which he was engaged in performing the second tour he did not specify because he did not at that time recollect the length of the same – in Consequence of old age and loss of memory

We Landon Damon a Clergyman residing in he County of Giles and David French [and] David Johnston residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with James Emmons who has subscribed and sworn to the above declarations that we believe him to be 71 years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion Landon Duncan David French David Johnston

sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

and that John Kirk [pension application S5558] personally appeared in open court and made oath that he was present when Jas Emmons was drafted and afterward knew of his own knowledge that he had gone into the service of the United States

Virginia } At Giles Nov'm Court 1833

Giles County }

Towit } on this 25 day of November personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Giles County now setting, James Emmons a resident of the County aforesaid & State of Virginia, and made the following declaration upon oath in addition to his original declaration of 28th of August 1832 and his amended declaration of 25th February 1833 both of which are hereto annexed, States that he was born in the County of Fauquire in the State of Virginia on the second day of October 1761 that he is now 72 years of age, and has the record of his age in his own possession, that he has now no documentary evidence of his services, and that he knows of no person now living from whom he is able to procure any additional evidence to that of John Kirk Sr. that it was an omission that the persons names were not inserted in the body of his declaration to whom he was known and lived in his neighbourhood, and who testified as to his character and veracity, and their belief as to his services as a Soldier in the Revolution, that in addition to Landan Duncan a Clergyman, David French & Andrew Johnston, whose names are annexed to his amended declaration of 25th February 1833 Doctor John H Rutter a Clergyman being in the neighbourhood, whose certificate is hereto annexed were produced in open Court – that part of his original declaration which answers the 5th objection and seems not to be understood by the department as it regards the Length of time he was in service as a vounteer should read as follows – “the length of time he was there in service as a volunteer he dont precisely recollect but feels confident that it was considerably more that one month; – after peace was declared he continued to reside in the county of Fauquire” – the error in not fixing a stop after the word month changed the meaning the length of time then in service is fully stated in his amended declaration of 25th February 1833

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James Emmons

NOTES:

On 24 July 1835 James Emmons applied to have his pension transferred to Michigan Territory, having moved to Berrien County for the following reason: “ This deponent had two children who emigrated from Virginia to the Territory of Michigan and himself being far advanced in years wished to reside near them: and also the deponent hearing that a favorable climate and a good soil were found in Michigan, he therefore removed as above is set forth.”

On 29 April 1851 Sarah Emmons, 87, applied for a pension stating that she married James Emmons on or about 1 Feb 1784, and he died 5 April 1839, about five years after they had moved from Giles County to Cass County, Michigan Territory, to be near two children. In a supporting statement Ephraim Emmons, 65, of Kosciusko County IN, stated that he was born in 1786 in Fauquier County, the oldest of 12 children of James and Sarah Emmons, four of whom were born before 1 Jan 1794.