

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Yates (Yeats, Yeates) ¹ W8202 Sarah Yates f65MD

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/14

[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 'indcipherable' 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 7]

The State of Ohio Highland County SS:

On this 10th day of March A.D. 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas now sitting Benjamin Yeats a resident of said County aged 88 years who being 1st 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated: This applicant states that he was born in Baltimore County Maryland on the 8th day of April A.D. 1745 – has no record of his age. That he lived when called into service in Frederick County Maryland, After the war moved to Westmoreland County Pennsylvania resided there about 15 years & moved to Crawford County Pennsylvania was there about 15 years then moved to Adams County Ohio there 14 years & moved to Highland County Ohio where he now lives. –

That in his 1st tour of service he was drafted & in the 2nd he enlisted –

That in addition to the officers under whose immediate command he was he knew Generals Washington, Smallwood [William Smallwood] & others whom he has forgotten. In the month of March 1788 [sic, 1778?] he was drafted for the Maryland militia in Frederick County to fight against the Indians. In this tour he served under Capt. __ Pickett. Soon after he was drafted he marched under the command of said officer to Western Pennsylvania & to a place near Pittsburgh – that he acted as a spy against the Indians on the Western frontier of Pennsylvania until July when he joined the troops commanded by General McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh] at a place called the McIntosh's Fort. That he assisted in building the Fort at McIntosh & soon after marched under said General McIntosh against the Indians to the Tuscaroras towns in the Northwestern territory. We remained on the Tuscarora River several weeks & erected a Fort there – We were then marched back to Fort McIntosh & I then acted as a spy on the frontiers of Pennsylvania until I served out the term for which I was drafted always under the command of said Capt. __ Pickett – when we were marched back to Baltimore County Maryland where I received a written discharge from my said Capt. I served in this tour twelve months – & was all that time in actual service –

In the month of May A.D. 1781 I enlisted in the Maryland line to go against the British in Virginia (at Frederick town) – I served in this tour in the 4th Regiment of the Maryland line

¹ BLWt3134-160-55

commanded by Col. ___ in the company commanded by Capt. Murdoch. We marched soon after I enlisted to Annapolis where our company remained about a month & where we were joined by the Brigade commanded by General Smallwood – We then marched under the command of General Smallwood to Georgetown – thence to Williamsburg Virginia where we remained for some time. We then joined the American Army before Yorktown which was then occupied by the British under Cornwallis. I was on duty before Yorktown until three days before the British surrendered [October 19, 1781] when I was wounded by a piece of a bombshell & was sent to the hospital. A few days after the surrender of Cornwallis I recovered so as to be able to travel & returned to Annapolis where I received a written discharge from my Capt. after serving in this tour six months. This applicant states that he served in both his tours 18 months that he was discharged and both lost.

That he has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any living witnesses by whom he could prove his service.

That Mitchell Boatnor, Samuel Beard, James Anderson, Thomas Beard & others residing in his neighborhood will testify as to his character for veracity. No clergyman in his neighborhood –

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Benjamin Yeats, X his mark

[James Anderson and William Dilman gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 18]

Land Office, Annapolis, April 7, 1834

Sir,

Yours of the 1st Instant with the declaration of Benjamin Yeates enclosed was received; in reply, I have to inform you, that I find his name only upon a Militia payroll in this office of "Discharged Soldiers of the two battalions of Militia raised to serve 9 months, or until the 10th day of December 1781;" – his name appears upon this roll to have been discharged on the 3rd day of December 1781; and to have received £9.15.0 – Benjn Yeates (the applicant) states in his declaration that he also served in the Continental line, I however do not find his name upon any of the rolls of the Continental troops;

I am respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

G. G. Brewer

J. L. Edwards, Esqr.

[p 14: On May 8, 1854 in Hamilton County Ohio, Sarah Yates, 46 years old, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act as the widow of Benjamin Yates, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Highland County Ohio July 16, 1835; that previous to her marriage her name was Sarah Robinson; that her husband died at Manchester in Adams County Ohio January 30th, 1849; and that she remains his widow.]

[p 10: On March 20, 1855 in Hamilton County Ohio, Sarah Yeates, 50, a resident of Cincinnati made application for bounty land as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier; she states that she is a pensioner under the 1853 act as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She signed this document with her mark.]

[p 12: On February 16, 1854 the probate court judge of Highland County Ohio certified that records in his office show that a license was issued July 17, 1835 to Benjamin Yates to marry Sarah Ann Robinson who were joined in marriage by William Cochran, JP on July 16, 1835. This record was recorded in Marriage Book No. 3 in the office of the probate judge.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]