Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Tatum (Totum) R10401  Mary  f 11VA
Transcribed by Will Graves  11/8/11

[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.  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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

The state of Tennessee Marion County

On this thirteenth day of February in the year of our Lord 1852 personally appeared before me Samuel B Mitchell Chairman of the County Court held in and for said County and which is a Court of record, Mrs. Mary Tatum, who is to me well known as a resident of said County of Marion in the State of Tennessee, and who is aged ninety-one years who being by me duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836, and the various Acts of Congress supplemental to the same, that she is the widow of Jesse Tatum deceased who was a Sergeant in Captain Henry Conway or Collier's Company of General Stehens [presumably Edward Stevens'] Brigade of Virginia militia in the war of the revolution.  That she is unable to state the time of his first entering the service, but that he served about four years previous to the date of his discharge, which was on the 12th day of October A.D. 1781.  That he was in the engagement commonly called "Gates defeat." [August 15-16, 1780] That her said husband was a resident of the County of Brunswick in the State of Virginia at the time he entered the service, and resided in said County for several years after the close of the war, he removed from said County to Patrick County in said State thence to Franklin County Georgia, thence to Knox County Tennessee, thence to Rhea County Tennessee where he died on the 16th day of August A.D. 1805 – She further declares that her said husband Jesse Tatum had a written certificate of his services and discharge which was seen and read by deponent frequently; that the said discharge was burned in and with the dwelling house of Henry Tatum on the 5th day of September 18?? [last two digit indecipherable1]. That the said discharge was copied by Mr. A. Street previous to the burning of the same, and which said copy she believes to be an exact copy of the original certificate of discharge.  That the said copy was made by request of deponent, who at that time intended making an application for a pension, and a copy was made for such purpose.  She further declares that she was married to the said Jesse Tatum on the ___day of ___ in the year 1786 in Brunswick County in the State of Virginia by one Reverend John King a Minister of the Gospel, and that she was married by license.  That she does not know whether there is a public record of her marriage or not, that there is no private record of her marriage. That her said husband the aforesaid Jesse Tatum died on the 16th day of August 1805 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

S/ Mary Tatum, X her mark

---

1 In a subsequent document, this date is clearly written as "1850."
Howell Tatum, 58, and Alfred Street, 45, gave a supporting affidavit in which they stated that Street made an exact copy of the discharge given to Henry Tatum; the copy was made in 1848 at the request of Mary Tatum, the widow of the veteran; that the discharge read as follows:

_The Bearer hereof Jesse Tatum a Malistia Soldier Belonging to General Stephens Brigade of Virginia Malitia is hereby Discharged he having faithfully served his Tower of duty. Given under my hand this 12th October 1781_  

*S. Henry Conway, Capt.*

Howell Tatum testified that he is the son of the veteran and his widow.