Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to James Tutt VAS225

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 Apr 2015.

[From bounty-land warrant files in the Library of Virginia:]

Fredericksburg – [illegible word]

David Henderson [pension application S5506], aged sixty seven years, residing in Fredericksburg, being first duly sworn, states that a large vessel called the Dragon carrying 20 guns, & a crew of upwards of 100 men, was built at Fredericksburg about the year 1777. That the commandant of s'd vessel was Elieser Callender [Eleazer Callender] & this affiant was a midshipman & Clerk on board said vessel. He well knows that James Tutt was also a midshipman on board the same vessell. That the crew were enlisted for three years. This affiant left the ship about the year 1779 or 1780: & James Tutt was left by him acting as a midshipman on board the said vessell. This affiant received his warrant as midshipman & Clerk from the Navy Board at Williamsburg: & he expects Tutts warrant came from the same authority. He does not recollect whether the vessel was on state or continental establishment but he has heard she was on the latter. This affiant received his warrant for bounty land & the depreciation of pay accruing to him for his services on board the said vessel.

[23 Oct 1821]

[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Culpeper County]

To the Gen'l assembly of Virg'a

Y'r. Petitioner James Tutt of Culpeper County begs leave to represent to your Hon'ble Body, that at the commencement of the War of the Revolution he enlisted at Fred'g under Capt. Alex'r Dick [Alexander Dick] as a private in the marine corps, which said enlistment was for three years, that this Species of force being disbanded, he joined the 2nd Regiment Virg'a, troops as a Cadet under Capt Thomas Minor [W5374] and was marched to Wms'burg where meeting with Capt. Eleazer Callendar of the armed Ship Dragon, y'r. petitioner was prevailed upon to abandon the Service in which he was engaged & with the approbation of Governor [Patrick] Henry was translated from the Land to the Naval Service in which he was appointed Midshipman & he regularly served in that capacity three years & upwards the Laws then in force held out to persons engaged in the Struggle for her liberties considerable pecuniary promises of after benefit and by a subsequent Law a depreciation pay was allowed persons situated as your petitioner and some officers of the same grade on board the same ship did actually receive about £75 as their depreciation pay Your petitioner never did intend to tax either the Liberality or the Justice of his Country even for the fulfilment of these Stipulations assured by the pledged faith of the State; but old age and infirmity severely oppress him, the burden of years accompanied with poverty & disease induce him to demand what in justice he may be entitled to receive under the Laws alluded to and to request that you will be pleased to extend him such relief as in your opinion he ought to have & yr. petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

Dec'r 15th 1821 ref'd to Claims/ to lie Dec'r 19/ Reasonable Jan'y. 7th 1822/ Reported Jan'y 8th 1822 Bill drawn

In Council 7th Dec 1821

The Governor submitted to the Board the claim of James Tutt for Land Bounty as a midshipman on board the Dragon Ship of War on State establishment. It is advised that he be allowed a Bounty in land accordingly, for three years service if not already allowed a Copy Wm Richardson CC

Auditors Office Feb. 27th 1822

I have examined the "list of state and Nav Officers who have received Certificates for the balance of their full pay" – and cannot find thereon the name of Midshipman James Tutt. J. E. Heath aud'r

[The following are from pension records in the Library of Virginia:]

Know all men by these presents that I James Tutt of the County of Culpeper & State of Virginia, divers good causes and considerations me moving thereunto, have constituted and appointed and by these presents do constitute and appoint Meriwether Thompson my true and lawful attorney for me and in my name and for may own use and benifit to ask for and receive from the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Virginia; the amount of pay due me for my services in the revolutionary War granted to me by an Act passed during the session the last General assembly of Virginia; and to grant a full discharge therefor, and to do and perform all and every act that may be necessary to be performed in the premises as fully and lawfully as tho' I were personally present and performing the same, hereby ratifying what ever my said attorney may do in my name

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 2nd day of March 1825

James Jutte

I James Tutt Late of Culpeper County But now a Resident of Harrison County and State of Virginia do here by Constitute and appoint Thomas Richie of the City of Richmond my True and Lawful attorney to Recv in my Behalf of the Treasurer of Virginia my pention for Six months which becomes due the 11th of August 1825

Harrison County Selecit

[The file contains several renewals of the power of attorney similar to the above, the last one dated 11 Feb 1828. Another document in the pension file indicates that James Tutt died on 2 June 1828.]