

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Forest (Forrest) S1663

fn21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/2/08

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original.]

State of Tennessee Warren County

On this the 3rd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Worshipful Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County, now in Session, James Forrest aged about 82 years a resident of said County who being first 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 the 7th of June 1832. That he resided during the Revolutionary War in the County of Orange State of North Carolina and that he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated -- The first tour of duty that he performed in defense of his Country, he entered the Service in Captain Thomas Thompson's Company but cannot recollect the date. General Butler was the Commander -- these Troops were raised for the purpose of defending their Country against the Tories and a small detachment of the British who about that time invaded Orange County. The Tories and British were commanded by Colonel Fannon [sic, David Fanning] -- the Whigs as before stated by General Butler -- the two parties engaged for Battle in Orange County near Lindley's Mills¹ on Cain Creek of Haw River -- in a short time the Whigs were overpowered by numbers and compelled to retreat -- the enemy also retreated in the direction of Wilmington. On the next day General Butler collected his little Band together with some reinforcements and marched in pursuit of the Enemy but was not able to overtake them until they were succored by a large detachment of the British from Wilmington -- General Butler finding himself unable to contend with a force so greatly superior to he is, retreated, after firing a few Guns -- This applicant was drafted and continued in service this term for three months, which time having expired he was discharged near Wilmington and returned home. He was almost constantly engaged against the Tories from that time until the Battle of King's Mountain² -- sometime for a few days only, and never more than a few weeks at any one time. These services were generally rendered under Captain Thompson. Some short time before Ferguson's defeat³ this applicant was again drafted for three months and marched from Orange County to Salisbury where he was placed in Captain Johnston's Company Colonel Bell Commander of the Regiment -- after remaining there some time, part of the prisoners taken at King's Mountain were brought to Salisbury and there confined in Jail, and this applicant assisted in guarding them -- after his three months expired he was discharged and returned home and did not enter the service again: --

He states that he belonged to the Militia and that he never was in Company with any Continental Troops -- He believes that he received written discharges but cannot recollect from whom for both his three months Tours which he performed -- but they are long since either lost or destroyed, he therefore has no documentary evidence and does not know of any person that he

¹ September 13, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm>

² October 7, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/kingsmtn.htm>

³ The Battle of King's Mountain.

can conveniently procure that can testify to his service. 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 Forest

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Jos. Colville, Clk

By S/ L. Colville, DC

[James Walker, a clergyman, and William McGregor gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Answers to the Interrogatories propounded by the Court:

Says he was Born the 24th of January 1751 in Chester County Pennsylvania

That he copied from his Father's Bible a Record of his age into one of his own. That some years ago he purchased a large Family Bible and copied the Record of his and that which is all the Record evidence he heads.

Says he lived in Orange County North Carolina when he was called into Service -- and continued to live there till about the year 94, when moved to Jefferson County East Tennessee, and remained there seven or eight years, and removed to Claiborne County about the year 1813, he removed to Warren County, where he has lived ever since --

He was drafted the two 3 months tours which he performed -- the short excursions after the Tories, he always served as a Volunteered -- he never served with any A regular Troops, and refers to his declaration for the general Circumstances of his service --

He thinks he received written discharges for both these three months tours but cannot recollect from Rowan, or what has become of them, but supposes they are lost or destroyed.

He is acquainted with William McGregor, Aaron Higginbotham, John Cain & Locke Stubblefield