

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Forest (Forrest) S1663

f21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/2/09 rev'd 3/11/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

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 [John 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 his, 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 [John 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: --

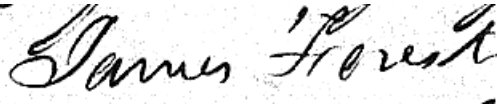
¹ September 13, 1781. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/lindleysmill.htm>

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

³ The Battle of King's Mountain.

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 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Forest". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

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 in that which is all the Record evidence he has.

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 three months tours which he performed -- the short excursions after the Tories, he always served as a Volunteered -- he never served with any 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 whom, 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

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the North Carolina militia.]