

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Armstrong S2926

f29SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/6/10: rev'd 3/6/18

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Tennessee Maury County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions September Term 1832

On this 15th day of September 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before us John Vincent, James Huey, and Peter Williams Justices presiding in said Court, now sitting, James Armstrong a resident of the County of Maury and State of Tennessee aged 68 years, 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 June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. --

He entered the service as a volunteer in the year 1780, in what was then Camden, now Sumter District, South Carolina, under one Robert McCottery [Robert McCottry] a Captain, with this company he joined, then Colonel, afterwards General Marion [Francis Marion], while lying at the Kingtree bridge on Black River, Williamsburgh District, South Carolina; Shortly after this they heard of the defeat of General Gates<sup>1</sup>, which caused the men under General Marion to scatter; the General himself retreated, as well as applicant recollects into North Carolina, in the fall of the same year General Marion returned into South Carolina, and had the engagement with Colonel Tynes [Lt. Col. Samuel Tynes], a Tory leader of some notoriety, whom he defeated, this engagement<sup>2</sup> was on Black River -- In the month of November of the same year, applicant again joined General Marion under one John Armstrong as Captain in Camden District: he continued attached to the Main body of General Marion's troops for about 5 or 6 months subject to his directions, and often sent by him upon the scouting parties in watching and harassing the Tories - - while upon one those trips under Colonel John Erwin, he was in the engagement at Singleton's Mills,<sup>3</sup> on the high hills of Santee; in this engagement Major John James was also one of the commanders; this engagement was with a party of British on their way from Charleston to Camden, the name of their commander not recollected -- he was also in a skirmish at the lower bridge on Black River, and one at Georgetown -- after these skirmishes and others of a similar character, and to the peculiar movements of this officer, he was dispatched with Captain Armstrong's company, and also that of one Captain John Nelson, to procure supplies necessary

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<sup>1</sup> Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780 <http://battleofcamden.org/index.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Skirmish at Tearcoat (or Tarcoat) Swamp Oct. 25, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/tearcoat.htm> & [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_tearcoat\\_swamp.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_tearcoat_swamp.html)

<sup>3</sup> December 12, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/singleton.htm> & [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_halfway\\_swamp\\_1.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_halfway_swamp_1.html)

for the support of the Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]; applicant was engaged in this business for many months, when he again in the spring of 1782 he joined the regular Corps of General Marion under the same Captain; John Gamble was Major and \_\_\_ Richardson was Colonel of his Regiment; he continued with General Marion's Army during that year until the month of December, when there being no further need of his Services, he was regularly discharged by that officer, at Watbough [sic, Wadboo?], near Moncks Corner, about 32 miles from Charleston. He never received any written discharge, but was discharged by an address delivered by General Marion to his troops.

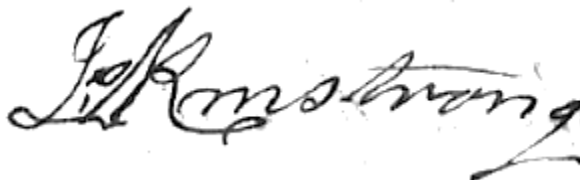
He was born on the 6th of April 1764, in what was then Camden, now Sumter District, South Carolina, a record of which he has in the family Bible of his father. He continued to reside after the close of the war in the District of Camden and Williamsburgh, South Carolina, until the year 1805, when he removed to the State of Tennessee, has resided in this State ever since, and in the County of Maury, where he now resides since the year 1809. He knows of no one, who is now alive, by whom he can prove the fact, that he served as a Soldier of the Revolutionary war, except it be by a Captain Gavin Witherspoon, who applicant is informed is still alive, and now lives on Pedee River in South Carolina. He is known to Samuel Mayes & William James Frierson both residing in his neighborhood and in the same County who will testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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.

Sworn & subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Thos. J. Porter, Clk

S/ Jas. Armstrong

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jas Armstrong". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[Samuel Mayes & William James Frierson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Duncan Brown, a clergyman, gave supporting affidavit.]

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The amended Declaration of James Armstrong in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

State of Tennessee Maury County

On this first day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the circuit Court of Maury County now sitting, James Armstrong, a resident citizen of the County of Maury & State of Tennessee, aged about 69 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following amended 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 as stated in his original Declaration on the first of September 1780 -- he remained with his Captain Robert McCottery one month, when he became sick & left him -- he was absent about one month which would bring him down the time to the first day of November 1780 when he again joined the Army of Colonel, afterwards, General Marion as stated in his said original declaration -- that in the year 1780 he served 3 or more months -- He further states that his service was continued and lasted throughout the year

1781, and they were of the kind and character mentioned and detailed in his original declaration - and that the same services were continued under the same officers until the first of June 1782, when he joined the regular Army of General Marion. Applicant states that from the time of joining the regular Army of Marion in November 1780 as before stated; until his final discharge in 1782 as stated in his original declaration, he considered himself at all times attached to the service, subject and all times to the command of his immediate officers, and almost always upon duty as a soldier -- Applicant in conclusion states that from the best of his recollection at present, that he was in the service of the United States, and performing the duties as detailed in this & his original declaration for more than 2 years.

S/ Jas. Armstrong

Sworn to in open court May 1<sup>st</sup> 1833

S/ George M. Martin, Clerk

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1832 for 2 years service as a private in South Carolina.]

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South Carolina Audited Accounts<sup>4</sup> relating to James Armstrong  
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 149

AA26

[Note: This file contains documents relating to more than one veteran by this name. Use the page number of the file to identify the specific veteran to whom I believe the document relates. It is not always clear, however, which documents relate to specific veterans, so use my attribution with care.]

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No. 44[?]

435 Z            22<sup>nd</sup> Jan. '88 [1788]

Mr. James Armstrong his account of 304 days Militia Duty in 1780 & 1781 amounting to  
£21.14.3 ½ Sterling

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State South Carolina

To James Armstrong

Dr. [deliver]

1780

Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> to Agt. 1781

To 304 days duty done in Camp under the Command of General Marion 10/ £152 [old South Carolina currency] or £21.14.3 ½ Sterling per Certificate John Gambell Major

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<sup>4</sup> The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>.