

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Matthias Gayle W7491 Joice Gayle VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

State of Virginia County of Mathews

on this 6th day of Oct. 1836 personally Appeared before me a Justice of the peace Joice Gayle a Resident in the County of Mathews and State of Virginia aged seventy four years, who being first 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: that she is the widow of Mathias Gayle who was a soldier in the Revolutionary war. I do not know when he entered the service of the United States as we were not married at that time he belong to the service of the united states at the time we were married he was under Capt R Gayle [Robert Gayle] who had command of a militia company and so continued untill the end of the war I know of no engagement that he was in during the Revolutionary war I have hird him speake of being at Gloucester town when the grate battle was fout [see endnote] I do not recollect the numbers of his tower of duty. She further declares that she was married to the foresaid Mathias Gayle in 1780 by parson Fountain and that he husband the foresaid Mathias Gayle died in 1794 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed

Joice herXmark Gayle

We Richard Hurst [pension application S9593] aged 75 years and William Diggs [William Digges S8327] aged 76 years do upon Oath testify and declare, that we were well acquainted with Mathias Gayle and Joice Hall, before and since their intermarriage; and think they were married in the year 1780, and that he died in or about 1794 think he entered the service of the United States as a private in the Militia under Capt. Robert Gayle in the year 1777 and served a tour of duty at New Point comfort consisting of two months and was then discharged. After which he was called out again in the same year under the same officer at the same place and served two and half months. In the year 1778 he was called out in like manner under the same Officer and served a tour of duty of one month at the place aforesaid and was then discharged. Again at the same place and in like manner he served a tour of duty of two months. In 1779 he was called out to go to Richmond on account of the British going up James River and marched to Gloucester Ct House and thence through King and Queen and King William and there heard that the British had returned down the River, and then was ordered to Williamsburg, where he was stationed some time. Then ordered to York where he stopped some time: in all of which he served about three months under command of Capt Philip Tabb. He was then discharged, returned home, and was again called out under Capt. Ro. Gayle at New Point, and served one month. In 1780 he was called out and served at New Point two months under the said Ro. Gayle. In 1781 he was called out (when all the Militia of Gloucester County was) under the said Capt. Gayle and marched to Gloucester Ct. House, thence to Hubbard's old Field thence to Ware Church, thence to Sewel's Old Field [sic: Seawell's Old Field near the town of Gloucester] where he was stationed some time, then he was marched to Gloucester Town where a Battle was fought In all of which he served three months. He was engaged in many little skirmishes while stationed at New Point. He was born in Gloucester County, Kingston Parish where he resided during his life. The above Tour of duty are given to the best of our recollection.

Richard hisXmark Hurst

William hisXmark Diggs

[The deposition referred to in the following is too faded for transcription.]

I Mathias Gayle [pension application S16818] a resident of Mathews County and State of Virginia, do upon oath testify and declare, that after having heard the Magistrate read and explain the deposition of Josiah Pugh [W5586] and Isaac Smith [S11427] relative to the services of Mathias Gayle in the Revolutionary War that the deposition aforesaid is correct to the best of my knowledge and belief: that I

served with him at New Point Gloucester Ct House and other places. Further I do testify and declare that I was well acquainted with the said Mathias Gayle, that he was married to Joice Hall in or about the year 1780 and that they lived together until the death of said Mathias and that the said Joice has remained his widow ever since The deposition referred to above is dated March 13th 1857

Mathias hisXmark Gayle

NOTES:

There was no great battle at Gloucester. This may be a reference to the Siege of Yorktown across the York River from Gloucester, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781.

On 20 Sep 1837 Thomas Hall stated that his sister married Mathias Gayle in 1779 or 1780. On 2 July 1838 Dr. Bartlet Gayle stated that he always believed that his mother's oldest child was born in January 1782 and would be 56 if living.