Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Bates W5787 Lavina Frances fn62Va.

Transcribed by Will Graves 2/15/09

[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.]

Virginia, to wit:

On this 23rd day of October 1832 Personally appeared before the Court of the County of Halifax, James Bates a resident of the County aforesaid, who states that he is in the 72nd year of his age who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, who states that he served at 5 different tours of duty during the Revolutionary war as a volunteer in the Militia and was at that time a resident of the aforesaid County where he has ever resided since the close of the war, he volunteered as a Private the first time in July 1777 or 78 under Capt. Epaphroditus White and Lieut. Flemon Bates he marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax to a place called Brigg's near Petersburg where he was stationed and discharged by his said Capt. White after serving about 3 weeks, Capt. James Hill commanded a company during the said tour and Lieut. Mastin Clay was attached to his company. He volunteered as a Private the 2nd time in July or August 1780 under Lieut. Booker and marched under said Booker from Booker's ferry on Staunton River in the aforesaid County, to Locust Thicket in the County of Bedford and there he was attached to a company commanded by Capt. Clemans, from the said County of Bedford: and from Locust Thicket he marched to New London, then and there he was joined to Col. Charles Lynch's Regiment of volunteers and from New London he marched to the Coal [?] mines, thence to the natural Bridge over Cedar Creek Rockbridge County where he was at the taking of 25 or 30 Tories, and from thence he returned to New London where he was discharged early in October after serving 2 months. He volunteered as a Sgt. in November 1780 under Capt. Richard Gaines and Lieut. Wood Boulding of the County of Charlotte and marched under the said Capt. Gaines to Cabin Point where he was transferred to Capt. Charles Wall, in January 1781 and Flemon Bates was Capt. Wall's Lieut., and Capt. Wall's company was attached to Col. Charles Flemon's Regiment, he marched from Cabin Point to Sleepy hole and from thence he returned to Cabin Point, where he was discharged by Major Jones the last of January, or the first of February, after serving 3 months. He volunteered a 2nd time as a Sgt. in February 1781 under Capt. John Thompson of the aforesaid County of Halifax and in a very short time indeed he was transferred into a company of Rifle men, commanded by Col. William Morton of the County of Charlotte and he was marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax to a Camp on Eno River near Hillsboro in the State of North Carolina, where he joined Col. Campbell's Regiment of Rifle-men and from there he marched to Reedy fork River, where he was in a battle & he recollects the following Officers viz. Colonels: Williams, Lee, Campbell, Smith and Howard: Captains Morton, Smith, Barnes & Rudolph and from thence he returned & joined General Green's [sic, Nathanael Greene's] Army near Guilford Court house in the said State of North Carolina and in a few days thereafter (about the 15th of March) he was in may General Battle between the 2 armies at or near the said Court house. Called the Guilford Battle after which he returned to Troublesome old Iron Works and from

thence he pursued the enemy to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River, where he was discharged by the said Col. Campbell the 30th day of March 1781 after serving 6 weeks. He volunteered as an Ensign the 25th day of July 1781, under Capt. Flemon Bates and Lieut. William Synor [sic, Sydnor? | Capt. Bates company was attached to Col. Peter Rogers Regiment, he recollects some of the other Officers who belonged to the aforesaid Regiment viz. Captains Michael Roberts, John Faulkner and Wiley and Lieutenants John Brown and John Brandon, and Ensign John Maxsy, the aforesaid 3 the last mentioned officers were from the aforesaid County of Halifax, and from Halifax he marched to Petersburg, thence to Newman [?] Springs thence to York Town, he was at the siege of said place & the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, the 19th of October 1781 and after the surrender of said Place he was one of the Officers of the Guard who guarded the Prisoners from Yorktown to Nowlin's ferry on the Potomac River and delivered them the 6th day of November following and he was allowed 18 days after the delivery of the prisoners as aforesaid to return to his said County of Halifax by Major Wood Jones and on his return to the said County of Halifax he was there discharged by the aforesaid Capt. Flemon Bates, about the last of November after a tour of about 4 months. He is at this time unable to produce his Ensign's commission or a discharge for either of the aforesaid tours of duty. 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 Bates

[fn p. 13: copy of a Marriage bond license dated January 28, 1793, issued in Halifax County for the marriage of James Bates to Lavina F. Nance; James Bates and W. H. Hunt, bondsmen.]

[On March 30, 1855, in Halifax County, Va., Lavina Bates, 82, filed for her bounty land entitlement stating that she is the widow of James Bates, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married him January 28, 1793; that they were married by Michael Bates, a Baptist minister; that her husband died September 2nd 1847.]

[fn p. 27]

Virginia Halifax County, to wit;

I Samuel Dunaway, ¹ and old Revolutionary soldier of said County do hereby certify that I lived a neighbor to James Bates an old revolutionary soldier during the war of the Revolution he the said Bates was absent from home a short time some time in the year 1777 or 78 and it was the understanding in the neighborhood and my belief that the said Bates was in the Service under Capt. Epaphroditus White.

Given under my hand this 20th day of October 1832.

S/ Samuel Dunaway

[fn p. 28]

Virginia Halifax County, to wit:

I Thomas Sparrow² of said County an old revolutionary soldier of said County do hereby certify that I lived a neighbor to James Bates an old revolutionary soldier during the war of the revolution. He the said Bates was absent from home a short time some time in the year 1777 or 78 and it was the understanding in the neighborhood in my belief that the said Bates was in the

¹ Could not find a federal pension application for this man

² Could not find a federal pension application for this man.

service under Capt. Epaphroditus White, I further certify that I was drafted as a soldier in July 1781 and marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax to Yorktown under Capt. Flemon Bates and that the said James Bates was an Ensign belonging to the aforesaid Company commanded by the said Capt. Bates to whose company I belonged and I served under said Capt. Bates and the said Ensign James Bates at the siege of Yorktown, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the 19th day of October in the said year and after the surrender of said Place the aforesaid Ensign James Bates was one of the Officers of the guard who guarded the Prisoners from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry, on the Potomac River. Given under my hand this 20th day of October 1832.

S/ Thomas Sparrow, X his mark

Halifax County, to wit

I Elisha Palmer³ of said County an old revolutionary soldier do hereby certify that I was in the Revolutionary War in 1781 with Sgt. James Bates and we were stationed together for some time at Cabin Point in the State of Virginia and I have no doubt but what the said Sgt. James Bates served a tour of 3 months. Given under my hand this 19th day of October 1832

S/ Elisha Palmer

Virginia Halifax County, to wit:

I John Camp⁴ of said County and old Revolutionary soldier hereby certify that I was drafted as a private in the year 1781 And I marched from the aforesaid County of Halifax under Capt. Flemon Bates and Ensign James Bates both of the aforesaid Officers were at that time, citizens of the aforesaid County and the aforesaid Ensign James Bates resides in the aforesaid County at this time I marched under the aforesaid Officers from Halifax to Petersburg, thence to Newsom's Springs thence to York town: and that I was at the siege of said place, and the surrender of Lord Cornwallis the 19th of October in the said year, and the aforesaid James Bates was not Ensign at the time: And after the siege of York I volunteered as a Private to guard the prisoners from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry on the Potomac River and the said Ensign James Bates acted as in Officer of the guard from Yorktown to Nolin's ferry And I further state that the said Ensign James Bates and myself served together in the aforesaid tour a tour of between 4 and 5 months. Given under my hand this 22nd day of October 1832.

S/ John Camp

The affidavit of John Collins⁵ Senior of lawful age taken at the Store house of Barksdale Sydnor &Co. on the 15th day of October 1832. This affiant saith that he served a 6 weeks tour in the Revolutionary War with James Bates under Capt. William Morton from Charlotte County Virginia. We marched from Halifax Courthouse Virginia near Hillsboro North Carolina there we joined Col. William Cammel's [sic, Campbell's] Regiment of Riflemen with whom we continued until the battle at Guilford after which we followed the British to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River at which time and place we were discharged, also this affiant further saith that he always understood that the said James Bates was a good soldier and a true Whig and as well as I recollect he served a tour under Col. C. Linch [Lynch] from Bedford against the Tories in the West in and about 2 months as well as I recollect, and further this affiant saith not.

S/ John Collins, Senior, X his mark

⁴ FPA R1617

³ FPA S5874

⁵ FPΔ R 2176

The affidavit of Robert Montgomery⁶ of lawful age taken at the Store house of Barksdale Sydnor &Co. in the County of Halifax Virginia On the 15th day of October 1832. This affiant saith that he marched from the County of Halifax Virginia under Ensign James Bates to Newsom's Springs where we stayed some time from thence we marched to the Old field near Yorktown where we joined Col. Holt Richardson with whom we continued until I was discharged. The said James Bates volunteered and marched as one of the guard with the prisoners to Nolin's ferry on Potomac River as Ensign and further this affiant saith not.

S/ Robert Montgomery

.

⁶ I could not find a federal pension application for this man.