

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Tays S1594

Transcribed by Will Graves

f24NC

rev'd 3/21/17

[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.]

[p 3]

State of Tennessee, Overton Circuit Court: September Term 1832

On this the 24 [could be "20"] day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, it being a court of record, before the Honorable Nathaniel W. Williams Circuit Judge of the third Judicial Circuit with the State of Tennessee Samuel Tays resident citizen of the County of Overton in the State of Tennessee aged seventy-eight years who being first duly sworn according to the law of the land, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. He entered the service of the United States as a private Soldier under the following named officers and served as a private soldier.

He states that he entered the service of the United States as a private soldier in the County of Rowan, North Carolina. He states that he was drafted in the month of December 1779 and marched to Charleston South Carolina. His officers were Captain J. Sloane [Johnson Sloan], Colonel Francis Locke & General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. He was in no battles during this tour of service. He was discharged at Charleston South Carolina, & received from Captain J. Sloane a written discharge at that place in the March following.

About the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 1781<sup>1</sup> he volunteered for three months, marched first to the South fork of Adkin River [sic, Yadkin River], from that place went to Mclenberg [Mecklenburg] County where the Army were collected. The only officer during this time in command was Captain James Crawford, at this place, he joined the Main Army, and marched to Charleston South Carolina. General Lillington [John Alexander Lillington] commanded the Regiment to which he belonged as he now recollects. At Charleston he was engaged in cutting timber and digging ditches, during this tour he was in no battle. He states that at the expiration of this term of service he was discharged by Colonel Francis Locke at a place called Fourth Creek in North Carolina, at a place to which he marched with some prisoners.

Soon after his return home say in December 1781 he volunteered for a tour of nine months and marched again to Charleston South Carolina under the Command of Captain James Crawford there he joined the Main Army, and was engaged for a considerable time in digging a canal. General Lillington was commander.

He marched to the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] and was in the battle at that place. He recollects the following officers in command at that place General Lea [sic, Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee], General Malmedy [sic, Major Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne],

---

<sup>1</sup> From the events described by the veteran relating to his service, it is more likely that these events took place in 1779, not 1781. In December 1781, Charleston South Carolina was in the possession of the British and had been in their possession since the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780 making it equally unlikely that the events described occurred and December of 1780.

Colonel Washington [William Washington][;] marched with the prisoners to North Carolina and was discharged in Rowan County North Carolina, received a written discharge, the officer who gave the discharge he cannot now name, & in some way he has lost it.

This ended his service as a soldier in the revolution. He states that he served fifteen months, and has given the most satisfactory account of his service which is recollection will permit. He states he does not know of anybody by whom he can prove his service. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Samuel Tays<sup>2</sup>

Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Geo. W. Sevier, Clerk

By S/ E. N. Cullum, D.C.

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Pennsylvania York County, and was born in March 1754 as I now recollect

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans: I have not, there is a record of my age in a Bible and East Tennessee – if not destroyed

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was living in Rowan County North Carolina, moved to Washington County Virginia, from thence to Knox County Tennessee & from thence to where I now live in Overton County

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: I first went out as a volunteer, I was drafted & next I went out as a volunteer

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: General Lillington, General Lee, General Malmedy, Colonel Washington & Colonel Locke & General Rutherford. I can give no other circumstances than already detailed

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: I have two written discharges, one signed and given by Colonel Francis Locke, the other by J. Sloane Captain my other discharge I have lost

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the

Joseph Copeland, Robert Winter, Esq., John Jackson, Joseph Bates Esq., Henderson Bates

S/ Samuel Tays

Sworn to in open Court.

S/ Geo. W. Sevier, Clerk

By E. N. Cullum, D. C.

[Robert Mitchell, a clergyman, & John Jackson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia.]

---

<sup>2</sup> not the actual signature of the veteran since the document is certified by the clerk as a copy of the documents in the court's office