

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of James Young R11977

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of South Carolina, Barnwell District

On the 25th day of July 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Ordinary, now sitting James Young a resident of the District and State aforesaid, aged Seventy one 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 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That being then a resident of South Carolina he volunteered as a private in the militia of the said State in a company commanded by Captain Joseph Vince to serve during the war. That this company with three others commanded by Captain's Creech [Richard Creech], Car [sic, Carr]¹ and Inman composed a Regiment which was commanded by Colonel James McCoy – that Captain Vince was duly commissioned and called into service by the State of South Carolina, as were all the other officers of the Regiment as the declarant believes. William Vince, Jethro Wood and Joseph Harley were successively first Lieutenants in the company in which the declarant served, and Captain Vince on one occasion being disabled by a wound the company was some time, but how long he does not recollect, under the command of Joseph Harley.² That the principal duty assigned to the Regiment was to guard the passes of the Savannah River from Augusta to the city of Savannah, to keep the Tories in Carolina and Georgia in check, and to prevent the transportation of all arms and ammunition from Savannah to Augusta. That the first engagement in which he served was at Williams' landing on Savannah in South Carolina – a detachment of fifteen men from Captain Vince's company, a company of militia commanded by Captain Castels and some volunteer mounted men, at that place were surprised and routed after some fighting by a party of Tories commanded by one McCormick – the declarant's brother, John Young, and Job Rountree Senior and Shadrach Rountree, the father and brother of Job Rountree of Barnwell District, were taken prisoners. That after this being with fourteen men on guard at the company's station at Steel Creek, they received notice of the approach of a party of Tories supposed to be an hundred strong, preparation was made for their reception and a few shots passed when the Tories retired – one Whig was killed. That from the nature of the service assigned to the company, it did not fall to his a lot to be in any considerable battle, he was nevertheless almost continually engaged in skirmishes with the Tories who were numerous, formidable and inspired by the most hostile spirit – these conflicts were always attended with great personal danger, and generally with great loss in proportion to the numbers engaged. That detailed accounts of these conflicts would not be interesting or tend much to sustain the truth of this declaration as they are not recorded in history as he is informed. That being with the company to which we belong on an excursion into the State of Georgia in pursuit of the Tories, he received a wound in the body from a rifle ball, from the affects of which he has never recovered. That he was present and served at the siege of Augusta or rather of the two forts occupied by the British and Tories at that place. The Fort commanded by Colonel Grierson was stormed and the other commanded by Colonel Brown surrendered. That in the course of the attack the company to which he belonged became divided, and he was placed between the Forts under the

1 There are at least two possible candidates for this reference: Patrick (“Paddy”) Carr who served as a captain in the South Carolina and Georgia militia, or Samuel Carr who served as a captain in the Rangers and was mortally wounded at the Battle of Long Cane on December 4, 1780. Although this applicant gives very little direct indication of the dates of his services, it seems most likely that the services he describes were rendered after 1780. If this is correct, then the reference to “Captain Car” is most likely Paddy Carr. See, Moss, Bobby Gilmer, *Roster of South Carolina Patriots in the American Revolution* (Baltimore, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1983) 149.

2 Moss indicates that Vince was wounded in the skirmish at Salley's Cowpens (a/k/a Turkey Hill) which occurred on August 6, 1781.

command of a Continental officer who was wounded and carried off the ground. Most of the officers of the Regiment were present. Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens] commanded the militia. There was a great number of regulars or Continental officers and soldiers present, but from the great lapse of time, he does not recollect the name of any of the officers. The next day after the surrender of the Forts, Colonel Grierson was killed by gun fired by one James Alexander as was reported at the time. That he served at least for years, and was regularly discharged at the close of the War, but the day and month in which he entered the service, or the date of his discharge he does not recollect – that during that period he served constantly in the field, and was not employed in any civil pursuit. That by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served as a private not less than four years as above stated, and that by accident or the lapse of time his papers have been lost or destroyed, and that he has no documentary evidence of his service, nor does he know of any person now living who can testify to the same from personal knowledge except Job Rountree³ of Barnwell District, who served in the same company with the declarant. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State. That he has for many years received a pension from the State of South Carolina in consideration of his services in the revolutionary War, but that the same has been discontinued in consequence of the provision made by the Act of Congress under which this declaration is made, as he has been informed and believes.

S/ James Young, ^ his mark

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Orsamus D. Allen, Judge of the Court of Ordinary

State of South Carolina, Barnwell District

On the 25th day of July 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Ordinary now sitting James Young of the District and State aforesaid and the several questions directed by instructions from the War Department, to be propounded to applicants for pensions under the Act of Congress of June 7th, 1832, being propounded to him by the Court, he on oath answers:

I was informed by my parents that I was born on Little River in Virginia. I never knew the year of my birth. I do not know nor do I believe that there was ever any record made of my age. According to such calculations as I have been able to make from imperfect information and recollection, I was born about the year 1763, but I have no certain knowledge nor am I positive. When I was a small child my parents removed to Georgia on the Savannah River within 4 miles of my present residence, which is the first place of which I have any recollection. When I entered the service I resided where I do now, and I now reside on Savannah River Barnwell District, South Carolina.

I entered the service as a volunteer.

I have no recollection of the names of any Continental officers with whom I served. I was commanded by one on the day the Fort at Augusta was taken, but I have forgotten his name if I ever knew it. I never served with any officers but those of my own Regiment except at Augusta. On one occasion McGirt [sic, Daniel McGirt] a Tory leader marched to the Savannah River with a strong party of Tories and took and burnt a small Fort which had been erected by the men under Captain Vince, and which had been left under a small part of which I was one. The Regiment was divided at the time into different detachments, and the alarm being given and a part being called in, in company with a militia company commanded by William Dunbar pursued McGirt some distance but without success.

I was discharged by Captain Vince and it is probable that I received a written discharge, but I have no recollection of it. I am however positive that I was regularly discharged at the close of the War.

I believe that all in my neighborhood will testify as to my character for veracity, and their belief

of my services as a soldier of the Revolution, and I will name George Robinson, Stephen Smith, George R. Dunbar, John Clayton and Preston Harley.

S/ James Young, < his mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Orsamus D. Allen, Judge of the Court of Ordinary