

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of James Colville S2465

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The State of Ohio Licking County Ss.

At a Court of Common Pleas held at Newark within and for the County of Licking and state of Ohio on the 29th day of October AD 1832 Before the Honorable Alexander Harper President William Taylor Sam'l. Bancroft & Wm. OBannon associate Judges of said County.

Personally appeared in open Court James Colville resident of Newark Township Licking County Ohio aged seventy four – was born in Frederick County in the state of Virginia 7th October 1757. his age was recorded in his father Bible in Virginia but whether it can now be found he is unable to say. The said James Colville being in open Court 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 on the 7th day of June AD 1832. That he entered the service of the United States at Winchester Va. in the month of August 1777 as a Volunteer for six months under the following named officers Capt. John Neiswanger 1st Lieut. Henry Catlet [sic: Henry Catlett] 2nd Lieut. John Barnes went with the Comp'y to Pittsburgh then called Fort Pitt joined the troops there under the command of Col John Gibson – went from thence to Wheeling with an intention as it was said of going on an expedition against the Indian Towns on the Miami under Gen'l. [Edward] Hand but the weather setting in severe the Expedition was abandoned, and part of the troops detailed to guard the frontier and the rest (amongst whom was deponent) marched back from Wheeling to Winchester where he served until 1st of March when his time was out – had a written discharge signed by his Capt. Neiswanger but which is lost or distroyed – had no fighting on this expedition except while going down the river from Pittsburgh to Wheeling a part of our men on shore were attacked by the Indians & one man wounded & one killed – In March 1780 went down the River from Pittsburgh to Louisville in Company with a great number of families where they arrived about 1st of April 1780 went up the Country about six miles immediately where he assisted to build a Fort at Spring Station upon the Beargrass Creek [at Beals Branch in present Louisville KY], that from the time he landed in Kentucky up to the month of July he was most of the time engaged as a spy against the Indians under different officers in assisting to guard the river & frontier of Kentucky Major Wetherington – Major James Herrod [sic: James Harrod] & Col. Wm. Herrod [sic: William Harrod] were amongst the names of some of the Officers who were engaged & ordered when he served as a spy &c. In the month of July 1780 he volunteered at Spring Station Kentucky under Capt. McClure Major Edward Bulger & Col William Lynn to go on an expedition under Gen'l. [George Rogers] Clark – & marched from thence to the mouth of Licking and there crossed the Ohio and from thence on to old Chillicothe Town the Indians after having set fire to the Town fled to Piqua we pursued and overtook at Piqua were he had a prety severe engagement [8 Aug 1780] drove them from thence burned the Town & distroyed the corn 17 of the Indians were found dead we lost of our troops 12 killed – 11 wounded . The expedition consisted of about 1100 Troops as well as he can recollect after this engagement the Troops returned to Louisville by the same rout & from thence to Spring Station where he remained until the first of November. The expedition lasted from the time he left Louisville to the time of his return he thinks about two months that he was engaged as a spy & on the above expedition about seven months to the best of his belief. In November 1780 he left Kentucky & went to his fathers in Virginia Shenandoah County. In June 1781 he was drafted on a three months Tour of duty in the Militia and was rendezvoused a Stovertown [possibly Stover in Augusta County] & was marched from thence to Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg] about tenth July and joined Col Darks [sic: William Darke's] Regiment & lay in camp there about two weeks & from thence marched and joined the Brigade near Richmond under the command of Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens thence marched to Ruffins ferry [on Mattaponi River near Sweet Hall] & from thence to James

River – thence to Chickahomony [sic: Chickahominy] on same River thence to the New Magazine at Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] thence to Springfield about two miles below & from thence in about two weeks marched to York where he remained until his time was up engaged in raising Batteries & fortifications – he rec'd. a written discharge signed by his Captain Linsfield Sharp [sic: Linchfield Sharpe R17780] which is lost or destroyed – he never again entered the service Deponent states that he served as a Sergeant on the last three months tour of duty performed by him – Deponent further states in conformity to the wish of Gen'l. Clark as expressed in his Proclamation he furnished bread stuff for himself and two other soldiers in the campaign under Gen'l. Clark against the Indians at old Chillicothe Town Piqua &c. at his own expence for which he never rec'd. any compensation.

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 any agency in any state

[signed] James Colville

The State of Ohio

Licking County

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace of said county James Colville within named who being duly sworn states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of each term of service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below viz – in 1777 as a volunteer six months as is mentioned in his declaration – in 1780 where he has stated about seven months he now states, as he is not entirely certain as to the time – that it was not less than six months – as a volunteer. In 1781 as a Militia Man three months – making in all not less than one year and three months. for which I claim a pension

He has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any proof he can obtain. He cannot procure the affidavit of a clergyman as there is no one in the neighborhood

[signed 10 apr 1833] James Colville

NOTE: A Treasury-Department document states that the executors of Colville's estate received the final pension payment up to his death on 30 Dec 1838.