

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Guess W8878

Constance Guess

f69NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/30/06 rev'd 11/16/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

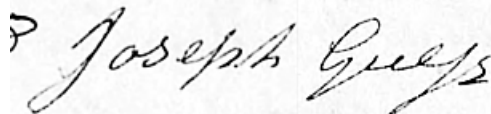
State of Kentucky, Caldwell County

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before Morton A. Rucker, James C. Weller, J. W. Marshall, the county court of said county now sitting, Joseph Guess, a resident of said county and State aforesaid, aged about Seventy 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 was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, the precise month and year he does not know, as he has been informed by his parents, that the record of his age was lost; that when young his parents moved to Orange County, North Carolina, that at the proper age he was drafted in the militia of the State of N. Carolina in Orange County for six months, and was attached to the Brigade commanded by Genl. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], and Regiment commanded by Col. Lytle [Archibald Lytle]; that the company to which he belonged was commanded by Capt. Wm. Jamison [William Jamieson], and Abraham Allen was Lieutenant; that they marched directly to Salisbury, thence Charlotte, thence to Charleston, South Carolina, and thence to Perrysburg [sic, Purysburg] where some regulars were stationed; and from thence to the Two Sisters; thence to Turkey Hill on the Savannah River. At this time a battle was fought at Brier Creek [Briar Creek, March 3, 1779] and a detachment from the command of Genl. Rutherford was ordered to march to the aid of the Americans, but was stopped on the way by the order of Genl. Nash [sic, John Ashe], as he thinks, and consequently did not reach the battle ground. That he served out this six months as a private, and was discharged at a place called Stono. That shortly after this expedition he was again drafted as a private from the same county for three months to go against the Tories down on Pedee River. That in this expedition he was under the command of Colonel Thomas Taylor, and of Capt. Davis Grisham [Davis Gresham], that during this expedition he had various skirmishes with the Tories and reconnoitered the country, and protected the inhabitants as much as possible from the incursions of the Tories; that in this expedition he belonged to a light horse company commanded by the officers above mentioned; that the prisoners which they took were sent to Genl. Arrington [sic, William Henry Harrington] who was then in the field not far distant. That he is now above seventy years of age as he is convinced from various circumstances viz.— The tradition of his parents--the time he entered the service &c and the time of the battle at Bryer Creek [sic, Briar Creek] he was about seventeen--that he was born in Fairfax County Virginia and arrived from there when quite young--that he was living in Orange County North Carolina--that he was drafted into the service as a private--that he did receive a discharge which has long

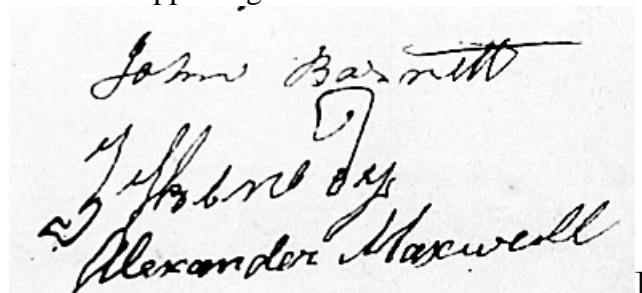
since been lost--that he is acquainted with many in his present neighborhood who could testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his having been a Soldier of the Revolution to wit: James Clinton, James Neely, James Maxwell and many others. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Joseph Guess

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Guess". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[John Barnett, a clergyman, Zachariah Kenedy [Kennedy] and Alexander Maxwell gave the standard supporting affidavit.

A photograph of a handwritten document showing three signatures. The top signature is "John Barnett", the middle one is "Zachariah Kenedy", and the bottom one is "Alexander Maxwell". The signatures are written in cursive and are somewhat faded.

[p 10: On August 15, 1843 in Caldwell County Kentucky, Constance Guess, aged 77, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of the late Joseph Guess of Caldwell County Kentucky who was a pensioner under the 1832 act; that she was married to Joseph Guess January 11, 1787 in Caswell County North Carolina by Squire Swift at the home of a Mrs. Mary Taylor; that her husband died January 13, 1835 in Caldwell County Kentucky; and that she remains a widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 24: In the September Term of Caldwell County Court in 1843, James Guess obtained letters of administration of the estate of his late mother Constance Guess with William Hobbie Junior and William Guess as his sureties.]

[p 13: On March 6, 1854 in Caldwell County Kentucky, William Guess, 33, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Joseph Guess (his Grandfather) who died in Caldwell County January 13, 1835; that his grandfather was a revolutionary war pensioner; that upon the death of his grandfather he left Constance Guess his widow who remained a widow and never remarried; that Constance died in Caldwell County August 26, 1843; that affiant has carefully examined the entries in the Family Record in his father's Bible and found the entries stating the dates of death of Joseph and Constance Guess; that affiant has frequently seen the record of his own birth and those of his brothers and sisters; that the following are the names of the present surviving children of Joseph and Constance Guess: James Guess, Peggy Hooker, a widow, Polly Guess, Frances wife of Mason F Moss; and Jinny wife of George R Guess; that affiant has always believed that his uncle William Guess died before affiant was born; that his aunt Nancy has been dead 5 or 6 years.

William Guess]

[p 17: Family Record:

James Guess Son of Joseph & Conny Guess was born December the 11th Day 1787

Peggy Guess their Daughter was born January the 20th Day 1792

Polly Guess their Daughter was born May 11th Day 1795

Frances Guess their daughter was born February the 14th Day 1799

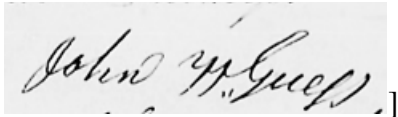
William Guess their Son was born February the 13th Day 1803

Jinny Guess their Daughter was born December the 8th Day 1806

Nancy Guess their Daughter was born September the 8th Day 1810

James Guess Son of Joseph & Conny Guess was born
December the 11th Day 1787
Peggy Guess their Daughter was born January
the 20th Day 1792
Polly Guess their Daughter was born May
the 11th Day 1795
Francis Guess their Daughter was born February
the 14th Day 1799
William Guess their Son was born February
the 13th Day 1803
Jinny Guess their Daughter was born
December the 8th Day 1806
Nancy Guess their Daughter was born September
the 8th Day 1810

[p 39: On May 16, 1853 in Caldwell County Kentucky, John W. Guess, 53, gave testimony that he lived in Orange County North Carolina in the year 1810; that he was well acquainted with Joseph and Constance Guess; that he was a playmate of their children; that James Guess was their oldest child and was then at least 12 years older than the affiant.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John H. Guess", enclosed in a rectangular box. The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 52: On March 6, 1854 in Caldwell County Kentucky, James Guess, 66 gave testimony authenticating the family record showing the births of his siblings; he states that the original Bible Record of those births was stolen while the family lived in Rutherford County Tennessee, it having been left one night in the schoolhouse which was broken into and the Bible and other books stolen at the same time; that his parents had another record made by one Stringfellow, our schoolteacher; that there was another child born between the affiant and his sister Peggy but that child died in infancy and its name is not on the list; that the affiant has always believed that his parents will lawfully married in Caswell County North Carolina by a justice of the peace named Swift and that his mother's name prior to her marriage was Constance Taylor.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the militia Infantry and a private for 3 months in the militia Cavalry of North Carolina. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]