

Joseph Rogers James was sometimes called by his mother's maiden name Rogers and sometimes by his father's James. Joseph Rogers was a witness to the Hennessee tract survey on Lower Creek, north side of Catawba, so we might guess that he lived in the Chesterfield North Carolina neighborhood. Thumb tack H on the map marks Lower Creek farther upstream.

While Captain Woods' company retreated in Sep 1780 to Watauga, JR James states that Captain Hardin's company went above Lincolnton toward Gastonia, then crossed the South Fork and met Shelby's force at Cowpens. Note that this company's more circuitous route to Kings Mountain has escaped most historic descriptions.

In 1837, Congressman John W Davis was involved in expediting Commissioner JL Edwards re/Joseph's pension claim. Davis asserted that JR James was a devout Baptist.

JR James thought it [illiberal and wanting patriotism in him to apply for a pension when he was able to support himself](#). He only applied for help after his house burned. His application was delayed because in the fire, he lost his documents.

<http://www.revwarapps.org/s32340.pdf>

State of Indiana, Owen County

Owen County Probate Court November term 1836

On this seventeenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty six personally appeared in Open court before the Hon. John Dunn, Sole Judge of the Probate Court of said County, now sitting: Joseph Rogers James a resident of the county and State aforesaid aged eighty 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated to wit: That he enrolled himself in a company of volunteer militia commanded by Captain Gills Fauldis (?) and Lieutenant in the Regiment commanded by Colonel McDowell in the county of Burke in the State of North Carolina in the spring of the year 1780 and applicant believes it was in the month of March and between the middle and last of that month. That soon after he so joined his said company the Tories under the command of on Roberts assembled at a place in the county of Lincoln called Raimhower's (sic, Ramsour's) Mills, that the company to which this applicant belonged consisting of twenty four or five men under the command aforesaid together with other companies from elsewhere were marched to said Mills, that the Tories made but little resistance to forces of the Whigs but broke up and scattered a few in each direction, that this company to which applicant belonged was marched in pursuit of that portion of the Tories who had dispersed in the direction of Morgantown (sic, Morganton), the county seat of Burke Co, that they continued their pursuit and search for some time till they took seventeen prisoners, who were conveyed to the Colonel of the Regiment for disposal. That in this tour they from the time they left home till they returned was one month and four or five days. That they remained at home but a short time (applicant cannot say how long) when they were again called out on chase after the Tories; that in this way they were called on and served in five or six short expeditions, the longest of which was eight days; that the others were but for a day or two and on some one or two of these occasions they were employed only one day. That on or about the fifteenth day of August said Company under the command of Captain Hardin received intelligence from their Colonel to rendezvous at Morgantown; that they were mustered into Morgantown, where they remained three or four days and additional companies were coming in; that from Morgantown aforesaid they marched across the South fork of the Catawba

River; that after they had crossed the Catawba, they laid by waiting as applicant thinks for the arrival of more troops and provisions for some days; that they were again marched under the command aforesaid to where they came up to the troops commanded by Shelby and from thence in company with the army to King's Mountain. That here they had an engagement with the British and Tories under the command of Furgeson (sic, Ferguson). That applicant was on the right wing of the army during the battle; that they were compelled to retreat before the British down the Hill; and that on this side of the Hill applicant was wounded in both his legs (in what is called the calf of his leg) by a musquet (sic, musket) ball. That after the battle was over notwithstanding his wound he was able to ride his horse. That they were marched to the plantation of one Felix Walker on Little Broad River near the mouth of King's Creek where one Racad Sharp and many others of the Tories who had been taken prisoners were hanged. That Sharp and others who were hung lived prior to that time in the neighborhood of this applicant, but had fled from their said pursuit when on one of their Tory chases aforesaid. From this place they were march[ed] back to Morgantown and from thence to the Moravian towns where the company of this applicant returned home again. That at the Moravian towns he last saw the prisoners aforesaid. That in this tour he was employed with his horse two months. That the company to which this applicant belonged were [was] sometimes employed in Tory scouts while the flesh wounds of applicant were too sore to permit him to attend with them. That sometime in the month of December 1780 he again joined his said company who were rendezvoused at Morgantown. That it was as early as the fifteenth of December this applicant is satisfied but cannot say certainly the precise day of month. That they were marched under the command of a brother of their former Colonel as applicant believes, across the South fork of the Catawba River and from thence after some delay the cause of which applicant does not now know to a stream he thinks was called Paccollett (sic, Pacolet River) where they encamped with the army commanded by Genl. Morgan; from here they were marched to the **Cowpens** where they had another battle with the British; that at this place he recollects to have seen Colonel Washington. That here again they were compelled to retreat and this applicant was then charged on by a British Dragoon and **struck on the head with his sword and left on the ground for dead**. That after the battle he was taken to one Saunder's [house]; that his **ribs were broken loose** from his back as he supposes by the horse of the Dragoon aforesaid. That during the summer of the year applicant's company was several times called out for short scouts. That the next services that applicant performed was in his said company in the month of September 1781. That they were marched from Burke aforesaid; they were marched to the head waters of the Catawba River; thence to Casey (?) River; thence to French Broad [River]; that they traversed the country in this direction for the purpose of seeing whether some recent murders had been committed by the Indians or Tories; that without making any satisfactory discoveries they again returned home; that in this tour, they were employed between three and four weeks.

That some time after the Surrender of Cornwallis at York time (sic), but how long after this he knows not, he at the county of York in the State of South Carolina engaged in what was called the ten months men, in the company of Captain Nesbit, his colonel was by the name of Hill and his General was by the name of Sumpter (sic, Sumter) from York Co. They marched in the direction to York town, crossed the Catawba [River] at Widow Biggers' ferry and went through Salisbury; that in this service applicant continued three months when his wounds from fatigue rendered him unable longer to bear the fatigue—when he was discharged—that his discharge was signed by Hill and Sumpter and that after this time he engaged with a commissary to drive waggon (sic, wagon) for which he is informed he is not entitled to pay and are therefore not put down.

That during the first tour of service herein named among the few that were killed was the Captain herein first named, when Captain Hardin succeeded to the command of the company aforesaid. That sometimes this applicant was called Joseph Rogers only this being the name of applicant's mother and sometimes Joseph James only by which name he was enrolled he cannot now say certainly.

That he was born near Lynchburg ferry in the County of Campbell in the State of Virginia. That he has no record of his age, it having been burnt. He lived in Burke County in the State of North Carolina when he was called into the service and afterwards he removed to the State of Tennessee in the County of Carter from thence he moved to Clay Co. in the State of Kentucky from thence to the County of Pribble (sic, Preble) in the State of Ohio from thence to Monroe County Indiana from thence to Cole Co. Illinois from thence to Cass Co. Indiana and from thence to White Co. and from thence to Owen Co. Indiana, his present residence. That he was called into service as herein before stated. That the Officers are also herein as fully named as the memory of applicant will permit. That he never received but one discharge and that was burnt in Monroe Co. Indiana by his house being burnt.

That Joseph Skidmore and John Walter Hood with whom I have long been acquainted can testify & the said Skidmore and myself having been well acquainted for more than thirty five years and the said Hood about four years. That said Skidmore can testify as to the effect produced on this applicant by his wounds since his acquaintance that applicant has become very frail both in body and mind by reason of his age and wounds aforesaid or he would not apply for a pension of the Government.

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Sworn to & subscribed in open court S/ Joseph Rogers James , X his mark

Test: T. C. Johnson, Clerk