

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Jacob Michaux VAS1801

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 16 Apr 2015.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Patrick County]

To the Honourable the General Assembly of Virginia. The Petition of Jacob Michaux of the County of Patrick respectfully represents that your Petitioner who is a native of the County of Cumberland, marched in the month of January 1781 under the command of Capt. Richard Allen of that County who was detailed at the head of a company of Malitia to resist the incursion of the British Troops under the command of [Gen. Benedict] Arnold in and about Petersburg, Richmond and the lower parts of Virginia. That your Petitioner at that time was about seventeen years of age only and in common with all others engaged in that service performed a most harassing tour of duty from the known activity of Arnold and the character of the Warfare waged by him against the property and inhabitants of the Country accessible to his Arms. That your Petitioner after the expiration of this service returned home and in the month of April following again entered the service of his Country in the Capacity of Brigade Quarter Master in Genl. [Robert] Lawson's Brigade of Virginia Malitia and continued in service during the whole of that year untill after the Capture of Lord Cornwallis at little York [19 Oct 1781], from whence he was ordered to Winchester to guard the British prisoners at that place and was not disbanded untill sometime in December 1781. The character of this Campaign will long be remember'd in Virginia because of the privations and sufferings of the Malitia who were employ'd in its service. It was during the most active part of this Campaign & at a place called Johnston's old fields that your Petitioner lost a valuable bay hors belonging to himself which he had carry'd into the service when he received his appointment from Genl. Lawson; this horse your Petitioner has every reason to believe was stolen from him by some of the Malitia who had been disbanded and was then returning home; but so it was your Petitioner never afterwards had the good fortune to regain him but lost him entirely.

Your Petitioner charges the said horse to have been a valuable gelding and would have commanded any where at that day \$100 or upwards.

Your Petitioner however begs leave to say that he never had intended to prefer any claim to the Legislature for remuneration for this loss, and should not at this late day have brought it forward but for his necessities and his want. Your Petitioner is now 63 years of age possessing little of no property and so disabled in one hand as to render it almost useless, under these circumstances he has been advised by his friends to appeal to your honourable body for such compensation for the loss of his horse as your honourable body may deem proper. & he will ever pray &c.

Buckingham County to wit

This day Francis McCraw [pension application W2406] came before me a justice of the peace for the said county & made oath that Jacob Mechaux intered into the army under the Marquis de lafayette some time in early in the month of April 1781 and acted as brigade quartermaster in General Lawson's brigade commonly commanded by Colo. Holt Richeson from King Wm. [King William] County & continued in the service on that grade until the british priseners commanded by Cornwallis was delivered at Winchester and did not get home til the 15th[?] od Dec'r & I verily believe that the said Michaux never received any pay for the said services, & that the said Michaux had a valuable bay horse while in the service supposed to be stolen by some of the soldiers, who had deserted supposed to be worth about one hundred dollars. which he never got again. Given from under my hand this 24th day of November 1826

F McCraw

Th Pittman

Sworn to in due form before me.

Cumberland County to witt

This day John Seay came before me Justice of the peace for said County & made oath that Jacob Michaux was in the sevice together in the winter 1781 servd a three months tower under Capt'n. Richard Allen in General Lawsons Brigade. I do here certify that the said Michaux was in the mess with myself

John hisXmark Seay

Sworn to before me in due form

Booker [last name undeciphered]

25th Novem'r. 1826

December the 8th 1826 Mr. Nash will do me the favour of having my Petition to the Legislature for compensation for the loss of my horse in the Campaign of 1781 and also to insert a claim for my pay during the time I was in service if he thinks there is a chance of recovering the same upon the testimony furnished him and to sign my name to said Petition. Given under my hand this day and year aforesaid

Jacob Michaux

Dec'r 20th 1826 ref'd to Claims/ Jno. N. Nash/ 1827 Jany 2nd Rejected/ 3rd Reported

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Pittsylvania County]

To the Speaker and Members of the House of Delegates of Virginia

Your petitioner Jacob Michaux respectfully represents that in the month of January in the year 1781 he entered the service of the State of Virginia as a private in a company of militia commanded by Capt Richard Allen of Cumberland in which capacity he served for three months

In the month of April succeeding he joined the forces then under the command of General La Fayette was attached to Gen'l. Lawson's Brigade, and served in the capacity of Brigade Quarter Master, until he was discharged at Winchester Virginia, after the surrender of Cornwallis at York Town.

While he was in the service of the state of Virginia he lost a valuable horse, as will appear by reference to testimony herewith exhibited.

For these services and this horse he has heretofore rec'd no compensation. At the close of the war it was customary to furnish the claimants upon t he government with certificates of the amount of their demands against the government These certificates were of little value except to pay Taxes; and as your petitioner was then a young man residing with his Father he had no taxes to pay & no use for the certificates and never applied for them. Your petitioner is now nearly sixty four years of age; has lost the use of one arm which with other infirmities has rendered him unable to gain a livelihood by manual labour. He is poor and needs the assistance of goverment. He therefore appeals to the justice and humanity of the Legislature of his native state; and asks that some provision be made for him, which will enable him to pass the declining years of his life in comfort. and he will ever pray.

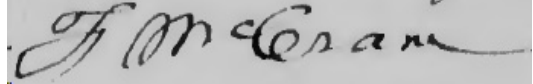
Jacob Michaux

the within pertition was Sworn to before me this 27th of November 1827 Thos. Ragsdale JP

Buckingham county to wit,

This day Francis McCraw came before me a justice of the peace for the said county & made oath that Jacob Michaux & myself went into the service together some time early in the month of April 1781 and joined General Lafayette at the Malvern hills [15 mi SE of Richmond], that the said Michaux was appointed by General Robert Lawson Brigade quartermaster, & that the said Michaux was allowed a horse, but chose to make use of his own, which said Horse he lost at a camping place called Johnson's old field, the horse I verily believe was worth at that time one hundred dollars, that the said Michaux continued until Cornwallis was taken at Yorktown & went with the prisoners to Winchester in the capacity of brigade quartermaster, and that he lived with the said Michaux several years after and does not believe the he ever received any pay for his services or for the said horse which he lost, the horse was a fine bay upwards of five feet high and young. Be it further known that the said McCraw gave a certificate some time past nearly to the amount say about this 24th of November last but upon more

mature reflection has thought proper to subjoin this

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "J. M. Crane", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Sworn to before me this 18th of December 1826
in due form. Jos. Brackett

Patrick County towit

This day Haman Critz Serg[?] [W6755] Came before me Wm Critz JP and Made Oath that he Saw Jacob Meshew Acting as quarter Master as he understood when he joined the Army in 1781 and Continued untill he was discharged and how much longer he dont know given under my hand this
27 of November 1827 Wm Critz

Dec'r. 18th 1827 ref'd to Claims/ 1827 De'r 20th Rejected/ 21 Reported