

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Friend VAS1892

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Transcribed by Will Graves

4/19/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Nicholas County Legislative Petitions

To the Senate and House of Delegates for the Commonwealth of Virginia

The Petition of Joseph Friend humbly Sheweth. That when he was about nineteen years of age, being a native of Virginia, he viewed with indignation the Tyranny of Great Britain towards his native Country. Your Petitioner also *showed with Honor* [???] the number of his friends who inhabited Tygart's Valley then a frontier part of Virginia. Your petitioner at that early period of his life entered as a Militia Man under the command of Capt. Benjamin Wilson to fight the savages and to avenge his Country's wrongs and continued as a soldier under the command of said Wilson from the year 1776 until the year 1781 during which time your petitioner underwent such fatigue, and was exposed to great danger being often called upon to pursue, and fight the Indians, who had been committing depredations upon the frontier inhabitants of Virginia. And during which period your petitioner also submitted to great depredations and performed many Dangerous tours as a Ranger or Scout. Your Petitioner about the year 1781 raised a Volunteer company and marched with that company and joined the Regiment commanded by Col. Zackwell Morgan [Zachariah Morgan, Zachell Morgan, Zackquil Morgan, Zaquell Morgan, etc.] and with that Regiment joined the Army commanded by General Clark [presumably George Rogers Clark], and marched against the Indians to the falls of the Ohio. Your petitioner at the time that General St. Clair with his Army was sent to fight the Indians, tendered his services, and joined that Army as a Volunteer, and was present, and fought in that destructive battle called St. Clair's defeat and although your petitioner in that bloody contest witnessed his companions falling on the right and on the left, and escaped with his own life narrowly Yet he was not dismayed, but determined again to face the Savage foe, and to revenge the blood of his brethren. And accordingly your Petitioner when General Anthony Wayne with his Army was sent to fight against the Indians tendered his services, and as a volunteer joined Wayne's Army. Your Petitioner so far met the confidence of General Wayne that he appointed your petitioner a Capt. over the Spy Companies, that belonged to his Army. Your Petitioner closed his Military career in that Victorious battle fought by the Army of General Wayne by which the savages were conquered.

Although your petitioner often faced the foe and stood amidst the danger of many hard fought battles – yet he never received a scar or a wound from a ball, or sword, or a Tommyhawk [tomahawk]. But your Petitioner had the misfortune, whilst acting as Capt. of the Spies under the command of General Wayne to break the rim [?] of his belly. The pain and disability of

which rupture increases with old age, and has rendered your petitioner unable to labor for a Maintenance. It would be much more agreeable to your Petitioner to voluntarily serve his Country than to be compelled to ask its aid but necessity knows no rule. Your petitioner has nearly burnt the lamp of time allowed to man – he is nearly 70 years of age, poor and infirm and hopes that inasmuch as he voluntarily spent the prime of his life in the Service of his Country, and became disabled whilst in that Service – that he well from this humanity of his Country receive a small pension, during the remnant of his days – and a small some for his present support.

S/ Joseph Friend



[Reverse]

Joseph Friend's Petition
December 13th 1822
Referred to Claims
1822
24 December Rejected
reconsidered & laid upon the table
1823
January 4, Reasonable
January 6, report drawn
January 15 Bill drawn

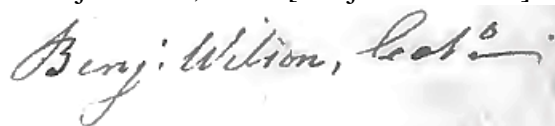
Monongalia County (to wit)

This day personally appeared before me D P Morgan one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace for said County Capt. Levi Morgan and made oath that he the said Morgan was personally acquainted with Capt. Joseph Friend of Nichols [sic] County State of Virginia – and that he considered the said Capt. Friend to be a true and faithful a Soldier as any in General St. Clair's Army also he was much reputed with both Officers and men and he verily believes that the same cause be proved by many others who were acquainted with Capt. Friend in the war. Sworn before me this 26th day of May 1819

S/ D P Morgan, JP

I do hereby Certify that the Bearer Capt. Joseph Friend served under my command as a Militia man from the year 1776 to the year 1781. That he was often called upon to pursue the Indians who committed depredations on the Inhabitants of Tiger's Valley [Tygart's Valley] as well as to do that he Duty of a Ranger and Scout. That I always found him amongst the foremost to expose himself to Danger and hard fatigue and that he was considered by myself and others a resolute and useful Soldier when called on duty. Witness my hand this 4th day of May 1819

S/ Benj. Wilson, Colo. [Benjamin Wilson]



Lewis County to wit

This day Personally appeared Zachariah Rollings, Before me one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that he the said Zachariah Rollings was in Company with Col. Nathan Rollings in the State of Ohio and heard the said Nathan Rollings say he was well acquainted with Capt. Joseph Friend in General Anthony Wayne's Army at the time he defeated the Indians in the year 1794, and that the said Friend was appointed one of the Spies and that he was well thought of as a Soldier and he the said Nathan thought him as such and that the said Friend was well thought of by both Officers and soldiers. Given under my hand this 27th day of August 1821

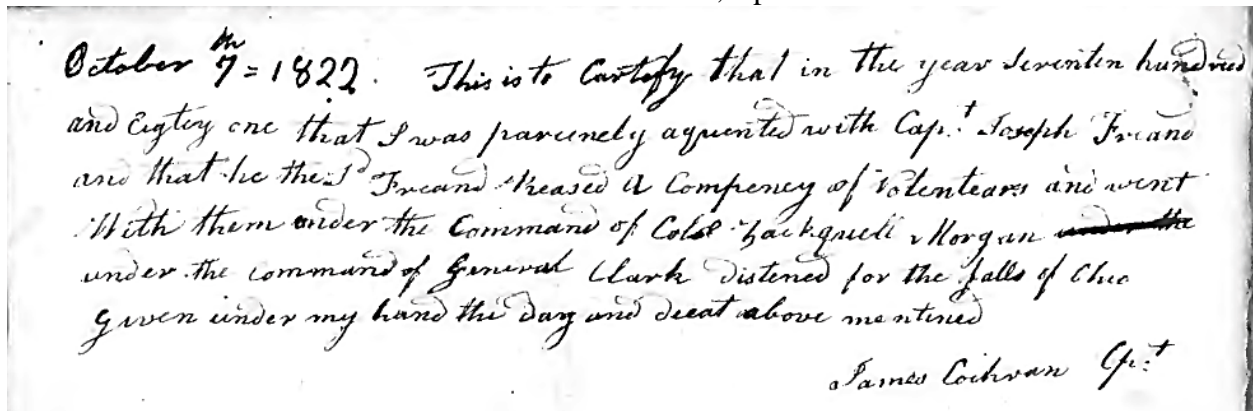
S/ Peyton Byrng, JP

October 7th, 1822

This is to Certify that in the year 1781 that I was personally acquainted with Capt. Joseph Friend and that he the said Friend raised a Company of Volunteers and went with them under the command of Col. Zackwell Morgan under the command of General Clark destined for the falls of Ohio.

Given under my hand the day and date above mentioned.

S/ James Cochran, Cpt.

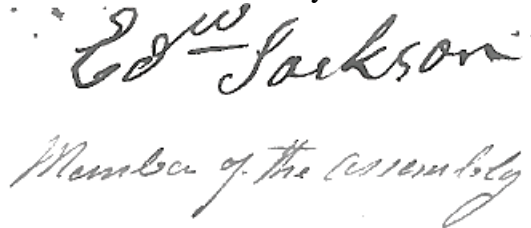


October 7th = 1822. This is to Certify that in the year seventeen hundred and eighty one that I was personally acquainted with Capt. Joseph Friend and that he the said Friend raised a Company of Volunteers and went with them under the Command of Col. Zackwell Morgan ~~and~~ the under the command of General Clark destined for the falls of Ohio Given under my hand the day and date above mentioned

James Cochran Cpt.

I hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Joseph Friend and have been acquainted with him since before the revolutionary war, I well know that said Friend was a soldier in said war – and that said Friend is now old and poor. I have also examined the rupture on said Friend and found that the bowels of said Friend are only confined by the Skin. Given under my hand this 10th day of December 1822

S/ Edw. Jackson
Member of the Assembly



Edw. Jackson

Member of the Assembly