

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Massey BLWt2076-150

f8VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/14/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

There are three conflicting claims for John Massey Virginia Cornet of Dragoons

Widow filed 9931 [W9931] was allowed own service of John Massie, Cornet Virginia Continental Line to widow Judith who alleges that she married soldier April 3, 1792 and that he died January 29, 1829, in Alabama.

Rejected pension claim R7008 was made on service of John Massey Cornet of Virginia by widow Susannah who alleges that she married soldier January 19, 1779, and that he died October 20, 1800 in Amherst County Virginia

[Note: 3rd claim not mentioned]

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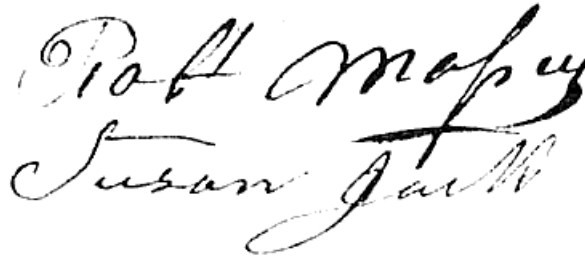
District of Columbia, Corporation of Alexandria SS

We Robert Massey and Sousan Jack [Susan Jack?], heirs at law of John Massey, late of King George County Virginia, do upon oath testify and declare to the best of our knowledge and belief that John Massey did entered the service in the revolutionary war, but in what year we do not know, or for what term, and served as a cornet of dragoons as we have always heard to the end of the war, but in what Regiment we cannot say – nor under whose command; but we have understood he was in the Continental line – We further declare that we have never received a warrant for the bounty land promised to said John Massey on the part of the United States; nor do we believe that he ever received it, or transferred his claim to it in any manner whatsoever – We also state that said John Massey died in King George County Virginia in 1795 as we have understood, that he left only to children viz. Thomas & Lovel Massey [spelled Lovell Massey in other documents in the file] – That Thomas was killed in testate and without issue about five years since – that Lovel had only three children viz. Robert, Henry and Sousan now Sousan Jack – that Henry died about five years ago intestate, leaving only two children viz. William and John Henry Massey, both now minors and bound to the aforementioned Robert by the Orphan's Court of Alexandria to be learnt the tartons trade [tanner's trade? or tailor's trade?]¹—and we further declare that we've the said Robert Massey & Sousan Jack, and William & John Henry Massey, or the heirs & only heirs at law of the afore named John Massey our grandfather.

S/ Robert Massey

¹ *Tartons Trade*

S/ Susan Jack

Handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Robt Massey" on the top line and "Susan Jack" on the bottom line.

[Attested October 29, 1834]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

To his Excellency, Littleton Waller Tazewell, Governor of the State of Virginia
The Memorial of the undersigned heirs at law of the late John Massie, respectfully
represents –

That your memorialist viz. Robert Massey, Sousan Jack & William Massey all now residents of the town of Alexandria and John Henry Massey reported to be in Charleston South Carolina are the only surviving descendents of John Massey deceased, who, they have always heard was a cornet of dragoons in the war of the revolution – They state that the said John Massey died in King George County Virginia in our about the year 1795 & that he left only two children, viz. Lovel & Thomas Massey – That said Thomas was killed about five years since and that he left no will or issue – That Lovel Massey died intestate about twenty-eight years since in King George County Virginia and left only three children viz. Robert Massey & Sousan Massey, and Henry Massey – that said Sousan intermarried with James Jack, & with the said Robert Massey now resides in Alexandria DC – that Henry Massey died about five years since at Eaton in the State of Ohio, intestate & left only two children, viz. John Henry and William Massey, both of whom are now miners, and bound by the Orphan's Court of Alexandria to the above named Robert Massey, their uncle, until they become twenty-one years of age to be talked the Tailer's [? tailor's] trade, that said William now resides in the family of said Robert & that John Henry Massey left said Robert without his consent about eighteen months since & resides is he has been informed in Charleston South Carolina – Your memorialist further states, that they have always understood that, their grandfather John Massey aforesaid was a cornet of dragoons in the Revolution – and that he served to the end of the war, but they are unable to state in what company, Regiment or Corps, he served, when or where he enlisted, or entered the service or how long he served in the same – the memorialist will further state of their own knowledge, that the foregoing presents a true list of the only descendents of the said John Massey and that your said memorialist are his only heirs at law.

S/ Susan Jack

S/ Robt. Massey for himself & as guardian of William and
John Henry Massey

[Note: Unfortunately the report of John H Smith, the Commissioner charged with responsibility for reviewing bounty land claims and making a recommendation to the Governor, is illegible as posted online. A few words can be made out but the image is illegibly faint.]

Department of War
Bounty Land Office
December 1st 1834

I certify that Land Warrant No. 20764 150 acres issued at this office, this day, to Robert Massey & Susan Jack, grandchildren, William & John H Massey, great-grandchildren, and the only heirs at law of John Massey, deceased who was a Cornet in the Virginia Continental line.

S/ Wm Gordon, First Clerk