

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Jacob Deem R2838 PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

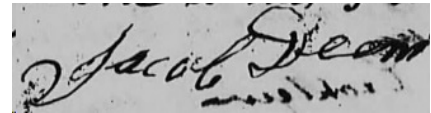
State of Virginia } Ss

Wood County } On this 5th Day of May 1834 Personally appeared before me Henry Steed a Justice of the peace in & for Wood County & State of Virginia Jacob Deem a resident Citizen of the County & state aforesaid aged Seventy years 9th day of April last past 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 of 7th June 1832 That he Entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein after stated That in the County of West Moreland [sic: Westmoreland] – now Fayette & State of Pennsylvania in the year 1781 Declarrant thinks about the first day of May Declarrant was called in to service as Ensign [sic: Ensign], the Indians having made their appearance in the neighbourhood of Jacksons fort on Ten Mile Creek a watter of the Monongahela River in the County of Westmoreland now Washington and State of Pennsylvania [at present Waynesburg in Greene County] Declarant had 25 men placed under his Command by his Captain John Pegman and Rendezvous'd at Jacksons fort and as the Indians war suspected to be moveing in the neighbourhood of Jackson's fort, Jarrotts fort [possibly Jarrett's Fort in present Monongalia County WV] & Clines fort we were compelled to make the tour of the said forts for their protection and that of the fronteer settlements, in this kind of service declarrant was principally engaged often ranging the country both upward and down the Monongahala River and round the head of Ten Mile, Muddy Creek and Whitely [sic: Whiteley Creek in present Greene County], and at all time whilst the Indians ware in our neighbourhood or supposed to be near us we had to keep up a constant guard as will as to keep two men constantly in gaged in spying as a for said This service was born by the men by rotation under the orders of declarrant who reported to his said Captain Pegman, about the last of October of 1781 we ware suffered to return home and to remain untill about, the first of May 1782 this being the time the Indians usually made their inroads upon the white settlements – News by express having been brought to Col. Cook that the Indians had committed murders upon the setlers on the west side of Monongahala declarrant was again ordered to muster his men and go in persuit of the enemy. Declarrant having his men classed for duty immediately calld on such of them whos tour it was and marched for Jacksons Fort, and commenced our search after the Indians, the trace of which we followed to Whiteley Creek at which place we lost it not being able to pursue them further. We then circled the country to a considerable distance and cam in to Cane Fort to see if they had not come to that fort not being able to overtake them or discover their rout. We commenced a regular guarding the fort and spying the country around the before mentioend in which service declarrant was ingaged until the last of October seventeen hundred & eighty two, at which time declarrant was permitted again to return home

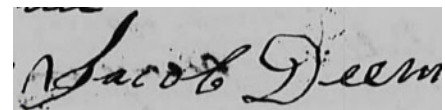
That about the first of May 1783 it was again rumerd that the Indians ware approaching the settlements and it was assertaing that they had murdered some persons above the Pennsylvania line in the countys of Monongahalia [Monongalia County in present WV]. Captain Isaac Felty commanded this tour. Declarrant was again ordered to the fort as above to wit, to Jacksons Fort and spent the Summer in the same manner that the two previous Summers had been spent, untill the last of October seventeen hundred & eighty three, when he again returnd home. Declarrants Revolutionary services here ends having served his country in the capassity of Ensign full eighteen months. Declarrant states that he was elected Ensign in his 17 year of age, that his commission was signed by Governor Mifflin, then governor of Pennsylvania [sic: Thomas Mifflin, first governor of PA, 21 Dec 1790 - 17 Dec 1799]. Declarrant states that his military duty & service continued more or less every summer untill about the year 1795. Declarrant was not discharged in any regular manner as his services ware not of the regular militia but acted from the necessity of the case, not receiving anything from his country for his subsistance or services, having

found his own gun, ammunition & clothing and often depending upon the fortune of sometimes killing sufficiency of game; and often suffering from hunger & fateague. Declarrant knows of no person now living by whom to prove positive all his services but can refer to Adam Deam [sic: Adam Deem, pension application S10522] who resided a part of the time in the same neighbourhood and knows that declarrant did serve as an Ensign

Declarrant can refer to Thomas Prebble & Hiram Prebble two residents of the County of Wood who can testify to his character and their beleaf of his having been an officer in the Revolution. Declarrant states the reason he does not prove his services before the county court is that Adam Deam is from bodily infirmity unable to attend at the court hous of his said county of Wood from which he resided twenty seven miles. Declarrant hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to a pension or anuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or teritory. Subscribed & sworn to this 5th day of May 1834



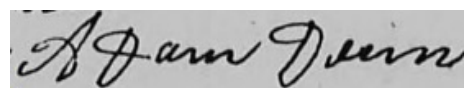
1. I was born in the County of Frederick and state of Maryland in 1764
- 2^d. I have a register [of age]. It is in the family record in my farthers Bible
3. I was living in the County of Westmoreland (as I beleave) in Pensylvania, now Fayett within about 3 miles of Redstone Old Fort now called Brownsville.
4. I was ordered out by Col. Cook who had charge of the militia in the county where I resided
5. As I resided in the west and acted entirely agains the Indians I did not contract a knowledte of the officers nor the movements of the [Continental] Army
6. Declarrant was a commissioned officer and his commission was signed as well as he recollects by Governor Miflin. He did not receive any regular discharge, and his commission is destroyed.
7. He beleaves he prove his services in part by Adam Deem. He can refur to Thomas Pribble & Hiram Pribble who can testify to his character and their and the neighbour hood belief of his services as an officer of the Revolution, there being no clerg a [clergy] man residing in the neighbourhood where declarrant resides Sworn & subscribed to the day & year above written



State of Virginia } ss

Wood County } Be it known that on this 5th day of May 1834 personally appeared before me Henry Steed a Justice of the peace in & for Wood County Va Adam Deem a resident Citizen of the said County of Wood who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath state that he is well acquainted with Jacob Deem who has & subscribed to the foregoing declaration that he believes him to be seventy years of age & he further states that the said Jacob Deem was an Ensign in the Pa millitia in time of the revolution & that he believes to the best of his personal knowledge & recollection that the said Jacob Deem rendered the services that he states he did in the foregoing declaration which was read to the said Adam Deem in the presence of the said Jacob Deem & before me and I the Justice of the peace do further certify that I believe the said Adam Deem is 73 years of age & I further Certify that I believe him to be a man of veracity & that his statement is entitled to the fullest credit

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid



In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day & year first above written
Henry Steed J Peace

[The following report is part of an investigation of hundreds of pension application from present West Virginia by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton wrote on this report “not entitled.”]

I Jacob Deem, in pursuance of a requisition of the secretary at war, give the following narative of my age and Revolutionary service Vizt.

I shall be seventy one years of age the ninth of April next. In the year 1781 in my seventeenth year I rec'd. and Ensigns commission was drafted in Westmoreland County Pa. and assigned to Capt. Pigmans Company of Malitia. We rendezvoused at Jacksons Fort on the waters of Tenmile Creek in what is now called Washington County. We were stationed at this place by order of Col. Cook and scouted in the country round about for about two years. A part of our company would occassionally return home when there was no evidence of indians in the country and stay two or three weeks then return & another portion would return. But when there was an alarm or any outrages within our knowledge all of our company pursued the enemy or guarded the fort.

In the spring of the year 1783 our company was divided & I again elected an ensign and was the ballance of my time to the command of Capt. Isaac Felty. We were then ordered to Jarrets Fort [illegible word] Whitely Creek where we remained a short time and were afterwards ordered to Clines Fort and sometimes to Jacksons fort, and back to Jarrets fort, as circumstances required. We continued in this service about three years, a portion of the time a part of our company was allowed to go home a few weeks, they would return to our station and others would return home. This service was generally considered unnecessary in the winter as the Indians would retire farther West. We, therefore, returned home during the winters and resumed our service in the spring. Including all the time I was in actual service before the close of the Revolutionary war it amounted to at least eighteen months. We found our own guns, ammuniton, provisions &c and never rec'd. one cent for our services.

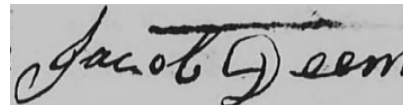
I know of no person living by whom I can prove my Revolutionary service. My brother Adam Deem knows that I was an Ensign but I presume does not know except from report what my services were.

William L. Mitchel [William L. Mitchell] undertook to obtain my pension he drew my declaration with the aid of Col. Kenp [probably James M. Camp] of Lewis County. I was sworn to my declaration before Henry Steed Esq'r. at Pribbles Mills about eight Miles from my residence which is about Ten Miles from the courthouse. I also had the Deposition of Adam Deem my brother taken before H. Steed. Mitchel took charge of the papers and agreed to obtain my pension for one half of the am't. then due me for Revolutionary services. The foregoing contains in substance the same statements made in my former declaration sworn to before H. Steed

I never gave Mitchel or any other person any authority to draw my pension nor have I seen Mitchel since but understand he has left the Country.

After my declaration was sworn to, Mitchel hunted in his saddle bags and got a piece of yellow tape with which he fastened the papers together saying that without that kind of tape was passed through a particular part of the papers they would be taken for a counterfeit.

In witness of all which I have here unto set my hand this 21st day of March 1835

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Deem". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

[The following is in Singleton's handwriting.]

this examination has been made by Jos. M. Steed since I left Wood county – I was unable to see Deem when there – Mr Steed has made this examination at my request.

W. G Singleton
June 10, 1835

NOTES:

Singleton wrote the following on his report about Jacob Deem: “the case of John Sheets Pen[sioner] of Wood county remains to be examined – when there the Small Pox was in his family. I therefore passed him by – Mr. J. M Steed of Parkersburg promised me to take an early opportunity of examining his case, and I have no doubt, but he will do so. W.G.S” The only John Sheets or similarly named pensioner I could find was John Sheetz (R9460), but he lived in Rockingham County VA.

Jacob Deem’s application was rejected for the following reason: “Indian wars on the frontiers.” Although the pension act of 1832 and the regulations approved by James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions, clearly provided for volunteers and Indian spies, Edwards had decide to exclude such service. For further discussion, see the appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.