

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Jacobs R5536

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/14/13

[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. 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.]

State of Virginia Fauquier County: SS

On this 7th day of June 1833 personally appeared before the subscriber, a Justice of the peace, in and for the said County, William Jacobs, in the 78th year of his age 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: That in the summer of the year 1777 as well as he now recollects he went to Fredericksburg and volunteered under Colonel Richard Young to serve in the Army of the United States during the Revolutionary War: That the said applicant (being an expert wagoner) Colonel Young gave him his choice, either to drive a team (where the pay was better) or to shoulder a musket: That he, the applicant, preferred the management of a team, and immediately entered on duty, under the superintendence of John Richards, Wagon Master; and after the said Richards died, he was under the superintendence of Thomas Collins, who succeeded Richards as Wagon Master; he continued about Fredericksburg, hauling provisions, forage and munitions of War until he was ordered to Culpeper County to convey the baggage of the Culpeper Militia, commanded by Captain Richard Waugh, to headquarters, at a place called the rising Sun, about 10 miles above Philadelphia: About the 11th of September in that year he was near the battle at Brandywine, but was kept out of the action, having charge of the ammunition, equipage &c That to the best of his recollection he saw 40,000 troops there (this being the first time he ever saw General Washington). That he continued with the Culpeper troops, until they returned as far as Fauquier Courthouse where they separated; he then returned to Fredericksburg to Colonel Young, where he continued until it was expected that the enemy would be in Fredericksburg; That he [one or more indecipherable words] and Henry Benson were each sent with a load of Powder up near the mountains to a place called Hardaway River, took a circuitous route, eluded the enemy and returned to Fredericksburg: That he was also sent with a load from Caots [?] warehouse about 7 miles below Fredericksburg to Carter's Ferry on James River and the troops having removed from that station, he carried the same to Prince Edward Courthouse where the American troops were stationed, then returned to Fredericksburg to Colonel Young. That when the American Army marched to the siege of York, the said Jacobs was sent there with his team, where he was constantly engaged transporting the munitions of war, provisions, forage &c until the siege ended which he thinks constituted more than four years service. That he was afterwards sent with his wagon and team to assist in conveying the British prisoners to the Barracks in Albemarle County, returned to Fredericksburg, and was then sent back to

Williamsburg for the purpose of accompanying the French Troops with firewood, provisions, forage &c where he remained in service until the French troops left our shores. That during the time he was engaged in accommodating the French troops under the command of General Lafayette, he took the smallpox in the natural way, lost one eye (this being the only time this applicant was sick during the service) which he thinks in all amounted to about five years. That he is now nearly blind, unable to labor, and in indigent circumstances living upwards of 20 miles from the courthouse, and unable to travel to court. That he never received a written discharge, that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to the whole of his service. That his older brother (John Jacobs) who was in the regular Army, but don't know whether he is now living: as he removed to the Western Country many years ago. That he understands that Henry Benson who was in said service and also managed a wagon & team is still living in South Carolina, and draws a pension; that James Child, and James Emmons¹ whose affidavits accompany this application each saw him in service a short time. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State, and that he never before made application for a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Wm Thompson, JP

S/ William Jacobs, X his mark

Questions propounded to William Jacobs by William Thompson a Justice of the peace

1st Where and in what year were you born?

[The first portion of the response to this question is illegible] on the 22nd of March 1756 as I am informed.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have no record of my age, but was informed by my Father and Mother, that Leonard Courtney was exactly [indecipherable word] weeks older than me, and I have a record of his age.

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in Fauquier County near where I was born, when I first entered the service of the United States, and have always lived in the same neighborhood since the Revolutionary War, except when I rented a mill of Captain Richards in Culpeper County where I stayed about 4 years.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute, for whom?

Ans. I volunteered my services during the revolutionary war, and continued until the end of the war and remained in service near 18 months after the siege of York performing such services as were required of me with my wagon and team.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans. The Wagon Master under whom I was at first served at Fredericksburg was John Richards , the next was Thomas Collins when stationed at Williamsburg, William Pannel was Wagon Master as to the other officers, I saw the most of them who were in the service where I was.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

¹ [James Emmons W7108](#)

Ans. I never received a written discharge, but when I left the service Colonel Young proffered to give me a certificate for the arrears of pay which I did not take & never received the pay to which I was entitled.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans. I refer to Mr. James Emmons, Mr. James Child, Major James Richards, Reverend Thornton Springfield, William Skinker Esquire, Joseph Thompson, Esquire, William Jones, Robert Embrey, &c.

S/ William Jacobs, X his mark

[Note: The document contains a blank form of the standard supporting affidavit but it does not bear evidence of having been signed by anyone.]

[Note: A note in the file indicates that the claim was rejected because the service rendered by the veteran as a Teamster was not deemed military service.]

State of Virginia Fauquier County: SS

Be it known that before me, a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared James Emmons a Soldier of the Revolution, seventy-eight years of age, and made oath in due form of law, that he is well acquainted with William Jacobs (an applicant for a pension), that they were raised in the same neighborhood in Fauquier County: That while he this affiant was in service during the revolutionary war, he saw the said Jacobs driving 18 with the Army of the United States in the State of Maryland; that he was with him but a short time; but always understood and verily believes that the said Jacobs continued with the troops, driving a team, for several years.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8th day of June 1833

S/ Wm Thompson

S/ James Emmons, X his mark