

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Declaration of Thomas Jessee, R5581

*f19VA*¹

Transcribed and annotated by Roy Randolph, February 6, 2012.

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading. A bracketed question mark [?] indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Not all the material in the Pension File is included in the transcription.]

State of Kentucky Adair County & Circuit *Sct.*

On this 13th day of September 1836 being the 8th day of the Term of said court personally appeared in open court before the Honorable Benjamin Monroe sole Judge now sitting Thomas Jessee a resident of the county of Adair aforesaid state of Kentucky, aged eighty two years last January who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress passed on the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer militiaman for three months in the month of January in the year 1781 in the county of Cumberland state of Virginia. That he entered in the company commanded by Capt. ~~Thomas~~[?] ~~Hubbard~~ Lieut. ~~Fredrick Woodson~~ Winston Marcum, Lieut. Thomas Hubbard, Ensign Fredrick Woodson. He was marched to Prince Edward Courthouse in the afs'd. state where he was joined to Maj. Moseby's [*perhaps Littleberry Mosby's*] Battalion and Colo. Woodson's Brigade where he remained for some time. They marched from thence on towards North Carolina and on to Guilford Courthouse where he was joined to General Green's [*Nathanael Greene's*] army where he continued until after the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] in which battle he was from beginning to end. He remained in said company, regiment & brigade until his term expired & was discharged by his Colo. in writing which discharge he lost or mislaid many years ago in Virginia. He further states that soon after he returned home, that is, in a few days, he entered the service of the United States in the Company as a substitute for Archibald Hicks a drafted militiaman for three months in the company commanded by Capt. Thomas Tucker Lieut. Stephen Hicks, Joseph Tucker Ensign, Maj. Bently's Battalion & Colo. Mayo's Regiment. He was marched on to various places in the state of Virginia & finally to Norfolk where he continued [*around?*] in that vicinity until his term expired when he was discharged by his Colo. and returned home. In this tour he was not joined to no other troops than his Regiment nor was he in any engagement. In a few days after he returned home there was a call for men and he again turned out as a volunteer militia man for three months under Capt. Tucker & in his Company—Jesse Tucker was his leiut, Stephen Hicks Ensign. He was marched on to Richmond where he was joined to Major Duget's Battalion and Colo. Moseby's Regiment where they remained for some time and then marched on to Little York where he was attached to the main army and continued there during the siege and after the surrender of Cornwallis and sometime thereafter he was again honorably discharged by his captain, he first having served out the full term of three months. He positively state that in each of the afs'd tours he served three months in a regular Corps called into service by competent authority that he was either in the field or garrison the whole time of each tour and that during each period he was not employed in any civil pursuit and for which services he claims a pension and he states that he resided in the County of Cumberland state of Virginia when he first went into service of his country and that

¹ annotated and supplemented by Will Graves in italics 2/2/16

was his residents [sic, residence] or home during the time he was in service tho but there [were] but short periods between his services. He cannot state the precise day which he first entered the service but knows it was in the month of January. He cannot state all the regular officers or regiments which he was with nor can he state the several officers in Continental establishment that he saw. He knew General Green [sic Greene], Washington & others, that is he saw them often but the station he filled did not entitle him to much acquaintance with them. He further states that he has lost or mislaid all his discharges and therefore has now no documentary evidence nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

[1st.] Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in the month of January in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty four in the County of Amelia, state of Virginia where I lived until I was about eight years of age when my father moved to Cumberland County, Virginia where I remained until after the end of my service in the War of the Revolution.

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

Answer: I have no record of my age nor did I ever have one. I understand my father kept a record of my age together with that of my Brothers and Sisters indeed[?] my father and mother told me so tho I am no scholar myself & cannot read but from what my parents always told me I was born in the time before stated and I believe what they told me is true. I understand that my father gave his family Bible in which my age was recorded to my oldest Brother who I understand is long since dead.

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

Answer: I was living in the County of Cumberland, state of Virginia when I was called into service where I remained for several years after the close of the War of the Revolution when I moved to Prince Edward County Virginia where I remained for some years when I moved back to Cumberland County where I stayed two years. I then moved to Louisa County, Virginia where he stayed about two years then moved to Goochland County, Virginia where he remained about two years. From there he moved to Henrico County where he remained until the year one thousand eight hundred and fifteen when he moved to the state of Kentucky and settled in the County of Adair where he has continued until the present time.

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

Answer: My first and third tour I was a volunteer and my second I was a substitute for Archibald Hicks who had been drafted for a tour of three months.

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

Answer: I have stated in the body of my declaration as much on the subject of the regular Continental & militia troops as my recollection serves me, that is so far as might be calculated to give any satisfaction. The length of time has been great and I am old. I know I saw many regular regiments Continental & militia while I was in service but to pretend to give any particular description of them I could not. As to the general circumstances of my several tours I have endeavored to state them as far as my recollection serves as to the important events but can

again say I was in the battle at Guilford and the glorious victory at Little York and was in some small skirmishes while at Norfolk and its vicinity but nothing happened worthy of relation so far as I can recollect.

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

Ans: I rec'd a discharge in writing for each of my tours two of them was given by my Colo & one by my captain all of which I lost or mislaid in Virginia many years before I came to Kentucky. I did not at the time I had them ever expect them to be of any use & suppose from that cause proper care was not taken of them so it is they are lost as before stated.

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 of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Ans: I am acquainted with the Reverend Spencer Jeans[?] who resides near me not more than one & half mile from me. He is the nearest clergyman to me and who will testify both as to character and his belief of my services. I also am acquainted with my neighbor Mr. John Gibson who lives [is?] my nearest neighbor. I am also acquainted with Wm Mosely, John Aegus[?] and indeed all my near neighbors tho for the last [many?] years I have not traveled about much and I live about fifteen miles from Columbia and have procured the two first named gentlemen to come with me and I feel confident that every acquaintance I have would speak well of my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution. Subscribed and sworn to in open court the day and year aforesaid.

Thomas Jessee (his mark)

[Spencer Jeans, a clergyman, and John Gibson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Kentucky Adair County: Sct.

Circuit Court September Term 1836

The declaration of Thomas Jessee (for a pension) aged 82 years last January, being a resident of Adair County Kentucky was this day produced, subscribed and sworn to by said Thomas Jesse in open Court in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, Also, the certificate of Spencer Jeans, a clergyman residing in the County of Adair and John Gibson also residing in said County annexed to said Declaration who certify that they are well acquainted with Thomas Jessee who has Subscribed and Sworn to said declaration that they believe him to be 82 years of age and that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Soldier of the revolution; Said certificate was subscribed & Sworn to the day and year aforesaid.

And the said Court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the war department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary Soldier, and served as he states, and the Court further certifies that it appears to them that Spencer Jeans who has signed the preceding certificate is a Clergyman resident in the County of Adair and that John Gibson who has also signed the same is a resident of the said County and is a credible person and that their Statement is entitled to credit.

I William Caldwell Clerk of the Court of Adair County & Circuit aforesaid, do hereby certified that the foregoing contains the original proceedings of said Court in the matter of the application, Thomas Jessee for a pension.

*In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of office this 17th day of
September 1836*

S/ Wm Caldwell, C. A. C. C.