

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jesse Law R6188  
transcribed and annotated by James G. Robertson  
*supplemented by Will Graves 9/4/13 in italics*

Rec'd. 4th Sept. 1833

State of Kentucky

Oldham County Jd.

On this day of 19th of August 1833 personally appeared in open court before Andrew Steels, John Redd, Washington Carter & Gabriel Barbour Justices composing the County Court of Oldham Jesse Law a resident of the county of Oldham and the State of Kentucky aged 76 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. He states that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.  
To Wit

That in the month of April in the year 1777, the day he cannot remember, he enlisted in the militia of the United States under Capt. Thomas Dillard in the County of Pittsylvania (sic Pittsylvania) & State of Virginia where he at that time lived. That he marched under Capt. Dillard down to Givins (Givens) island [*Gwynn Island, July 8-10, 1776 ?*] which was ordered by Dunmore that he and Dillard's Company remained encamped near Givens Island guarding that section of the country and to prevent the British from landing on the Virginia side that while encamped then Capt. Dillard left the company & returned home. The company was after his departure commanded by Capt. Jesse Heard who had previously been lieutenant in same company that after being at Givins (Givens) Island three months he and the company to which he belonged were sent forth to go out against the Cherokee Indians on Tennessee River that as soon as the message arrived that he immediately left Givins (Givens) Island Still under the command of Capt. Heard and marched on through Botetourt to Holstein, down Holstein to Tennessee river upon their arrival the Indians had deserted their town, he then returned home, July discharged but crop not collected which (-----) (-----) on this time he was out five months. Tenby Choice was the lieutenant of the company after the promotion Heard. In April 1778, the day of the month he does not recollect, reentered in the County of Pittsylvania Virginia and went out in the service of the UStates (sic U States) under Major Wicker. Peter Hawthorne being Captain the names of the inferior officers he does not now remember. he marched out to the long islands of Holstein to the Cherokee treaty where he remained (-----) until the treaty were over they were then marched back to Virginia and discharged in (Wheeling ?) by Capt. Hawthorne which has long since been lost he was out in this time three months That in August 1778, the day he can't recollect, he again enlisted in the service of the UStates (sic U States) under Capt. William Levanswon (sic Levinson) and George Heard lieutenant and went out in McIntoshes (sic McIntosh's) company against (Detroit ?) that in this time he marched from Pittsylvania to the Monongoheliah (sic Monongahela) River thence down that river to the mouth of Beaver Creek that at that place they built a fort after which McIntosh dissolved (sic dissolved) the army which then broke apart many soldiers returned home & many died that he with some others was kept then to take care of the cattle which were driven out for the support of the Army until February when he returned home he was out in this time six months. That in March 1779, the day he does not remember, he was drafted and went out to the South in the service of the U States under Capt. Witcher and Tenby Choice lieutenant and marched from Pittsylvania County Virginia where he was drafted through Virginia and North Carolina crossing (-----) & Santee rivers to Stone river about 20 miles above Charleston South Carolina-that General Mason and Col. Burwell who with him in this town - The British were entrenched on the banks of Stone river when a battle was fought between them and the army in which he was a soldier. he thinks in

July, the American Army was commanded during the engagement by General Lincoln that after firing six rounds the American Army retreated whence he marched to Camden where he was discharged by General Mason in writing which is lost

he then returned to Virginia he was out in this time three months That in May 1780 he was drafted and went in the service of the U States under Capt. Thomas Smith that he marched from Pittsylvania County Va down to the forked point of James river to meet the British who were then in that quarter that this was a draft for three months he remained in the country on the James River General Lawson being commander til the three months expired when he returned home having served three months. That in October 1781 he was again drafted to carry the prisoners taken at the Eutaw Springs to Winchester in Virginia in which he was engaged two months here his services close having served in all a period of twenty two months.

He states that he was born in the County of Henrico State of Virginia on the 9th day of Jan 1750 he has no record of his age but has seen it in his father's possession, who has been dead about 28 years, and does not know what became of it. That he lived in the County of Pittsylvania State of Virginia when called into service, where he resided until about 33 years ago when he removed to Kentucky lived since that time in Shelby County now Oldham where he resides at this time. That he is well known in his present neighborhood to Wm. Gatewood, Henry \_\_\_ born, Jesse Force & others who can testify to his character for veracity and their and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution that he has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person whose testimony he can (-----) who can testify to his service He does not now recollect the names of all the inferior officers under who he served and it is wholly impossible for him, after this great lapse of time, to state the day upon which he entered the service or the precise day upon which he was discharged from it and to require this would be in effect to deny him the benefits of the act of Congress passed for his relief. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that that his name is not upon the pension roll of the agency of any state.

*S/ Jesse Law*

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Law". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Jesse Law".

*[Elijah Gates, a clergyman, and Thomas Morgan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]*

And the said court do hereby declare their opinion after the investigation of the matter & after making the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary soldier and he states and the court further certifies that it appears to them that Elijah Gates who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman resident in County of Oldham and that Thomas Morgan who has also signed the same is also a resident in the County of Oldham and is a credible person and that this statement is entitled to credit.

/s/Andrew Steele  
/s/Washington Carter  
/s/John Redd  
/s/Gabriel Barbour

Respectfully referred to the War Dept. 4 Sept 1833

Jesse Law was awarded \$75.33 per annum beginning 4 March 1831.

He was paid \$220.00 on 7 Nov 1833 for the period of time from 4 March 1831 to date. It was recorded Bk. E, Vol. 7, Page 17 in Oldham County and was numbered 5008.

His wife, Mary "Polly" Law, applied for a pension in Jefferson County, IN on 30 Nov 1843. Her application, No. 6188, was rejected.

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*[p 8: On November 30, 1843 in Jefferson County Indiana, Mary Law, 84, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Jesse Law, who died on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of November 1839 in Trimble County Kentucky and who at the time of his death was a pensioner of the United States under the 1832 act at the rate of \$73.33 per annum; that her maiden name was Mary Willis; that she was married to the said Jesse Law in Pittsylvania County Virginia December 1, 1780 as well as her memory serves her; that she and her husband had a large family of children the oldest of whom is now alive would be about 62 years of age; that the family record showing the time of her marriage and the ages of her children was destroyed many years ago by fire. She signed her application with her mark.]*

*[p 9: Supporting affidavit given by Francis Barnes, at his house in Jefferson County Indiana on November 30, 1843 in which he states that he married Avariller Law, about 54, a daughter of Jesse and Mary Law, on March 29, 1806.]*

*[p 12: On June 6, 1850 in Jefferson County Indiana, Susannah Law, 51, gave testimony that she was present at the death of Polly Law, the widow of Jesse Law; that she died at the house of Francis Barnes April 23, 1844; that she has heard Polly Law states that she was about 21 years old when she married Jesse Law; that their first son was Joel Law who was born about one year after her marriage; that the affiant was the wife of Joel Law, now deceased; that Polly Law left 5 children namely Elizabeth Lemaster, wife of Dick Lamaster [sic], Sally Barnes wife of John Barnes, Aryrillar Barnes, wife of Francis Barnes, Daniel Law and Anderson Law. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]*

*[Facts in file: Joel Law the eldest son of the veteran and his widow died about 1835 aged about 54 years at the time of his death; Willis and John Law, other sums of the veteran and his widow died prior to the death of the widow.]*