

Jackson County }
State of Virginia }

I Andrew Waugh Clerk of the county court of said Jackson County do hereby certify that George Stone whose name is affixed to the foregoing declaration and depositions, is Senior Justice of said Jackson County Court, and one of the Commonwealths justices of the peace in and for said county duly commissioned and Qualified and that full faith and credit are due to all his official acts as such, and that the said signatures purporting to be his are genuine.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said court, this 28th day of July 1846. Andrew Waugh

Virginia to wit:

At a county court of Law held for Jackson county (being a court of record) at the courthouse thereof on Monday the 28th day of September A. D. 1846: This declaration of Anna Parsons, a resident of Jackson County, made before George Stone, Senior Justice of this court, who produced in open court, and approved by the court, And it appearing to the satisfaction of the court, that the said Anna Parsons is the identical person making the said declaration; that she is a person of good standing and a competent witness; it is ordered that the same be certified to the department of War.

I Andrew Waugh, clerk of Jackson county court in the Commonwealth of Virginia do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the records of the said court.

In testimony whereof I have here unto sit my hand and affixed the seal of the said court at Ripley this 29th day of September 1846. Andrew Waugh

State of Virginia }
County of Jackson } ss

The deposition of Andrew S. Flesher taken this 28th day of July 1846 before me George Stone a Justice of the Peace in & for said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath state that he is seventy five years old [born about 1771] in May last past that he is the brother of Anna Parsons the widow of Charles Parsons & the widow allso of John Sleath & who was Anna Flesher; that said Anna is ten years older than himself, that he well remembers the marraige of John Sleath to said Anna Parsons but cannot now name the month or year but it was when this deponent was a small boy – that after the marriage aforesaid the said Sleath served as this deponent has always heard in the war of the Revolution. That he has often heard said Sleath speak of being at the taking of Cornwallis, has heard him the said Sleath say that he served in a company of horse; that the Col. was a Frenchman; That he has often heard said Sleath speak of incidents that took place in the war, That after the war said Sleath & said Anna lived on Jackson River in Bath County Va. That from there they removed to the west Fork of the Monongahala River [now West Fork River, a tributary of Monongahela River] in Lewis County VA & there s'd Sleath died about fifty two years since. And this deponent would say that said John & Anna were married in said Lewis County, but was then Augusta; that after the close of the war said John & said Anna always lived together as man & wife until the death of said John before spoken of – & further saith not

[signed] Andrew S Flesher

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first before written the interlineations of "r" & S'd Sleath made before signing – before me – Geo Stone J. P.

County of Jackson }
State of Virginia } ss

The deposition of Elizabeth Flesher taken this 28th day of July 1846 before George Stone a Justice of the Peace in and for said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath state

that she is Sixty Eight years of age that she was personally acquainted with John Sleath who was computed and believed to have been a soldier in the war of the Revolution that this deponent would further say that said John Sleath was as she has always heard & verily believes married to Anna Flesher the sister of this deponents husband, that the said marriage took place before she knew or became acquainted with said Sleath or said Anna. has often heard the said Anna speak of her trials & troubles & deprivations she endured while her husband the said John Sleath was absent in the war. And this deponent would farther say that she herself was married in February 1793 that Mary this deponents daughter was born on the 12th day of January 1795 & while this deponent was pregnant with her s'd daughter Mary in the year of 1794 the said John Sleath died in what is now [since 1816] Lewis County Va – that a few years after the death of said Sleath the said Anna intermarried in said Lewis County to Charles Parsons That said Parsons died in said Jackson County about twenty three years ago – And this deponent wishes it understood that from her own personal knowledge she knows nothing either of the marriage of said John Sleath with said Anna Parsons or of said John Sleath's serving in the war of the Revolution, but from her first acquaintance with said John & said Anna which was before this deponents marriage she has always understood & never heard it doubted or disputed that they the said John & Anna were legally & lawfully married & that before he served in the war aforesaid & further saith not
Elizabeth herXmark Flesher

In presence of Asa Lyan

Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year first before written, the erasures and alterations & the interlining of the words "she" "Anna" & "herself" made before signing before me

Geo Stone J.P.

County of Jackson }
State of Virginia } ss

I George Stone Justice of the Peace in and for said county do hereby certify that I am a near neighbor & personally acquainted with Andrew Flesher & Elizabeth Flesher the foregoing deponents that they are persons in good standing & that their depositions are entitled to full confidence & belief In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 28th day of July 1846 – Geo Stone J.P.

State of Virginia }
County of Lewis } ss

The deposition of Adam Flesher [pension application S18403] a resident of the aforesaid County taken this 12th day of August 1846 before me Minter Bailey a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, who being first sworn in due form of law, doth on his oath state that he is Eighty Two years of age, that he is the brother of Anna Parsons now of Jackson County Va, who was for many years the wife of John Sleath; and whose maiden name was Anna Flesher. That previous to or in the fall before the hard winter of 1780" this deponent and the said John Sleath often hunted deer together. That as this deponent thinks that his sister the said Anna intermarried with said Sleath in the year of 1778 that they the s'd. John & Anna had been married sometime previous to their hunting together as before stated, that as this deponent thinks and believes that in the year of 1780 they the said John & Anna removed from the neighborhood where they the s'd John & Anna were married & near to where this deponent now and did then live, which was in what is now in the present limits of the Count of Lewis aforesaid to what is now either Pendleton or Hardy County on the South Branch of the Potomac River, and it was from there that as this deponent has always understood, and verily believes that said Sleath left his wife and went as a substitute in the War of the Revolution, and while serving that tour of duty, or immediately thereafter he the said Sleath enlisted in DArmong's troop of horse, but how long he served, this deponent knows not neither does he know from his own personal knowledge that he served at all for this deponent did not serve with him; but this he would say that he verily believes that said Sleath did serve in the war of the Revolution, that he has often heard the said Sleath speak of incidents & occurrences of the war, and that it

was generally & universally believed that the said Sleath did serve as above stated; and this deponent knows that the service before spoken of was after the marriage of sd. John & Anna; That after the war the said John & Anna lived together at several places as man & wife until the death of said John Sleath which took place in what is now Lewis County about the time of Waynes [Gen. Anthony Wayne's] treaty with the Indians [Treaty of Greenville, 1795], that some two or three years after the death of sd Sleath, the said Anna intermarried with Charles Parsons, that the said Charles & said Anna removed to what is now Jackson County where many years since the said Charles died, and where said Anna now lives, and this deponent thinks that said Sleath did not go into the service until 1781 – or the latter part of 1780 – And further saith not
Adam hisXmark Flesher

In presence of Asa Lyan/ [illegible signer]

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first before mentioned, the interlineations of “this, the, he, would say &c” made before signing before me Minter Bailey J.P

State of Virginia }

Lewis County } ss

I, Minter Bailey a Justice of the Peace in and for said County do hereby certify that he is personally acquainted with Adam Flesher the foregoing deponent, that he is a man in good standing & that his deposition is entitled to confidence & belief. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of August 1846
Minter Bailey J. Peace

State of Virginia }

County of Lewis } ss.

Be it known that on this 12th of August 1846 personally appeared before me William T. Bland the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid George Butcher who being first sworn in due form of law doth on his oath state that he was personally acquainted with John Sleath who was computed and believed to have been a soldier in the War of the Revolution and with Anna the wife of said Sleath who was Anna Flesher, that when this deponent was about five or six years old and living with his parents on the South Branch of the Potomac River in what is now the County of Pendleton Virginia the said John Sleath and Anna his wife came to this deponents fathers being previously acquainted with him: and there said Sleath left at this deponents Fathers the said Anna while he the said Sleath went to the army and to serve as this deponent thinks as a substitute for a man by the name of Mous And this deponent would further say that some time after said Sleath left his wife the said Anna as before stated, this deponents father received a letter from said Sleath in which he stated that he the said Sleath had enlisted; and this deponent well remembers hearing the said letter read by his Father in the hearing and presence of the s'd Anna; that the said Anna wept much and appeared much distressed & this deponent remembers that he, himself also wept on seeing the said Anna weep – and this deponent would further say that said John & Anna were ever regarded as man & wife, cohabited as such, and that said Anna during the service of said John in the war continued to live with this deponents Father as aforesaid and during her stay at this deponents Father as aforesaid this deponent slept with said Anna and was much attached to her, and although young as he was at that time he distinctly recollects what he has before stated – that said Anna lived at this deponents Fathers at the time before stated and during the absence of said Sleath a long time & this deponent thinks it must have been Two Years or more. And this deponent remembers to have seen the said Sleath when he the said Sleath was on a visit to the said Anna, that said Sleath was then in company with another soldier he thinks a Serjeant, that said Anna was living then at this deponents Fathers, that s'd Sleath remained but a few days & then returned as this deponent then supposed to the army: that some time after said Sleath returned with two horses and took with him the said Anna with what little she had & removed to Jackson's River where they the said John & Ann lived a few years when they removed to Lewis County or its present limits and near to where this deponents Father had removed to from the South Branch aforesaid that said Sleath continued to live in

the present limits of said Lewis most of time untill he died, that some Two or Three years after his death the said Anna intermarried with Charles Parsons about fifty years gone, that this deponent was present at the marriage of said Charles & Anna – And this deponent would say that he has often heard said Sleath say he the said Sleath was at the surrender of Cornwallis & remembers to have heard him related other incidents of the war. And further saith not. [signed] George Butcher

in presence of Asa Lyan

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year first before mentioned the interlineations of “old now with said him & deponent” being first made and the erasures made before me – and the word Pendleton interlined before signing before me Wm J Bland J. Peace

Lewis County State of Virginia

I William J. Bland a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, do hereby certify that I am personally acquainted with George Butcher the foregoing deponent; that he is a man in good standing and that his deposition is entitled to confidence and belief In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand on this 12th day of August 1846 Wm J Bland J.P

NOTES:

The minister’s return shows that on 6 Sep 1796 Charles Parsons married “Nancy Sleeth.” The name of her former husband was therefore apparently also spelled “John Sleeth.” He was apparently not the John Sleeth who was also a Revolutionary soldier living in present Lewis County whose son David W. Sleeth received money from Congress for his father’s service. For details see pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth.

Anna Parson’s application was rejected “for further proof.”