

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Pigman R8250

f35PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/18/12 rev'd 9/5/15

[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 Indiana Union County: SS

On this 14th of May in the year of our Lord 1844 personally appeared in open court before the Probate court in and for the County of Union and State of Indiana said court being a court of Record by the having a Clerk and official seal and declared a court of record by the laws of the State of Indiana creating said court and now Judicially sitting Jesse Pigman a resident of the said County of Union aged seventy-nine years 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 passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war under the following named officers and served as herein stated that he resided in what is now called Washington County in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1780 and belonged to the militia company and was in the month of March (as well as he now recollects) of that year he was then between 15 and 16 years of age he was drafted by an order issued (as he then understood it) by the Governor to aid in the Revolutionary War and mainly to defend the frontier settlements from Indian and other depredations in the Western parts of Pennsylvania and Virginia and that he entered the service and served as a private first in the militia troop so-called in the month of March 1780 in the company commanded by Captain Jesse Pigman his father who has since deceased. The name or number of this Regiment to which he belonged or was attached he does not now recollect any further than they were called militia Regiments: The names of the officers who commanded the Regiment and the troops to which he belonged was Lieutenant Vanmeter & Colonel Morgan [Daniel Morgan?] & were under the command of General Han or Hand [Edward Hand?] who were commissioned by the Governor & General Washington both as he then understood from them at least General Han or Hand was an officer of Washington Army and was only occasionally with our troop And those were the officers who attended to the ~~draft~~ Raising the troop there for the purpose before stated out of the militia of the contrary [Country?].

After we were mustered into companies and our captains appointed the troop was marched by Colonel Morgan to Jackson's Fort where the troop were stationed a great portion of the time and were afterwards marched to where Wheeling now is on the Ohio [River] and from thence through the interior & frontier parts of Virginia & Pennsylvania on the Monongahela River on its tributary streams once we crossed the Ohio River to the North West side in pursuit of the Indians and at another time of march we were taken to Fort Duquesne now Pittsburgh and were there some time and at another time we marched to protect and drive back some Indians from Fort Ameron or Ancrom's Fort in Virginia and were all the time either on march or stationed at those forts. Once we had a fight with the Indians on what was called white woman's creek we

killed a number of Indians and run the balance of them off and we took some prisoners we lost two men in our troop at the battle & had one wounded And from there we returned to Jackson's Fort. This is the only main Battle I was in during my service. The Indians always fled at the approach of our troop although they killed a great many People in the contry [country] and about those parts before our Regiments were raised and did some injury to the settlers in the crop seasons when we were absent on a tour of marching at other forts. Before I was drafted as aforesaid he had frequently fortified in the neighborhood but we were too weak for the Indians forces and the news was sent to the Governor and those officers were then sent on & the drafts were made for those Regiments to be raised by the Governors orders to better defend the Frontiers & keep back the Indians from aiding the British & Tory parties that sometimes scoured the country. After I had served as a private in Jesse Pigman's Militia company as aforesaid a Spy company was raised out of our troops by order of the officers aforesaid and I was chosen one of the spies & acted as Ensign in the spy company and was commissioned as such in some by the Governor which commission has been destroyed for those forty years not supposing it would ever be of any service to me. One Joseph Vanmeter was the Captain of our spy company belonging to said Regiment or troop & Colonel William Crawford was another Colonel in command of some of the other Regiments as well as I now recollect. I served in the Spy company until we were discharged which was about three years. That I was continually in the service from March 1780 until about the middle of the month of November 1781? [Last digit obliterated by an ink blot] as well as he recollects at this time and that there was no further call for their services as the war had likely terminated and that he was not engaged in any civil pursuit during that time from March 1780 till November 1781. That he was discharged at Jackson's Fort in the West Part of Pennsylvania by the officers aforesaid but no written discharge was given to him for the Reason his Captain said that he did not know but that he would again have to be called out which was never afterwards done. I am not in possession of any documentary evidence of my service nor have I ever received any pay or compensation for my services there were two men yet living now in this country who has a personal knowledge of my services as above stated viz. Job Prebble¹ & Amos Millner.² I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll or agency of any state or territory of the United States.
Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 14th day of May 1844
S/ William Cason, Probate Judge of Union County
S/Jesse Pigman, X his mark

Whereupon the court propounded the following interrogatories to Jesse Pigman the foregoing applicant for a Pension to wit

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born near Hagerstown in Maryland in the year 1765

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

Ans. I have a Record of my age in my possession transcribed from my father's family record but can't say that it is correctly transcribed

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

¹ Sic, [Job Preble \[Pribble\] R8442](#)

² Sic, [Amos Milner R7252 1/2](#)

Ans. I was living in Western part of Pennsylvania what is now I think called Washington County where I was called into service and have lived since the Revolutionary war in the same place next in Fayette County & next in Bracken County & next in Jessamine County Kentucky & next in Union County in Indiana where I now live & have lived here thirteen years past.

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

Ans. I was drafted in March 1780 and served as a private for about 6 months and then I was selected or drafted from the troops to serve in a Spy company where I served as an Ensign for about one year and two months as well as I can now recollect.

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

Ans. The regular officers who commanded the troop or had the higher command of all was General Han or Hand, or some such name, and whether the other officers were Regular officers of the Continental Army I do not know, their names were Lieutenant Vanmeter, Colonel Morgan, & Colonel Crawford also belonged to the troops & had command of part of the troop, or Regiments, his first Captain's name was Jesse Pigman & after the Spy company was raised Joseph Vanmeter was Captain of that company; I cannot state the names or number of the Regiments if they had any Regular names or numbers, they were called militia Regiments & generally went by the name of the Colonel. And the general circumstances of my service was such as I have already before stated in my declaration above to which I again beg leave to refer you which is as specific as my memory will now serves me.

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

Ans. I never received a discharge in writing from the service, I'll officers, were not certain but we should again be called out, & when we heard Cornwallis had surrendered [October 19, 1781], the troop were permitted to go home from the forts, just as they pleased, & when they pleased, but all went off nearly at the same time, we had not any Indian or other difficulties, & but little duty to perform for several weeks & perhaps 2 or 3 months before we were discharged.

7. Did you ever receive a commission and if so, by whom was it signed; & what has become of it?

Ans. I received a commission as Ensign of the Spy company which was signed I think by the Governor & I must think it was Patrick Henry of Virginia, as Captain Vanmeter of our Spy company was a Virginia officer, & so was part of the troop & our Spy company was founded at Akcrom's Fort in Virginia while we were there, out of the Regiments from both Pennsylvania & Virginia: my commission was destroyed or lost or mislaid with my old papers at least 40 years ago, it was nearly worn out & I think most likely it was thrown away, as useless, I could not read writing but I think the name was Patrick Henry who signed the commission.

8th 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 can state the names of John C Crouch, a clergyman and H. H. Brandenburg & Robert Swan, my neighbors, who can probably testify to these matters.

[John C Crouch, a clergyman, and H. H. Brandenburg and Robert Swan gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Indiana Union County SS: On this 15th day of May A.D. 1844 personally appeared before me William W Davis one of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County of Union and State of Indiana Job Pribble a resident of said County of Union aged eighty-two years past, and Amos Milner, a resident of Fayette County Indiana, aged eighty-three years past, who having by me both duly sworn according to law, upon their oaths, say, that they are both personally & well acquainted with Jesse Pigman, the declarant, named in and who swore to and subscribed the foregoing declaration hereto attached. That these affiants and said Pigman all resided in the same neighborhood and were then young man companions in the Western part of Pennsylvania, what is now called Washington County in the year 1780 and in a country of Indian and Tory depredations, about that time during the fore part of the Revolutionary war, the People of that country were compelled to Fort, for their safety, and the forces then in the country were not sufficient to repel the enemy, and news was sent to the Governors of Pennsylvania & Virginia for assistance, and the Governors issued their Proclamation, we think, orders, with certain officers, to make a draft upon the militia, and raised several perhaps for Regiments, to defend the frontier country, in Pennsylvania and Virginia, and in accordance with those orders, the said Jesse Pigman, and ourselves, were drafted for the purpose, and we were with the rest of the company in that settlement, after the captains were appointed, mustered into service under one Captain Jesse Pigman Senior (who was the father of the above declarant, sometime in the month of March in the year 1780 (it was early in the Spring) and after we were put under Captain Pigman, there was some other companies raised not far off, which we joined, and were marched to what was called Jackson's Fort by Colonel Morgan, where all these militia Regiments rendezvoused. We think there was for Regiments. We were stationed at Jackson's Fort for some time; Some of the troop were marched to Fort Ancrom in Virginia, and some were taken to Fort Duquesne, and sometimes we were on [the] march, sometimes guarding & stationed at the Forts, sometimes one place and then at another, The People had mainly fortified; but were not sufficiently armed with the proper forces, until these Regiments were raised by the drafts, upon the orders of the Governors as aforesaid.

We had a personal knowledge of the service of the above declarant, all the time 30 much we were out and we served under Captain Pigman all the time, and under Lieutenant Van Meter & Colonel Morgan, and one General Hand had a General command of the whole troop and as we understood belonged to the United States Army under General Washington, & was occasionally only with the troops, & then returned to Washington's Army; and that Lieutenant Vanmeter & Colonel Morgan were commissioned we understood by the Governor & General Washington both; There was also one Colonel Crawford who had command of a part of the troop, was of these Regiments, & we think these were the only two Colonels there were. We were marched at times all through the country in pursuit of Indians, and sometimes the Tory party, were run off to the South, but there were but few of them there. We crossed the Ohio River on a tour at one time after an army of Indians, which we drove from near where Wheeling now is, we were gone about sixty days that time: On another march we had a battle with the Indians, on white-woman's-creek, we whipped the Indians & drove them off, There were several killed & wounded, & we took two prisoners: we lost two men killed & had four or five wounded:

We were continued in the service aforesaid from March 1780 until late in the fall of the year 1781, we recollect it was some time shortly after we got the news through General Hand, that Cornwallis the British commander had gave up to General Washington; and it was said the war would not likely be continued any longer, and our Regiments were discharged, some were discharged we think at Fort Ancrom, & some at Fort Duquesne & we were discharged at

Jackson's Fort. We do not recollect of any written discharges given by our officers; some said that likely we would be called again into service.

While we were at Fort Ancrom in Virginia, the officers ordered a Spy company to be raised, which was done and Jesse Pigman, the above declarant was drafted or chosen as one of that company & was appointed Ensign of the Spy company, under Captain Joseph Van Meter of the Spy company, this we think was in the fall of the year 1780 we seen said Pigman often afterwards, but the Spy company which he was in was out more than the rest of the troop on duty, & passed more frequently from one Fort to the other, Captain Van Meter was a Virginia officer, & we think general Crawford was also. We never followed any civil pursuit from March 1780 until we were discharged in perhaps November 1781 at Jackson's Fort & that said Pigman was discharged at same time & place: That we have knew said Pigman ever since, and that he now resides in Union County in the State of Indiana, where he has lived for 12 or 13 years past, & previous thereto, he resided in Kentucky & in Pennsylvania. Further saith not.

S/ Amos Millner, X his mark

S/ Job Pribl

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is 'Job Pribl' and the signature on the right is 'Amos Millner'. Both signatures are written in a cursive, somewhat stylized hand.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th day of May A.D. 1844
William W. Davis

State of Indiana Union County: SS

On this 22nd day of February A.D. 1845, personally appeared before me William W Davis one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County, Jesse Pigman a resident of said County, aged eighty years, on the 14th day of this month, who being by me first duly sworn according to law, upon his oath, says, That he is the same identical person who made the his declaration for a Pension under the act of June 7 1832, before the Probate court of this County on or about the 14th of May 1844, which declaration is now on file in the Pension office at Washington City, DC and that the Commissioner of Pensions requires a corrected statement of the service, set out by a Deposition, as appears by letter from the Honorable J L Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions, to the Honorable Caleb B Smith of date July 15th 1844. That in the month of March 1780 he was drafted by an order of the Governor or Commanding Officer of the troop of the state of Pennsylvania, during the Revolutionary war and belonged to the company commanded by Captain Jesse Pigman (his father) under the command of Lieutenant Vanmeter & Colonel Morgan & General Hand or Han, or some such name. He was drafted for two months, as well as he now recollects, and believes, that all of the troop that was drafted was for the same length of time: and when the first two months expired under the drafts, he volunteered & was continued in the service under the same officers & the same organized troop, & nearly all the men done the same, some however went home & their places were supplied by further drafts, as their tours expired. That he continued in the service as a private under Captain Pigman for six months or thereabouts, as near as he can now recollect, and about that time, believes in September 1780, It was ordered that a Spy company should be formed out of the troops, which was done, and That he attached himself to the spy company under Captain Vanmeter, who appointed him (Pigman) in some of the spy company. That he continued in the Spy company as such Ensign from the time of its organization as aforesaid in September 1780, until he was

disbanded in November 1781, as well as he now Recollects. The whole number of the troop was about eight hundred or a thousand at the highest number, as near as he could now form an opinion of it, sometimes there was less he believes, but never under about five or six hundred, at the forts, and on tours of duty upon march, besides those stationed at Fort Duquesne, which belonged to the same troop, as he understood & with all these there was over a thousand in the whole, consisting of at least two regiments. The troops when stationed, were at Fort Duquesne, Fort Jackson & Fort Ancrom. The two first in Pennsylvania and the latter he believes was in Virginia or close to where it was understood the line passed between the two states. The troop were enlisted by the orders of the commanding officers & mainly supplied from Fort Duquesne he believes. And that the troop were paid as he understood afterwards by the state of Pennsylvania. But that this declarant never attended to receive or applied for any pay for his said service after he was disbanded. That his said officers were commissioned by the Governor, or State of Pennsylvania. He further declares herein that he applied for his pension under the act of June 7 1832 in the year 1834 and that his application was returned with a request for more particular & specification of his service, as the declaration did not specify the matters, as is herein set forth & now required, & that no such specification was then made out & forted to the Department & the claim has had no further attention or prosecution until the presentation of the claim in July last. And that Job Pribble of union County, Indiana; one of his witnesses, in the accompanying Depositions with his claim, now prosecuted, was an applicant for a pension in the year 1834, which was not allowed as known to this deponent.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 22nd day of February 1845
S/ William W Davis, JP

S/ Jessee Pigman, X his mark