

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Sims R9608

Jane

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/22/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Louisa County SS

On this 9th day of November 1841 personally appeared before Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace and a Judge of the Court of the said County, being a Court of Record Jane Sims a resident of the County aforesaid aged eighty-four years past, and unable, as I hereby certify by reason of great age and bodily infirmity to appear before the said Court who being 1st duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836.

That she is the widow of Benjamin Sims who was a Sergeant and private in the Militia of the said State in the War of the Revolution. That she knows her husband was a Sergeant because he was required to warn [?] in the men to musters and draft – and she distinctly remembers his performing that service. That sometime whilst the British prisoners were at the Albemarle Barracks, she does not remember the year, her said husband was drafted, and served a tour at the said Barracks. That his officers are not known. That he left home early in the summer and returned in the early part of August and that in this tour he served two months as Sergeant as aforesaid. That sometime after this service, they removed to the County of Hanover in the Said State and that in the early part of the Spring of the last year of the War he was again drafted and left home to join the Army, so soon as the corn was planted, She supposes about the middle of April, and joined the Army at Richmond commanded by the Marquis Lafayette, she supposes as a private and continued in this service constantly till five days before the surrender of York Town [Yorktown, October 19, 1781]. And that in the tours he served six months (That is two terms of three months each) as a private of militia. That she does not remember the names of his officers. She thinks she has heard him speak of being commanded by the late Colonel Charles Dabney, That he was in the Army during the rout [route] of the Army through the upper Counties to the Raccoon Ford thence to the Point of Fork and down the Country again. That she has heard her husband say that he was never in any battle though they often expected to be. That though she has often heard her husband speak of the incidences of his service, her memory is so impaired by her advanced age, that she cannot now recollect them. That she had until within the last few years many papers belonging to her husband, and among them were probably discharges or some documentary evidences of his service but expecting that they would never be of value she has permitted them to be destroyed and has now no documentary evidence. That she resides in a retired part of the Country – and never knew of this provision for widows of revolutionary Soldiers till recently when one of her neighbors Mrs. Thomas obtained a pension on account of her husband's service. She further declares that she was married to the said Benjamin Sims on the 26th [?, very faint] day of December either in the year 1776 or 1777, she cannot now remember which. That her husband the aforesaid Benjamin Sims died on the 24th day of

December 1827 – And that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

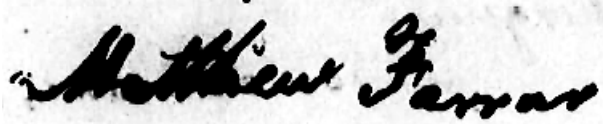
S/ James Sims, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before

S/ Hiram Sanders, JP

[f p. 7: On January 24, 1842 in Hanover County Virginia, Susan McCoy, a resident of said County, gave testimony that she was before her marriage Susan Anderson and that the late Benjamin Sims was her uncle; that when he came to Hanover County during the revolution he was married to Jane Sims, his widow; that after moving to Hanover she knew he served in the militia. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 11: Matthew Farrar,¹ 81, gave testimony in Louisa County that he was well acquainted with Benjamin Sims and his wife Jane; that he, affiant was present at their wedding in the winter of 1776 or 1777; that while Benjamin Sims lived in Louisa County he served one tour of duty at the Albemarle barracks and shortly after serving that term removed his family to Hanover County where he may have served in the militia.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Matthew Farrar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'M' and 'F'.

¹ [Matthew Farrar R3448](#)