

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Evans Jesse¹ S15826

f68VA

Transcribed and annotated by Fred Weyler & Will Graves

rev'd 12/8/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 2]

Missouri Certificate 31,610 to Jesse Evans for
Two years as Captain in Virginia @480/annum
Issued 20 Mar 1839 to provost James S Evans

[p 3]

A declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

State of Missouri

County of Gaschonade [sic Gasconade]} SS

On this fifth day of February 1839 Jesse Evans personally appeared before me a Judge of the Circuit Court _____ for the counties for Gaschonade aforesaid and others

in the State of Missouri, who being first sworn as the laws directs sais [sic] that he is infirmed and not able from long infirmity to attend the court at this time it being twenty miles from his residence that he is seventy nine years old in March last ~~last and~~ _____ is about _____ +

1778 he was commissioned a Captain in the Illinois Virginia Regiment having previously engaged a company to serve in said Regiment and went immediately into this service as an officer in the said Regiment but some time ~~time~~ afterwards marched his company to the boat yard on Holstein River, down that into Tennessee River, then to the Ohio River thence to the Mississippi River and up to Kaskaskia and took that place. He fell in with George R. Clarke [George Rogers Clark] at the boat yard on the Holstein river to who's regiment he belonged. After taking Kaskaskia the regiment marched to and took Vincennes to dates are not recollected, some time after this the said Evans with others was sent into the recruiting service, went back to Virginia to his residence & shortly after commenced recruiting for the said regiment there

[p 4] in the states of North and South Carolina. While in North Carolina he volunteered and fought at the race paths on Haw River, when Piles [Colonel John Pyle] was defeated [February 25, 1781 & at Guilford Court House [March 15, 1781] some time after this he started his recruits and returned to Virginia and when he was on his way back to his Regiment he was overtaken in the Wilderness at a place called the Wolf Hills where Abingdon was in Washington County now stands but was there overtaken by an express with orders to disband his men after Peace was made between the United States and Great Britain, He thus returned home. He states that he has lost his Commission and discharges but some time after the war he closed his accounts with the

¹ NA Acc. No. 874 See O50 061 Half Pay Jesse Evans

Government when he rendered an account of all the money he had drawn in the recruiting service and the government stood indebted to him. He does not recollect sufficiently to set the dates of each transaction, but remembers the facts as stated. He remembers that Todd, Montgomery, Anthony Crockett were officers in said Regiment, Crockett was a Lieutenant in his Company.

At the time he received his commission he resided in Montgomery County, now called Wythe County in the State of Virginia and continued to reside there until the fall of 1815. He then moved to what is now Calloway County in the State of Missouri where he resided until the year 1828 and then moved into Gasconade County in said state where he resides now about twelve mile from the City of Jefferson in Cole County Missouri.

[p 5] We Thomas Jackson a Clergyman residing in Gasconade...and Jos Williams residing in the same hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Jesse Evans of said County who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration. That we believe him to be upwards of seventy nine years old. That he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a Captain of the revolutionary army and that we concur with that opinion.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

Subscribed & sworn to before me William Scott
Judge of the Circuit Court it being a Court
Of record in this & for this County of Gasconade

s/ Tho^s Jackson
Joseph Williams

In the State of Missouri Feby 5th 1839 William Scott

And the said judge does hereby declare his opinion after investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department, that the _____ a Captain in Col. Clarke's Regiment _____ as he _____ states. That it appears to him that the said Jesse Evans is infirmed and unable to attend in Court at this time.

And the said Judge further certifies that that it appears to him that Thomas Jackson who has signed the preceding certificate is a clergyman resident in Gasconade County in the State of Missouri and that Joseph Williams who has also signed the same is a resident in the said County of Gasconade and state aforesaid and is a credible person, and that this statement is entitled to credit.

Subscribed & Sworn

William Scott, Judge of the Circuit
Court within & for the County of Gasconade
In the state of Missouri the court being a court of
Record done in Gasconade County aforesaid
this 5th day of February 1839.

[p 6] This petitioner does not now know of any person who ___ to prove his service. The testimony of Josiah Ramsay² was taken and filed in that office in proof in the applications for Ramsay who is now dead. The testimony of Anthony Crockett was taken in Kentucky in the same case and so was others whether they are now alive or not this petitioner does not know, but their testimony is on file there to which he _____.

Subscribed & sworn to before me William Scott
Jesse Evans

² [Josiah Ramsay \(Ramsev\) S17036](#) I have not transcribed his supporting testimony because it only related to the reputation of Jesse Evans as a Captain in the Illinois Regiment. Josiah did not claim to have served with Evans.



Judge of the Circuit Court within and for the County
Of Gasconade in the State of Missouri it being a court
Of record this 5th day of Feby 1839.

William Scott.

He hereby relinquished every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and
declared that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

s/ Jesse Evans

[p23] Jesse Evans died 28 June 1843 in Osage Co MO.

[p 63]

Pension Office

July 2nd, 1836

I certify that an examination of the claim of Jesse Evans of Missouri, who was a Captain
in the Illinois Regiment during the Revolution, I am satisfied that he served until the end of the
war; that he was living so late as the 6th of October 1835; and that he is entitled to the benefit of
the act of July 5, 1832: I do therefore give it as my opinion that the claim should be allowed and
paid from the 22nd of April 1783, the period when the war terminated, at the rate of \$240 per
annum and continued during his natural life.

The Honorable W H Ashley request that a warrant May be issued and sent to him, who
will deliver it to said Evans.

Commissioner of Pensions

Approved

L. C.

[p 47]

Pension Office

January 3rd 1845

I certify that I have examined the claim of the Administrator of Jesse Evans, deceased for half
pay under the Act of July 5, 1832, entitled "And Act to provide for liquidating and paying certain
claims of the State of Virginia," and I find that half pay from the 22nd of April 1783, when he left
the service, to the 4th of March 1831 was allowed to him in 1836. But half pay from March 4th,
1831 to the day of his death is still due you. It is my opinion therefore that the administrator is
entitled to the half pay which was due said Evans as a Captain in the Virginia State Troops at the
rate of \$240 per annum from the 4th of March 1831 to the 29th of July 1843 when he died; and
that the same is payable to Stephen F. J. Trabue, Attorney for George King, of Kentucky,
administrator of said Jesse Evans, deceased.

Commissioner of Pensions

Approved

Secretary of War

[p 42]

Pension Office
March 6, 1848

I certify that I have examined the claim of the Administrator of Jesse Evans, deceased, for half pay under the Act of July 5, 1832, entitled "An act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia," and I find that half pay from the January 1782 when his services ceased and he became supernumerary, to the 22nd April 1783, from which period it was allowed 2nd July 1836 at the rate of \$240 per annum is due on account of his services as a Captain in the Virginia State Troops, and that the same is payable to the Honorable James Harlan of Frankfurt Kentucky Attorney for George King, Administrator of the estate of the said Evans.

S/ Commissioner of Pensions

Approved
Secretary of War

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Captain for 2 years in the Virginia service.]

[From VA Half Pay files: <https://www.fold3.com/image/616517277>]

[p 86]

To the Governor & Council of the State of Virginia

The petition of Jesse Evans represents –

That he was a Captain in the Regiment commanded by George R Clark & was employed in the Illinois service and continued in the service, until the conclusion of peace with Great Britain, when he was discharged. Your petitioner is entitled to four thousand six hundred and sixty six acres of bounty land & half pay as a Captain from May one thousand &__

He therefore prays that a warrant may be issued for that land he is entitled to by any law or resolution of the Legislature of Virginia and an order made to have the money paid to which he is entitled, Reference is hereby made to the evidence of Joshua Ramsay and others taken in this case.

Jesse Evans

November 2, 1833

[the above is a copy of the document and not the original]

[p 4][undated document]

To the Honorable the Secretary of War of the United States of America &c

The petition of Jesse Evans a resident of Gasconade County in the State of Missouri, would respectfully represent. That he is the identical Jesse Evans, who served as a Captain in the War of the Revolution in the Illinois Regiment commanded by George Rogers Clark. That at the time he entered said service he resided in that part of Montgomery County in the State of Virginia, which has since been made the County of Wythe; and continued until the fall of the year 1815 when he removed into the neighborhood of where he now resides & finally settled in the County of Gasconade in the State of Missouri. That he was commissioned a

Captain, as a [undeciphered word],³ but has long since lost his commission. He enlisted in the year 1778 or 1779 a Captain's Cota [quota] of men, and marched from Montgomery County in the State of Virginia to the Long Island on Holston [River], thence down Holston into Tennessee. Thence down Tennessee into Ohio, thence down the Ohio into the Mississippi and up the Mississippi to Kaskaskia & Joined Colonel George Rogers Clark's Illinois Regiment we then went to Vincennes, & built a fort there, we built three block houses there. Shortly after this I was ordered into the recruiting service & returned back into Virginia with eight officers. I was the oldest officer. I went to Williamsburg and drew ten thousand dollars from the Governor, and paid over to the under officers their proportion, the names of whom this petitioner does not recollect, but two of the Shelby's were along. He took receipts from them for the money. He went into the states of North & South Carolina & recruited for a considerable time. Thence this petitioner returned to Virginia, and went back to North Carolina with some recruits & some volunteers, and after being there sometime we Joined General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] & marched with him, and attacked a picket at a Mill on Haw River, & took the officer, and some men of the British Army, after this this petitioner with May Lewis, Salthiel Maclean & acted as Spies for the American Army. This petitioner was wounded in the neck & [undeciphered word]⁴ slightly at the battle of Giles defeat [sic, Pyle's Defeat] at the race paths on Haw River. He was at the battle of Guilford, he recollects that Colonel Campbell commenced the battle he commanded the Riflemen, the battle commenced in the forenoon of that day, & lasted until after night, when Cornwallis retreated & we pursued for several miles but could not overtake [undeciphered word]⁵ we returned & buried our dead, sometime after this I commenced fulfilling my recruiting instructions and continued at this for a considerable time, and finally started back to Virginia with the recruits, and marched on as far as, or near the wolf Hills [Wolf Hills] where Abingdon is built in Washington County in Said State, where an express overtook him with orders to disband the troops, in consequence of Peace which orders was fulfilled, this Petitioner was marching back to Join G. R. Clark's command, He states that he never did resign his commission, nor never has received his Half Pay, or Bounty land or any part thereof – Your petitioner therefore prays that he may be paid all to which he is entitled from the Government in any way and he will ever Pray &c



[p 6]

State of Kentucky Franklin County Set.

Anthony Crockett⁶ of Franklin County and State of Kentucky in the 79th year of his age this Day personally appeared before me John McKee a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Franklin and being duly Sworn according to Law, declares and makes oath that he Anthony Crockett was well acquainted with Jesse Evans of Montgomery County in the State of Virginia

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⁶ [Anthony Crockett S10492](#)

from the time this deponent was Sixteen years old till the said Evans entered the Service which was in the latter part of the year 1778 or the beginning of the year 1779, he Said Evans raised a Captain's Cota [quota] of men, and marched from Montgomery County in the State of Virginia to the Long Island on Holston, thence down Holston into Tennessee, thence down Tennessee into the Ohio, thence down the Ohio into the Mississippi and up Mississippi to the place now called Kaskaskia where he joined Col. George Rogers Clarke's Illinois Regiment. I further state that I served as a Lieutenant under Captain Jesse Evans on the tour as above stated, and was with him in the Service from the time he left Montgomery County Virginia till we arrived in Vincennes, at which place [bottom of the paper cut off and text missing] we remained too late in the fall 1779 when Captain Evans myself and others were ordered back to the State of Virginia in the recruiting Service and traveled together until we reached Montgomery County in the State of Virginia where Captain Evans stopped to fulfill his orders, and this deponent proceeded to Botetourt County to execute the duties assigned him this deponent further states that Captain Jesse Evans was about Twenty Seven years old when he entered the Service and was a man of credibility and good character and further saith not



[Certified September 8, 1835 by John McKee, JP for Franklin County Kentucky]

[p 9]

To his Excellency Governor Floyd

The petition of Jesse Evans Captain in the Illinois Regiment has been referred to me, with a request that I would report specially upon it. I beg leave to submit the following special report

—

I have already in my general report to your Excellency given the opinion that Captain Evans was entitled to bounty land for a service of 3 years. That opinion has not been changed: but a reconsideration of the claim has satisfied me, that I have done injustice to Captain Evans in this. I found him entitled to bounty land for a service of 3 years; when I should have found him and reported him entitled for the war. The quantity of land allowed would be the same, under both forms of report; because he entered the service the last of 1778 and could not have served over 6 years. But if he served to the end of the war or was supernumerary he will be entitled to his half pay for life. The facts in this case are that Captain Jesse Evans was in service in the Illinois Regiment from the 29th December 1778 to the 13th July 1780 and received pay for same (See pay roll of Captain Jesse Evans' Company in the 1st Vol. Illinois papers) it is probable his commission bore the same date with Genl. Clark's Commission of Colonel that is to say January 2nd 1778 of this however I cannot speak with certainty. That he was in service from the last date to the 20th of November 1781 (See Captain Evans' pay bill in 1st Vol. Illinois papers) — that he received £277.10 in full of his pay down to the last of December 1781. (See old book of accounts of Illinois Officers and soldiers in 1st Auditor's office) thus a service of 3 years appears.

That Captain Evans was an officer of the Illinois Regiment will not admit of a question or doubt. He is everywhere recognized as such.

It is true the name of Jesse Evans is not on the Return of the Illinois Regiment in 1782. I take this occasion to say that the return aforesaid has done injustice not to Captain Evans only; but to several other officers, who were supernumerary or in actual service — [to] the end of the

war. one of whom for example is Anthony Crockett several others might be named. The Commandants of other regiments who made returns to the boards of Officers who sat in Richmond in February and April 1782 made full returns – Colonel Marshall reported every officer of his Regiment, whether resigned, in service, or supernumerary. Colonel Crockett did the same. General Clarke with as good intentions as any other officer, did not report one supernumerary officer & omitted the names of Officers in actual service to the end of the war. It is well known that there was a reduction of the Illinois Regiment in 1781 or 1782 when several officers were left out, supernumerary. There are 2 depositions filed with the petition of Levi Todd for military bounty land of Captains and respectable men which place this matter in a clear point of view. Mr. Gilmer took the Return of the Illinois Regiment in 1782 as the basis of his arrangement made with the Federal government a few years past, and has added to the injustice done to some of the Illinois officers by that return. General Clarke & Mr. Gilmer, both – failed to notice every officer of the only Company of Artillery belonging to the Illinois Regiment. These facts are mentioned for the purpose of Shewing that Jesse Evans might have served to the end of the war or been supernumerary after the last of 1781 notwithstanding his name is not found on the return of 1782.

Upon a review of all the facts of this case I feel it a duty to amend my general report; and instead of saying that Captain Evans was entitled to land for a service of 3 years, I must report him entitled to land for the war – because there is nothing on which a suspicion of his resignation can rest for a moment, and because I think he ought to be regarded as a supernumerary Officer after the 1st of the year 1782, if he was not in actual service down to a later period.

N. B. The deposition of Joshua Ramsey fully proves a service to the end of the war

Respectfully submitted
John H Smith

[p 11]

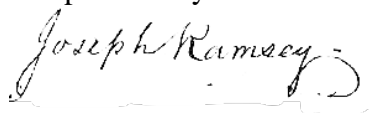
State of Virginia County of Wythe } SS

December 30, 1833

This Day personally appeared Joseph Ramsey⁷ before us Justices of the peace within and for said County and State who being sworn as the law directs – Saith

That he has known Jesse Evans ever since he was eighteen years of age and that he personally knew him to have been a Captain in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George R Clarke, who belonged to the Virginia State line in the Illinois service and that I believe he served until the conclusion of peace between the United States and Great Britain. I also know the said Jesse Evans moved to the state of Missouri and as I understand still resides there, he is about seventy six or seven years of age and I am certain of this fact being a few years older than myself.

Joseph Ramsey



Sworn to and subscribed before us Justices of the peace within and for the said county and state this December 20th 1833

Joseph Crockett, JP

Robert Crockett, JP

[p 45]

⁷ [Joseph Ramsey S7348](#)

The United States

Dr [Debtor]

To Jesse Evans, late Captain of the Illinois Regiment

For his Half pay from the 22nd of April 1783 to the 6th

of October 1835 – 52 years & 168 days at \$240 per annum

\$12,590.46

Allowed by the Secretary of War per decision dated the 2nd July 1836

“Act to provide for liquidating and paying certain Claims of the State of Virginia app’d 5th July 1832

\$12,590.46

treasury department

3rd Auditor’s Office

6th July 1836

Stated by Robert Kead Clk.

[p 54: On August 15, 1843 in Osage County Missouri, George King was granted letters of administration of the estate of Jesse Evans.]

[p 67: On August 31, 1847 in Franklin County Kentucky, George King made oath that he is the only administrator of the Estate of Captain Jesse Evans deceased late of Osage County Missouri; that Evans died leaving small children living in various parts of Missouri viz. Nancy King of Callaway County Missouri, Jane Farmer of Callaway County Missouri, George Evans of Osage County Missouri and Joseph Evans of Washington County Missouri and also numerous grandchildren (not named).]

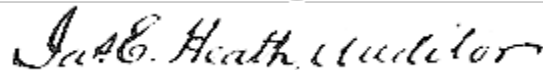
[p 85]

This is to certify that it appears from a list in this office of such officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State line, during the Revolutionary War as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of Assembly passed the November Session 1781, that a certificate issued on the 12th day of March 1784, in the name of Jesse Evans as Captain of Infantry for £276.19.10, which certificate appears to have been delivered to Col. Christian and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor’s Office,

Richmond, this 6th day of January 1834

Jas. E. Heath, Auditor



[p 90]

Pay Role of Captain Jesse Evans’s Company of Infantry of the Illinois Virginia Regiment Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Montgomery from the 29th of December 1778 until the men’s times was expired

Names	Rank	Commencement	Ending	Casualties
Jesse Evans	Capt.	December 29, 1778	July 13, 1780	Warrant for Balance delivered Col. Christian 12 March 1784
Anthony Crockett	Lieutenant	Do	Do	
William	Ensign	March 29, 1779	August 14,	resigned 14 th August 1779

Campbell			1779	
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Montgomery County

I do swear that the within pay Role is a true State of the Company without fraud to the States or any Individual to the best of my knowledge

Jesse Evans

sworn to before me this 22nd day of May 1783

R. Sayers

I do certify that the men was in service, and I believe the payroll to be just

John Montgomery

The Commonwealth of Virginia Debtor

To Jesse Evans

his pay as Captain of the Illinois Virginia Regiment from the 13th July 1780

until the 20th of November 1781 16 Months and 7 days at 50 Dollars per month Dollars
811 2/3

the above account sworn to before me

R. Sayers

£243.10.0 John Montgomery

Extracts from 1st Vol. of Illinois papers

J. E. Heath Aud. Aud. Off. Jan. 14, 1834

[p 95]

Copy of document marked B and filed in last settlement of the claim of Joseph Calvet⁸ [sic, Joseph Calvit] for the balance of half pay – (extracts)

Rank of the Officers of the Illinois Regiment and dates of their respective commissions –
Louisville 28 January 1782

Names	Rank	Dates of Commissions
John Montgomery	Lt. Col.	14 December 1778
Thomas Quirk	Major	17 August 1779
Robert Todd	Captain	17 March 1780
Isaac Taylor	Captain	18 March 1780
Abraham Kellor	Captain killed	
	Dec. 12, '81	19 March 1780
John Bailey	Captain	29 March 1780
Richard Brashear	Captain	30 May 1780
John Girault	Captain	3 June 1781
Michael Perrault	Captain	10 October 1781
Joseph Calvet	Lieutenant	1 June 1780
James Montgomery	Lieutenant	3 June 1780
Richard Clark	Lieutenant	4 June 1780
Jarrat Williams	Lieutenant	5 June 1780
William Clark	Lieutenant	6 June 1780

This certifies that the above is a true Roster of the Illinois Officers

G. R. Clark

⁸ [Joseph Calvit \(Calvert\) R12980](#)

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The United States Dr. [Debtor]

To Jesse Evans deceased

Captain in the Virginia State Troops

for his Half pay from March 4, 1831 (up to which time he was paid per settlement in July 1836, & which said Settlement embraced his Half pay up to October 6, 1835, not so much as accrued between 4 March 1831 & 6 October 1835 having been deducted on his Pension a/c [account] is now again allowed) to the 29th of July 1843 the day of his death – being 12 years & 147 days at \$240 per annum \$2976.66

Allowed per decision of the Secretary of War
dated January 3, 1845