

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Mathias Peer S17009

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/7/12

[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 Shenandoah County SS

On this 9th day of February 1835 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Shenandoah now sitting Mathias Peer a resident of said County and state aforesaid aged 70 years in June last who being 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 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted for three months under Captain Thomas Marshall in the month of May 1781 that he does not recollect the name of his Lieutenant who was first appointed as he run off nor can he recollect the last appointment his Ensign's name was Josiah Jenkins, Colonel Dark [William Darke] was his Colonel & General Green his General. No other officers' names now recollected – there was one Regiment of Regulars where I was – upon reflection I recollect the names of General Muhlenberg, General Wayne & General Washington who I sold frequently. That I overtook the Company at Colonel Bird's in this County. We marched on directly to Richmond and passed from that place and went below in the direction of little York – that they were continually marching to and fro and that they encamped at Mobing hill [Malvern Hills] about a week that he returned home in the following September that he was engaged in no battles and that afterwards he thinks the last of October in the year 1781 he was drafted again under Captain Benjamin Fry and joined the Company at the Winchester Barracks that Colonel Holmes [Joseph Holmes] and Colonel Niswanger [Lt. Col. John Niscwanger] commanded there, that the British prisoners were there & that he remained there in the barracks until the prisoners were taken to shepherds town and that he then returned to the Winchester Barracks where his Captain gave me a verbal discharge and that he returned home the latter end of February in the following year. That he received no discharge in his first tour except a verbal discharge from his Captain. He is certain that he served three months the first time as he was from home about four months, and that his Captain told him that he had served his second term when he discharged him. That he was born in Greenwich County New Jersey & moved to this County when about 14 years old he has no record of his age but knows he was 18 years old the July following the capture of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. That he lived in the County of Shenandoah when called into service in both instances and has lived there ever since. The other questions all fully answered & that Joseph Bond and John Swaney can testify as to his character there being no minister living in his neighborhood. He refers to the affidavit of Martin Zea and Michael Humble duly and properly authenticated and which is considered as a part of this declaration.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State –

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Matthias Peer, X his mark

[Joseph Bond [could be Joseph Bone] and John Swayne gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

The Deposition of Michael Humble¹ who being first duly sworn Testified that, he has been through life well acquainted with Mathias peer, now of Cedar Creek, Shenandoah County, that he knows that said Peer was a soldier in the Virginia line, in the revolutionary war, that, he was drafted from the County aforesaid, in the year 1782 that he served with him at Winchester in guarding the British prisoners under Colonel Niswanger, but under different captains, he serving under Captain Glass and Peer under Captain Benjamin Frye that they both assisted in guarding said prisoners from Winchester to shepherds town: the Virginia line, that he believed that said Peer served three months at that time under that draft, and that he also knows that said Peer was in the service of his Country previous to the tour here alluded to, but does not know at what post he served nor how long. Given under my hand the 31st day of January 1835

S/ Michael Humble

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Humble". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

The deposition of Martin Zea² of Strasburg, Shenandoah County Virginia, who being duly sworn, Testifies that he has through life, been well acquainted with Mathias Peer, of Cedar Creek in the aforesaid County, and knows that said Peer was a soldier of the Virginia line, in the Revolutionary war, that he served a three months tour of duty with him, in the lower parts of Virginia, in Captain Thomas Marshal's Company in the year 1781: a part of which time they were stationed at Mobing hill, fifteen miles below Richmond. Given under my hand this 7th day of February in the year 1835.

S/ Martin Zea

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Martin Zea". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March fourth, 1831, for service as a private for six months in the Virginia militia.]

¹ FPA S13473

² [Martin Zea R11984](#)