

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Samuel Z. Jones S18474

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Capitalization partly corrected.]

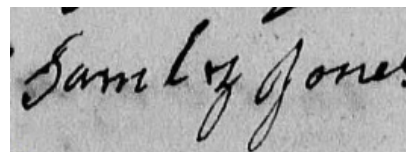
State of Virginia } Ss.

County of Lewis }

On this 4th day of December A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of Lewis county court at the Courthouse here now sitting Samuel Z Jones a resident of Westfork [West Fork] Settlement in the County of Lewis and State of Virginia aged 73 years who being first duly Sworn according to Law doth on his Oath make the following decleration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That he was drafted in December 1776 in Cumberland County Pennsylvania and was marched under Capts. McClellon or Hamelton affiant is not now certain which as he has served under Both and his memory is too frail to now recollect distinctly, Cols name Stewart or Sterrett, and other Officers names not recollectd, to Lancaster County in Pennsylvania from thence through Bucks County in s'd. state to Delaware River, Crossed s'd River at Carells Ferry [Carroll's Ferry]: was from thence ordered and marched to Prince Town [Princeton] in Jersey State, and there took Head Quarters until the end of the campain that affiant drafted to serve, which was two months, and during his stay at Prince Town, at Head Quarters he was one of the reconnoitering party that went to bramberry, Crosswicks, and near Quibble Town [Quibbletown in present New Market], and saw the Virginia and Jersey Troops but do not recollect any of their officers names. Gen'l. [Israel] Putnam commanded at Prince Town whilst affiant was there, was there discharged by his Captain after having served two months. Then affiant substituted for John Smith of Lancaster malitia of Pennsylvania for two months, at Prince Town was placed under the command of Captain Miller, Gen'l. Putnam, other officers names not recollectd, remained at Prince Town (Head Quarters) during time, and continued reconnoitering scouts until time was up, generally over the same ground that he affiant reconnoitered over on the service under his beforementioned draft. was then discharged by his Captain having served two months. then returned in the Spring of 1777 to Cumberland County Pennsylvania and in December of that year [sic] was drafted in the Malitia of that state to perform another Tour of two months. Was marched under Captains Hamelton or McClellon, and as affiant has before stated his memory is too frail to recollect. Col Watt [possibly Frederick Watts], Gen'l. Lacy [sic: John Lacey]. other officers names not recollectd, to Valley Forge in Pennsylvania, where affiant seen Generals, Washington, and [Anthony] Wayne. Was from thence ordered to, and marched to White Marsh [Whitemarsh], in Pennsylvania from thence to Doyles Town [Doylestown] in s'd state. from thence to Edge Hill in s'd state, from thence to near Bristol in s'd state, and returned to Doyles Town, near which place the British took some beef cattle, and there were a detachment of men sent in pursuit, of them in order to rescue, or retake them, of which affiant was one, pursued them till they got within their lines, then returned to camp weary and disappointed. Col. Watt commaned, and affiant thinks he was promoted to a General while there, before which time Gen'l. Lacy commanded. marched from Doyles Town to a place then called the Crooked Billot, there was attacked by the British Light Horse [Crooked Billet at present Hatboro PA, 1 May 1778], and Lieutenant and Ensign Arbuckle's, John Martin and others were among the Americans slain, and the americans were compelled to retreat, leaving some wounded men behind which were burnt in Buckwheat Straw. was shortly thereafter discharged at Edge Hill by his Captain, having stayed his tour of two months out, then substituted forthwith near Edge Hill in Pennsylvania Malitia from Berks County for two months. the persons name whom affiant substituted for he has forgotten was placed under the command of he thinks Captain Myres but is not certain. General Watt. other officers names not recollectd remained in the same neighborhood, during his time that he substituted for, that he performed, the before last mentioned tour over, and was discharged, no attacks being made by the enemy

for that period then returned to Cumberland County Pennsylvania in the Spring of 1778. about the first of July of that year [3-4 Jul 1778] [Col. John] Butler with Indians, and a Band of Tories attacked Wyoming Station, now Wilkesberry [sic: Wilkes Barre] in Pennsylvania, and massacred a large proportion of the Inhabitants of the town and country. and about the tenth of that month affiant with many others from Lancaster and Cumberland Counties Pennsylvania volunteered their services for five months, with a view to punish that outrage, paraded and marched from Cumberland County in that state under Captain Dimsey. affiant was now commissioned as Lieutenant in s'd Capt. Dimsey's Company Gen'l. [James] Potter affiant thinks. other officers names not reccollected, to Northumberland County Pennsylvania to a place near White Deer Creek, a branch of the Susquehanna River at Smiths and Titsells Mills. there was stationed. affiant commanded spying parties, on the Fronteers, to the vicinities of Bald Eagle, Lycoming, and Munsee [Muncy] Penns Creek, and other branches of the West Branch of the Susquehanna, until affiants term of five months was up, during his last mentioned service the Indians killed Lieutenant Sam'l. Brady [Samuel Brady] of Northumberland Malitia in Pennsylvania together with others, a few days before the arrival of the American Troops. the Indians killed the Wife and son of John Smith, Tomahawk'd and scalped the daughter, but she survived affiant was now discharged having served five months as a Lieutenant. Then in July 1779 affiant volunteered in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, in Captain McCoys Company for five months, as a private, s'd company was raised from the counties of Cumberland and Northumberland, in Pennsylvania, marched from Cumberland County to Northumberland County in Pennsylvania for the neighborhood of Freeland's Fort [near present Turbotville] which had recently been captured by Indians, British, and Tories, and Messrs. Boone, Watt, Green, Litle, and many others were slain, during this campaign affiant was in a skirmish with the Indians, and James and John McCart, and James Story were killed and affiant rec'd two wounds in the thigh and a shot in the arm, after affiant recovered from his wounds, he was detached as one of a party to bring provisions up the Susquehanna River which they succeeded in doing, remained term of service of five months as a private [part may be missing at end of page] – up and was discharged, in this last mentioned campain affiant was acquainted with the following named Field Officers. Cols. Morrow, Myres, and Holsterman. Other officers names not reccollected. Then returned home to Cumberland County Pennsylvania and in June 1780 was drafted to go a tower of two months as a Malitia man in Captain Bowles Company. Marched from Cumberland County Pa. to Standing Stone, (now called Huntingdon) in Pennsylvania there was stationed, from thence affiant went on spying parties toward the head of Penns Creek, and the surrounding country, and on one excursion affiants Captain Bowles, was shot in the mouth but not killed, stayed term up and was discharged. Other officers names not reccollected. Then in July 1781 affiant volunteered after having again returned to Cumberland County Pennsylvania, and was commissioned as Lieutenant, in a company raised from Cumberland and Northumberland Counties Pennsylvania for a tower of five months, and marched to a place generally called north western frontiers in Northumberland County Pennsylvania, to guard fronteers, was stationed at a place affiant since understands is called Tarrs Town Affiant was detached with a body of men under his command to bring provision, and guard military store boats up the Susquehanna River, and commanded spying parties through, and along the fronteers of his affiants station. Stayed time of service up and by orders from the commanding officer whose name affiant does not now recollect he discharged his company and returned home to Cumberland County Pa. the names of the field officers not reccollected if any, but affiant thinks there were none of higher grade, that Captain and their names not reccollected. Then in July 1782 affiant was drafted to serve a tour of two months under Captain John Taylor. Marched from Cumberland County Pennsylvania to Northumberland County same state, there after having been on service one month, was taken sick and was sent by his Captain Taylor home Other officers names not reccollected. Affiant further states that in the performance of all the foregoing ennumerated services he has not included any of the time that he necessarily spent in traveling to and returning from the places where he was on service. If he were to estimate the time thus spent he will say to a certainty that he did not serve a less time than eleven months as a Lieutenant and seventeen months as a private. He therefore claims a pension for eleven months service as a Lieutenant in the army of the revolution, and seventeen months as

a private soldier. Affiant does not now recollect that he ever received a written discharge He thinks that the companies were discharged at the end of their terms of service verbally in the same way that they were discharged from a muster or drill – as too he was discharged when his tours as a Leeutenant had expired. Affiant has no documentary evidence and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure (except Solomon Collins [pension application S39331] whose affidavitt is annexed), who can testify to his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an 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 and year aforesaid.

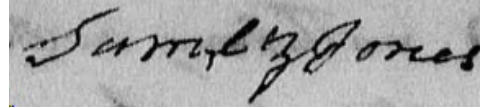
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sam L. Jones". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

The court proceeded to propound to the declarant the seven, several interrogatories prescribed by the war department, which were answered by the declarant as follow Viz. To the first he answers.

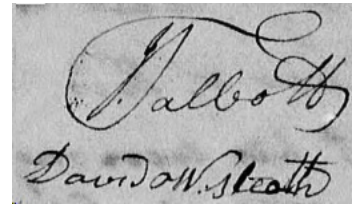
- 1st That he was born in Gloucester county in the state of New Jersey on the 30th day of January 1759. He speaks according to a transcript from his fathers family register taken by affiant more than fifty years ago.
- 2nd That he has no record of his age except said transcript above mentioned and that is in his Bible, which he has had more than half a century since.
- 3rd That he was living in Cumberland County in Pensylvania when first called into the service as aforesaid. In the fall or winter of 1782 he went to Philadelphia and in the Spring or Summer (he thinks in June) 1783 he removed to Philadelphia and resided there untill the fall of 1811 when he removed to Virginia where he now lives then Harrison no [sic: now] Lewis county and there he still resides
- 4th He was drafted first, then substituted, then again drafted – again substituted. Then volunteered as a Leeutenant for five months. Then volunteered as a private five months. Then drafted two months. Again volunteered as a Leeutenant for five months. again drafted for two months. was then taken sick. The above enumerations of time are made exclusive of the time engaged in marching and returning from the places where the principle service was performed. He was a substitute for John Smith the first time. The second time he does not now recollect for whom
- 5th He remembers to have seen General George Washington, General [Anthony] Wayne, General Stirling or Lord Stirling commonly called [William Alexander, Lord Stirling] I saw him at Basken Ridge [sic: Basking Ridge NJ]. he saw Col. [Daniel] Morgan General [Israel] Putnam. He commanded at Princeton. He seen at Doyleston General Lacey and Col. Watt, who he thinks was soon after promoted. He performed the services at set fort above, sometimes drafted sometimes a substitute and at other times a volunteer, at least eleven months as a Leeutenant and seventeen as a private.
- 6th He states that he cannot recollect that he ever did receive a written discharge. He was with his fellow soldiers dismissed from service in the same way (verbally) that company musters and drills were discharged. If however he ever did receive any he has entirely forgotten it, and must have lost them when pursued by Indians shortly after he returned from his last tour, at which time he saved nothing but his horse – his bible one other book and two or three papers This happened in Cumberland county.
- 7th He states that he was in 1778 commissond as a Leeutenant in the Pensylvania Militia He does not recollect by whom his commission was signed he knows he had it. He now believes that Leeutenants and other subaltern officers were elected by their company's and commissioned by some field officer of this however he is not certain. He lost his commission some time after he was settled in Philadelphia after he left (Cumberland county) as before stated.
This declarant having served in the double capacity of officer & soldier. The court propounded to

him an eight interrogatory corresponding to the 7th by the war department, to which he answers as follows, Viz.

8th There lives in my immediate neighborhood to whom I am known Stokely Sturges who I have known 39 years in Philadelphia and Virginia There also lives David W Sleeth Esqr. [pension application S6111] to whom I have been known for some years. I am also acquainted with the Reverend John Talbott a Clergyman to whom I am known They can testify to his character



We John Talbott a Clergyman residing in the county of Lewis and David W Sleeth residing in the same county hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Samuel Z Jones who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration That we believe him to be 73 years of age that he is reputed and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that we concur in that opinion. Sworn to and subscribed this day and year aforesaid.



[John Talbott as Clerk of the Lewis County Court certified his own credibility and that of David W. Sleeth.]

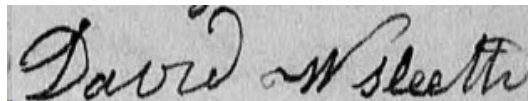
State of Virginia } towit
Lewis County }

This day Sallemon Collins personally appeared before John McWhorter a Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Lewis and made oath that he was well acquainted with Samuel Z Jones in Cumberland County in the state of Pennsylvania in the year seventy six and recollects that said Jones was drafted in that year and went into the service but how long he served this affiant does not recollect. This shortly afterwards enlisted into the army during the War and did not return home untill after the War was over – on his Return Home this affiant understood from Samuel Z Jones and his neighbours generally that said Jones was frequently in the service and as an officer but of what grade this affiant does not know – from the frequent conversations this affiant has had with Samuel Z Jones at that time, and since and from the neighbourhood report at that time this affiant enclines to the belief that Samuel Z Jones did serve as much as two years or more but does not know it of his own knowledge given under my hand this 29th of October 1832

Solomon hisXmark Collins

Subscribed and sworn to the day and year above written [signed] John McWhorter

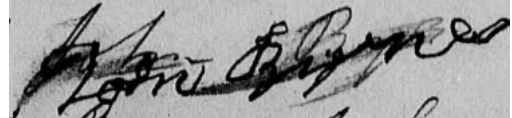
Virginia } to wit I David W Sleeth do certify that I have long been acquainted with Solomon
Lewis county } Collins who has signed and swore to the statement on the other side. That he is a
credible man and his statement is entitled to credit. I do [more]over certify that I am an acting Justice of
the peace in [and] for said county of Lewis given under my hand this 4th day of December 1832.



[Gideon D. Camden as Clerk of the Circuit Superior Court of Lewis County certified the credibility of John McWhorter and David W. Sleeth.]

Virginia } Ss.
Lewis county }

This day John Byrnes [W6224] aged 84 personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said county and being first sworn doth on his oath declare that he was well acquainted Samuel Z Jones of Lewis county in the war of the revolution That he first saw him in the Pennsylvania militia at Princeton in N. Jersey in the year 1776 or 77. That he afterwards saw him a Lieutenant in the Pensylvania Militia. saw him at Wyoming. and at several places on the Susquehannah waters He knew the said said Samuel Z Jones after the revolutionary war in Philadelphia worked recounted his revolutionary career, often shewed his commission which affiant thinks was signed by General Potter. subscribed and sworn to this 4th day of September 1833.



I do certify that John Byrnes who has signed and sworn to the foregoing statement resides in Harrison county Virginia is a credible man and his statement is entitled to full credit
Given under my hand this 4th day of September 1833. [signed] M. D. Gittings J.P.

State of Virginia }
County of Lewis } Ss. [5 Sep 1833]

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber [Weeden Huffman] a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Lewis, Solomon Collins a Resident of Harrison County and State of Virginia, aged 72 years, who made under Oath, and subscribed to the following decleration. Viz That affiant became acquainted with Samuel Z Jones, and applicant for a pension under the Law of June 7th 1832 by the act of Congress of that year, (who is a resident of Lewis County Virginia) in Cumberland County Pennsylvania in the year 1776 and that afterwards in the same year, affiant knows s'd. Jones was in the service of the United States, knows that he was also in the Service in the year 1777 that he was in also in the years 1778 and 1779. That affiant became seperated from s'd Jones in the year 1779 and seen, nor heard of him any more until the year 1782 or 1783 affiant is not certain, affiant is certain that s'd. Jones bore the rank of a Lieutenant in the year of 1778 and knows that he still continued to bear the same rank in 1782 or 1783. That during the space between 1779 and 1782 or 1783 affiant was seperated from the pensylvania Troops and was marched to the South under the Command of Captain Kilbreth that affiant is a Revolutionary Pensioner and has been since the year 1821. That he has been the neighbour of Samuel Z Jones for the last twenty years past and has had frequent conversations with him about his revolutionary Services – and that he knows him to be the Identical person whom he knew in the above specified terms of engagement.
Solomon hisXmark Collins

[On 12 Oct 1833 Jones was issued a certificate for \$189.99 per year for 20 months service as a Private and Lieutenant. The certificate was sent to Jonathan Wamsley. All pensions from Lewis and Harrison counties were subsequently suspended during an investigation by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton wrote on the following report to the Pension Office, “Particular examination solicited in this case.”]

Samuel Z. Jones. receives \$189.00.

on the 30th July [1834] Jones made the following statement. is in his 76 year of age, raised part in New Jersey and Part in Pennsylvania. resided in the latter state until within the last 23 y'r. then moved where he now lives. in the latter part of 1776 was ordered to March on the 15th of December of that year (having been drafted the previous Summer) marched from Cumberland county Pen to Trenton New Jersey, crossed the Delaware at Correls Ferry; from Trenton he marched to Princeton: at the latter place

the term of service (two months) expired. in this tour he was a private – cant recollect whether in this time Capt. McLelan or Hamelton was his captain. either Stewart or Sterrett was the colonel.

after getting his discharge, he substituted in the place of John Smith, for two months in a company of Lancaster Militia commanded by Capt. Miller. remained at Princeton and in its Vicinity for this tour of two months. Genl. Putnam commanded at Princeton. In reference to his first tour, says he reached Trenton shortly after the battle was over [3 Jan 1777] in which the american army under the immediate command of Genl Washington took the main part of the British army (Hessians) prisoners [sic: Battle of Trenton, 26 Dec 1776].

In December 1777 was drafted for a two months tour, marched from Cumberland county to Vally forge, was reviewed by Gen'l. Washington at Vally Forge, from Vally Forge his company went to White Marsh, from there to Doylestown, from thence to Billet Edge Hill near Bristol, in this tour Col. Watt was one of the colonels, but whether his or not cant remember dont recollect the name of his captain. After this tour terminated he substituted in the place of a man whose name he has forgotten for two months, and served in the same neighbourhood in a company of Berks county Militia commanded by Capt. Myers. Gen'l. Lacy commanded in both of the last mentioned tours, perhaps Genl. Wat commanded in one of them, not possitive.

in 1778 he volunteered in a company from Lancaster cty and marched in July toward wyoming where the massacre of the whites had then recently taken place by the Indians Viz July 1 for the purpose of relieving that settlement – got as far as Northumberland County, was in service this tour for five months, the company was under the command of Capt Dimsey, he himself was first Lieutenant. Gen'l. Potter commanded the expedition.

in the month of July 1779 volunteered in Cumberland county and served for 5 months as a private under Capt McKay, in this time was in an engagement with the Indians in which 3 of his company were killed Viz. John and James McCart, William Story and himself wounded. (he exhibited a place which he called a wound)

in 1780 was drafted in Cumberland county & marched under a Capt. Bowls up to Huntington, the Capt was wounded by the Indians. Served for two months and was discharged – Cant recollect how many companies were in this service, they were scattered throughout the country, dont recollect the name of the Col. that commanded.

in 1781 he volunteered for five months, & marched up to Northumberland and was in service in that county for five months, dont recollect the name of his Captain he himself was first Lieutenant – in 1782 he was drafted for two months, & marched from Cumberland to Northumberland but served but one month, was taken sick & returned home, in this service Capt. Taylor was his Captain – thus terminated his service

Johnson F. Neulan [sic: Johnson F. Newlon] wrote his Declaration, the statement now given is in substance the same as given to Newlan, he made an agreement with Jonathan Wamsley. was to give him \$100 if he got a full pension, but only a proportion in case he got less.

In Witness that this statement is strictly true I hereto subscribe my name.

Samuel Z. Jones.

A true Copy.

W. G Singleton

Note. in this case, the most rigid Justice should be administered. – first because, he has not proved his services [see endnote] – secondly, a general opinion prevails in his community that he is an impostur. – he is very Loquacious, and a great pedant. – his neighbours say, that they never heard him speak of his militia service until after the passage of the Pension Law of June 1832, and lastly he has been instrumental in many impositions upon the government. he was the complete tool. (a magistrate by the way) in the hands of Wamsley and his confederates in crime. – he admitted to me that he had certified several Declarations, in the high way, after night and by a torch light, all of which found to be fraudulent. – there is not a single Declaration of his certifying but what is wholly and exclusively fraudulent, whether he has been paid for his Judicial Services it is not known, but heavy suspissions rest upon him.

W. G Singleton/ Nov 1, 1834

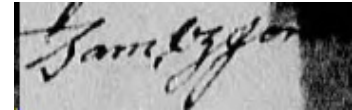
Pen Off/ March 16 1835

Sir [Samuel Z. Jones, in care of Gideon D. Camden, Clerk of Lewis County Court] The payment of your pension cannot be resumed until you shall have furnished direct and positive proof in support of your allegation of having been commissioned and served as a Lieut. It will be remarked that your claim for 3 tours of militia service of 5 mo each: – that is in direct contradiction all the known facts in relation to that service in Penn, which was almost uniformly in tours of 2 mo. each.

I am... [copy not signed; probably by James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions]

Honord Sir [probably James L. Edwards] You Informd me that you wanted firm proof of my services In the Revolution and that towers in the Malicia in pensylvania did not exceed two Months which is well known to me I Must Inform you that volunteers ware Not Bound By the Malicia laws at that time which was always at the will of the valenteer at the time of volentearing Who went for any time over one Month the Company Chose at their entering the Service which generally took place near harvest a time the enemy Chose to Injure our Country the most and the [illegible] Necessity falld on the effective men as soon as possible to the frontiers to give some Protection to the people while reaping[?] there grain for several years the Indians Came on the frontier In great bodies and doe Much Injury like that of wioming [and?] frelands fourt when Many hundreds Came down with [Tories?] and British and Many lives ware lost even Before any [relief?] could Be given votenearing was the quickest mode of repelling[?] [?]dardly foe who continued to harris the frontiers in [illegible word] parties till the Begining of winter when the foes of our [two illegible words] Nomore seen till spring two Months truly was all the time the Malicia ware drafted for at one tower and the vlentears serveing for any time More then two months and the Malicia Company then Being calld what ever time by the valenteers servd to the then amount of two months was allowed in Plase of their regular tour In the Milicia for each year of the war Many Companies of volenteers Did Not serve More than one Month & some Not so long others young men without famileys Chose to remain longer till winter Put a stop to the Indinans &c Depredations & sent them to their towns. I dont recollect[?] their Being on the frontiers after the first of december

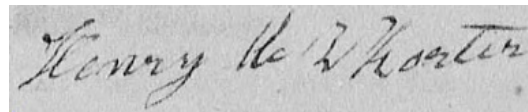
These from yours
Respect



Lewis County to wit

This Day the Subscriber Henry McWhorter [S7210] in the seventy fifth year of his age appeared before me Wm Powers one of the Commonwealths justices of the peace for said county and being Sworn as the Law Directs Saith that being acquainted with Samuel Z Jones and in or about twenty years ago at sundry times he heard the said Samuel Z Jones relate circumstances Concerning his being up the West branch of the Susquehannah against the Indians and also concerning his feet being frozen on the march to Trenton when the Hessians was taken

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th of august 1835
Wm Powers



Lewis County to wit

William Powers being of full age appeared before me the subscriber one of the commonwealths justices of the peace for said county and being sworn as the Law directs saith being acquainted with Samuel Z Jones of said county upwards twenty years recollects hearing said Jones speaking several times on the subject of his being out in the time of the revolutionary war I think up the Susquehannah and on different circumstances relative to the same

Sworn to Subscribed August 19th 1835

[signed] Wm Powers

[signed] John Mitchel J P

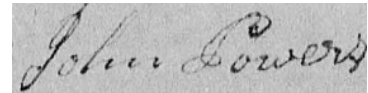
August 19th 1835

Lewis County va to Wit

Mr John Powers Being duly sworn doth say that he has Been Acquainted Sam'l Z Jones near twenty four years that he has heard said Jones telling of his repeated services In the Revolution a gainst the Indians in Northumberland County Pa and sayeth further that he undersood that said Jones was in an Engagement wher his Captain was Wounded he also Recolects to have understood of said Jones to have served as Lieutenant In the service But how Long he kowes Not Said Conversation took place fifteen years agoe at least

The above named Samuel Z Jones is a man Credit as may be believed on oath Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th august 1835

Wm Powers

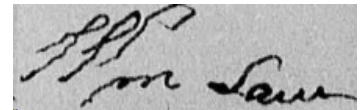


Lewis County Virginia to wit

William Law in the sixty seventh year of his age appeared before me the subscriber one of the Commonwealths justices of the peace in and for said county and after being sworn as the Law directs saith that he William Law remembers hearing Samuel Z Jones of Lewis County say that he the said Jones was out in the malitia both against the Indians and Brittish in the time of the revolution war with England and speaking of his suffering whilst out in the service and of his speaking in particular of Brady and Mzart being kill'd at different times that the above mentioned discourse took place twenty years ago or upwards

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 16th of Sept 1835

Wm Powers JP



I Solomon Collins aged 75 years do say and declare that I was well acquainted with Samuel Z Jones in the time of the Revolutionary war, and do know that s'd Jones did serve a Volunteer tour in Northumberland County Pennsylvania against the Indians under the Comamand of Capt McCoy Commanded by general Potter

I farther know that a volunteer tour though it was not for the duration of two months was Considered an ofset for the amount of servise against a full tour of Malitia duty

Lewis County Virginia/ December 31st 1835 Solomon hisXmark Collins

I the undersigned Justice of the Peace in and for Lewis County VA do hereby certify that the above named Solomon Collins Personly appeared before me and made oath to the above decleration to be true to the best of his knowledge

Given under my hand and seal this 31st day of December 1835 Benjamin Riddel J.P.LC

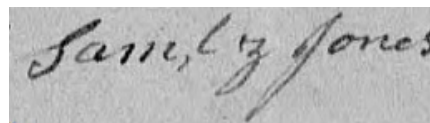
Lewis County Va, March 12th 1836

Respected Sir [probably Joseph Johnson, House of Representatives] I must Apologise for my troubling you with these lines & Inform you that I have apply'd for a pention and receivd a Certifycat But payment thereof is Suspend with the rest the Secretary of war has Informd me that I must Make further proof of My servises in the revolution and states that Malitia tours ware only two Months By the laws of Pensylvania which is well known to me I have claimd for three tours as volentear against the Indians in Northumberland Pa to wit one in 78 one in 79 and one in 81 five Months Each 2 of which I servd as Lieutenant also I servd several towers in the Malicia we ware allwais Allowd if we ware Calld in the Malicia during the volentear tour that two months or what ever we servd less then 2 months in the year should Be deducted from the volentear tower which Mode was a general thing during the war as the Indians ware very troublesome from 78 to 82 on that fronteer witness the Massicre at wioming and freling forrt wher Many lives ware lost Beside Many other places of less Note But very distressing and volentears ware Much wanted and very usefull) I have sent on to that office the deposicons of several

persons this winter I herd Nothing from those since (as you dear Sir are our deligate from this dstrict I Must ask the favour at our leasure to Make some enquiry at that office and use your pleasure & Endeavour In my favour as you know My general Carracter I need say no more on that score your Compliance and attention will Much obldige me & you will I trust find me Ready to serve you in any thing within the Compass of my power you will please write to me of Matters there I have herd Little from Congress this winter Being Much Indisposed and Confind at home If you Rite to me Pleas to direct to Mcwhorters Mills LC [Lewis County]

Yours with respect

excuse Bad writing as I am old and giting febile in My 78th year



Department of War/ Pension Office/ March 29th 1836

Sir [Joseph Johnson, House of Representatives] I have rec'd the letter of Samuel Z Jones upon the subject of his claim. the testimony spoken of does not appear to be of the character which ought to be furnished to establish a claim under the peculiar circumstances in which this is placed. The doubts entertained as to the fact of Mr Jones having served for the lenght of time he has alleged, and particularly as to his having rec'd two commissions as Lieut. can be removed only by positive evidence Solomon Collins has made three several affidavits in this case, the first, previous to the date of Mr Jones declaration, and probably the most correct: the other two are apparently made to bear out the statement made in the declaration, and are entitled to but little confidence. There is no doubt but that Mr Jones performed some service during the revolutionary war, but not to the extent he has claimed. Further testimony in support of the two tours of five months each as a Lieut. will be required before the payment of the pension can be resumed. The letter of Mr Jones having little bearing upon the case, I have taken the liberty to file with his papers.

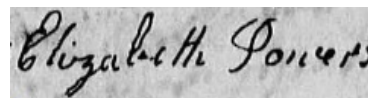
I have the honor [copy not signed, probably by Edwards]

Department of War/ Pension Office/ March 29 1836

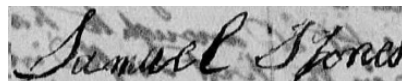
Sir [Gideon D Camden Esq, Clarksburg VA] I was about to reply to your letter upon the subject of the claim of Samuel Z. Jones this morning when one was rec'd from Mr. Jones thro' the Hon Mr Johnson and I have therefore addressed to him a communication on the subject which Mr Jones will probably receive by the time you receive this letter

I am &c [copy not signed, probably by Edwards]

The deposition of Elizabeth Powers taken before me William Powers one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace for the County of Lewis which deponant deposeseth and saith that when Mrs W G Singleton and Goff came to Samuel Z Jones Mr Singleton Enquired of Mr Jones for a statement of his Services in the war of the Revolution that Mr Jones went on making his statement of services before he was through they Singleton and Goff said the ware perfectly satisfied and wished he (Jones) might live long to Enjoy it and they woud report him as Just Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th day of September 1841
Wm Powers JP



The Deposition of Samuel S Jones taken before me Vincent Alexander one of the commonwealth's Justices of the peace for the county of Lewis and State of virginia which Deponent Sath He was present when Mr W. G. Singleton and Nathan Goff were questioning Samuel Z. Jone with regard to his Services in the Revolutionary war and that they (Singleton and Goff) said they were saisfied that he (Jones) was entitled to his pension and they (Singleton and Goff) would report him (Jones) as a pensioner and said long might he live to enjoy it
Sworn and subscribed to before me this 25 day of october 1841
Vincent Alexander JP



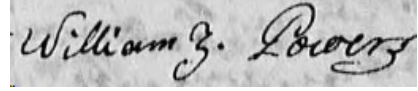
Hon. S. L. Hays H.R. [Samuel Lewis Hays, US House of Representatives 1841-1842]

Lewis County Virginia to wit

William Z Powers appeared before me William Powers one of the Commonwealth Justices of the peace in and for said County and Depoeth and saith the he was present when Mr W G Singleton and Nathan Goff was at Samuel Z Jones's and heard them Question said Jones concerning his services as a Revolutionary soldier and Mr Singleten said he was fully satisfied that he Jones was fully Entitled to a pension and long might he live to Enjoy it.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 1st day of January 1842

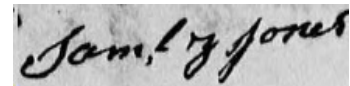
Wm Powers JP



Lewis County Va to wit)

Sam'l Z Jones Apear'd Before me & Being duly Affrmd doth say that Mr Singleton & Mr Goof Call'd him to Examine him Respecting His services in the Revolution they went near thre fourt of the way threw and sayd they ware satisfyd He was Entitled to a pension & said they would repoart him to Be So Entitled and said repedly that Mite I Long live to Enjoy it Affrmd to and subscribed to Before me this 13 day of Janry. 1842

Mathew Nott J.P.



after the Above Named, Mrss Singleton and Goff left my house they Met with a Neighbour of Mine who to told them that I was Not old enough to have been in that war But I was drafted in the first Drafted in the 2^d Clas We were orderd to March the same season I was the in my seventeenth year Said Neighbour And I formerly had Been friendly But had of late some Difference which appears to Be the Cause of his taking as he did he did Not know any one that knew me till many years after the war Nor do know any Man now to Be liveing who I knew to Be Liveing at that time as I have Been out of that Contry neare 60 years

Pension Office/ Jan 19, 1842

Sir [S. L. Hays], The paper which you sent to this Office in the case of Samuel Z. Jones has been filed. The pension cannot be restored to Jones, as it is evident from the examination made by the District Attorney that he is not entitled to any pension whatever. I have the hon [copy unsigned]

Pen off/ March 29th 44

Sir [George William Summers, House of Representatives 1841-1842] In answer to your enquiry as to the reasons for which the pension of Saml Z Jones has been suspended I have the honor to inform you that a comparison of the statement made before the Dst Atto in 1835 with his declaration conclusively shews that he had rec'd. a much larger pension than he was entitled to; if, indeed (which is very questionable) he was entitled to any pension whatever – He has been no doubt informed by the correspondence with your predecessors since 1835 in detail as to the objection to any allowance unless very satisfactory proof be adduced of each term of service to be taken into its computation

Lewis County/ Jane Lew/ Sept 20th 1845

Dear Sir [Commissioner of Pensions, still James L. Edwards]

After several years sojourning in Ohio I returned to my native place and to my astonishment I found that the Pension granted to my old friend Sam'l. Z Jones had been stopt. I took occasion the other day to enquire of him the cause if he knew he said when Mr Singleton examined him he pronouced him a sound & Lawful pensioner before he had heard more than $\frac{3}{4}$ of the history of his services, on Leaving Mr Jones he fell in company with Mr John Mitchell [pension application S5761] – a pensioner also – whose prejudice had been highly excited against Mr Jones because he (Jones) would not leave the M. E. Church and join the Protestant Methodist. he it appears told Mr Singleton that Jones must be too young to have rendered service in the Revolution when in fact Jones was some 3 or 4 years older than Mitchell

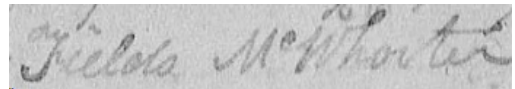
– but \$20 will make a man believe strange things sometimes [see endnote] Mr Singleton afterwards returned and told Mr Jones that his pension must be stopt unless he bro't better evidence to support his claim, since that time there has been one or two Letters went to our Representatives in Congress one of which was answered by Mr J L Edwards, which is now open before me and from which I take the following extract

“There is no doubt but that Mr Jones performed some service during the Revolutionary War but not to the extent he has claimed &c”

And requires further testimony in support of the two tours as Lieutenant – this it is not possible now to obtain in a form that would answer the purpose I have a certificate given by John Byrne in 1835 who was then 80 years old and was not able to get to a Magistrate to make oath and lived at such a distance from any Justice of the peace that none could be conveniently be got to him – he certifies that he was acquainted with Jones in 77 at Princeton that he saw him in Northumberland Pa in a Volunteer Co in the fall of 79 also that he served in '81 and that he saw sd Jones' Commission as Lieutenant for '78 as well as '81 Gen Potter sign'd his Commissions and Commanded on that station Colo Morrow Myers & Waltermann commanded there also, he further states that Jones informed him that he had been driven by the Indians in the fall of 82 and had Lost nearly all his property except a few Books & papers – he signd this in the presence of 3 Witnesses, but as it was not sworn to I will not send it unless you think it would be of some value. Mr Jones is now near 87 is in Indigent circumstances and really needs what is his due and as Mr Edwards says there is no doubt he has rendered service in the Rev'y War it seems hard he should be thus treated he said if there had not been a Law which gave him the right to claim he would not think hard of his government.

I sincerely hope kind Sir that you will re-examine all the testimony before you in Relation Mr Jones' Claim and forward his Certificate to be Drawn at Wheeling Va. the Testimony satisfied the Court of Lewis County and were it not for the necessary formalities in Law his Veracity combin'd with moral character would induce all to admit the Justice of the Claim who are acquainted with the man

I have the honor to be yours Respectfully
[Fields McWhorter]



Pension Office/ Sept. 27, 1845

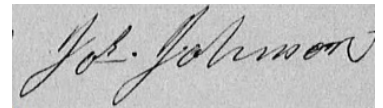
Sir [Fields McWhorter] In reply to your letter of the 20th inst. I have to inform you that the name of Samuel Z. Jones cannot be restored to the pension roll. The report of the District Attorney who was directed to investigate the case, shews clearly that Jones is not entitled to a pension.

Washington City Feb 16th 1846

Dr Sir [James L. Edwards] I am requested by Mr Samuel Z Jones to withdraw his papers from your department and present his case to Congress. You will please furnish me with a copy of them all, at your earliest convenience, And oblige
Most Respectfully

Yours

[Joseph Johnson, Member of Congress]



Mr Jones resides in Lewis County Virginia

[No petition to Congress was found, probably because Jones died two months after the above letter was written.]

Pension Office/ Novem 24th 1847

Sir [F McWhorter Esq/ Jane Lew VA] [First paragraph unrelated to Jones.]

Samuel Z Jones has not been restored to the Pension Roll, and of course nothing has been paid to him, or any other person on account of his pension since his name was dropped in 1835.

[Last paragraph unrelated.]

Fairmont, Marion Co. Va/ Nov'r 29th 1850

Dr Sir, I have been requested by the heirs of Sam'l Z. Jones deceased, to prosecute their claim to the arrears they believe were due to their Father at the time of his death, under the Pension act of 1832. Soon after this act passed, Mr Jones was allowed a Pension, but after drawing a year or so, he was stricken off; for what cause, he was never able to ascertain, though he made several efforts to do so. He died in April 1846, and since then, his heirs have not been able to learn anything respecting the cause of his being stricken off.

I now desin to call up the case through you and ascertain what objection there is to allowing said claim to the Administrator; or for what cause Mr Jones was stricken off – for no one knows here. Mr Jones was an ignorant old man, but an honest one & supported an unimpeachable character in his neighborhood, which can be proven, and also that he often spoke of his services in the Revolution, before there was any Pension law.

Please let me hear from you & the Dept.
Jones lived in Lewis Co Va

Very respectfully Yours
J A English

POWER OF ATTORNEY.

STATE OF Virginia } Be it known that before me Blackwell Jackckson [sic: Blackwell
COUNTY OF Lewis } Jackson] personally appeared Hanah McWhorter Late Hanah Jones wife
of Henry McWhorter Elijah Sims the husband of Mary Late Mary Jones Dec[?] & Henry McWhorter
aged [blank] years who being duly cautioned and then sworn in due form of law, states that Samuel Z
Jones of Lewis county Virginia, who was a Revolutionary Soldier, in the State of Pennsylvania and that
he died on the 17 day of April 1846 and that her mother & Mother [in] Law Francis Jones [Frances
Jones?] died on the [blank] day of November 1837 and that they were married on the [blank] day of
August in the year 1798 and that they were residents of Lewis County in the State of Virginia and that
they resided there 35 years, and that [blank] resides in [blank] and that furthermore previous thereto they
resided in Pennsylvania

By these Presents We constitute, appoint, and fully empower and authorize irrevocably and with powers of substitution, F. F. A. Wilson, of the Borough of Meadville, Pa., and George C. Ames, Esqr. of Washington City D.C. as our true and lawful and Attorney for us and in our name name and stead, to examine into, to prosecute, to demand, and to receive from the U. S. Government and State officers our rights in all and in any manner of claims for increase or arrears of Pension or Bounty Land, that may be due us as heirs of Samuel Z Jones who died leaving the same undrawn, as in right by the present existing laws of Congress or may be found intituled, or any laws of Congress that may hereafter be adopted by which we may become intituled—hereby revoking all former powers of attorney by us executed to any person or persons whatever.

In Witness Whereof, we have on this seventh day of January 1856 hereunto signed our names and affixed our seals [signed] Hannah McWhorter [signed] Elijah Sims [signed] Henry McWhorter

State of Virginia Ss
Lewis County

On this 24th day of April 1860 before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State above named personally appeared Mrs. Hannah McWhorter wife of Henry McWhorter aged 50 years a resident of Harrison County Virginia near the Lewis County line, who being duly sworn according to law declared that she is a daughter of Samuel Z. Jones, who was a Revolutionary pensioner of Lewis County Virginia at the rate of one hundred and eighty nine dollars and ninety nine cents per year, and whose pension was stopped before his death.

That the said Samuel Z. Jones died in Lewis County Virginia on the 16th day April one thousand eight hundred and forty six (1846) leaving no widow and leaving surviving him only the following named children. viz. Samuel Jones who has since died unmarried leaving no children. William W. Jones who has since died leaving children now living. Mary Sims who has since died leaving children.

Elizabeth Powers who if living now resides in the State of Indiana and this affiant.

She makes this declaration to obtain the arrears of pension to which her said father was entitled at his death and constitutes Charles C. Tucker [of Cherry Camp, Harrison County] her attorney to prosecute the claim.

In presence of B. Jackson/ [illegible signature]

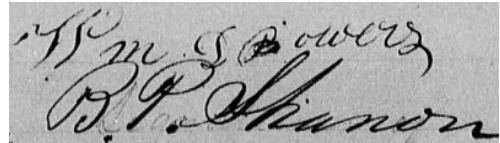
[signed] Hannah McWhorter

State of Virginia Ss.

Lewis County

On this 26th day of April 1860 before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State above named personally appeared William D. Powers and Benjamin P Shenener [sic: Benjamin P. Shanon] who are residents of Lewis County and are known to me a credible witnesses who being duly sworn according to law declared that they are personally acquainted with Mrs Hannah McWhorter wife of Henry McWhorter and daughter of Samuel Z. Jones deceased and were personally acquainted with the said Samuel Z. Jones. That the said Samuel Z. Jones always bore the reputation of having been a soldier of the Revolution and it was generally known and believed by his neighbors and others who knew him that he was pensioned for his Revolutionary services and that his pension was stopped.

That the said Samuel Z. Jones died as they are informed and believe on the 16th day of April 1846 leaving surviving him no widow and the following named children only. viz. Samuel Jones who has since died unmarried leaving no children. William W. Jones who has since died leaving children. Mary Sims who has since died leaving children. Elizabeth Powers who if living now resides in the State of Indiana and Hannah McWhorter wife of Henry McWhorter of Harrison County Va and they certify that they are disinterested in the claim of the heirs of Samuel Z. Jones.

A rectangular area containing two handwritten signatures in cursive ink. The top signature appears to be 'Wm D. Powers' and the bottom signature appears to be 'B. P. Shanon'.

[Washington Bailey swore similarly and stated that he made the coffin of Samuel Z. Jones.]

NOTES:

Under the regulations of the Pension Office approved by James L. Edwards, service in the militia was to be considered proven if the declaration of service was credible and two neighbors certified that the applicant was honest and had the reputation of having been a soldier of the Revolution. Since Jones's statements to Singleton were plausible and consistent with his pension application, it is clear that Singleton's recommendation was based on unsworn testimony by neighbors and suspicions that Jones abetted the frauds committed by Wamsley and others. Edwards was therefore not truthful in saying that Jones's claim was rejected for lack of proof of his services. The only role that I could find Jones played in fraudulent claims was that he presided in court as a magistrate when some of those claims were made.

“\$20 will make a man believe strange things sometimes” alludes to the common but unsupported belief that Singleton was rewarded for every pension claim he rejected.