

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Meshecke (Meshac) Pearson (Pierson) S35555 f48VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/1/12

[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.]

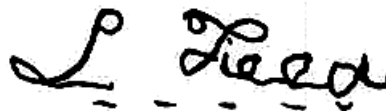
United States of America Kentucky District: Sct.

I Robert Trimble District Judge of the United States in & for the District aforesaid do certify that Meshach Pearson a citizen of the United States, and now a resident of Shelby County & State of Kentucky came before me on this first day of March in the year 1819, & applied for a pension from the United States under the Act of Congress in such cases lately made & provided: – And that the said Meshach Pearson being by me first duly sworn did declare that he faithfully served the United States in the Revolutionary War against Great Britain, as a Soldier, in the Virginia line on Continental establishment for the term of two years: That he enlisted as a Soldier in January or February 1776 in Culpeper County, Virginia, for two years, in the Company of Captain George Strother of the 8th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg]; marched under the command of his Captain from Culpepper on 9th of March 1776 to join the Regiment & joined it a few days afterwards, & continued in the Regiment until the battle of Germantown in October 1777 [October 4, 1777]; in which battle he was a combatant, but had the misfortune on that occasion to be taken prisoner by the British, who detained him as a prisoner about eleven months, when he escaped, & returned to the American Army, and after his return he continued in the Army, as a Waggoner, until after the capture of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]: That he has never received any pension from the United States, nor from any State: and that he is in such reduced Circumstances in life as to need the assistance of his Country for support; and upon that ground prays a pension.

S/ Meshach Pearson, X his Mark

Larkin Field also came before me at the same time & being by me first duly sworn deposed, that having served himself as a Soldier in the 8th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Muhlenberg, he knows that the above named Meshach Pearson enlisted as a Soldier of the United States in said Regiment about the 1st of February 1776, in the company of Captain George Slaughter; & that he faithfully served as a soldier in that Regiment until he was captured by the enemy at the Battle of Germantown: and that the deponent saw the said applicant in the Army, after his return from captivity, in the capacity of a wagon driver: – that the deponent has been acquainted with the applicant ever since the Revolutionary War; & that the said applicant is in very reduced circumstances in life.

S/ L. Field



State of Kentucky Shelby County Sct.

Shadrach Pearson this day personally appeared before me George P Miller a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that his brother Meshac Pearson [Meshach Pearson] enlisted as a Regular Soldier in the 8th Virginia Regiment for the term of 3 years commencing in the year 1776 and that at the expiration of said 3 years he enlisted in the year 1780 at Middlebrook in New Jersey during the War in the same 8th Virginia Regiment and that he served as faithfully as a private Soldier until the conclusion of War, that he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777] and was confined in the Jail at Philadelphia and New York for eleven months and four days. These facts he states from his own personal knowledge, as he was a Regular soldier at the same time, which will appear from the records of the War Department and he saw him in the service during every week or 2 during the whole time. Given under my hand as a Justice of the Peace in and for said County this 2nd day of March 1829

S/ Geo. P. Miller, JP

State of Kentucky SS

At a County Court held for the County of Franklin at the Courthouse in the town of Frankfort on Monday the 20th day of December 1830

The following Schedule was this day produced in Court and ordered to be recorded to wit

Schedule

Franklin County SS

On this 4th day of December 1830 personally appeared before me a justice of the peace of Franklin County and a judge of the County Court of said County, then by law a Court of record Meshach Pearson, resident of said County aged seventy-six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the first of May 1820; that he the said Pearson enlisted for the term of three years on the __ day of __ in the year 1775 in the State of Virginia, in the Company commanded by Captain George Slaughter, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Muhlenberg in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps until he was discharged at Valley Forge and reenlisted during the war as stated in his Petition annexed, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present, that his name has been placed on the pension list, that the number of his pension Certificate is 12566, And that he heretofore exhibited or procured men to attempt something in his behalf, but never could succeed, he supposes through ignorance, as he is old & infirm & ignorant.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. That since the 18th of March 1818, the following changes have been made in my property, only a change from one hog as I would raise pigs, or horse to another, never more nor less than annexed except increase of debt.

Sworn to and declared on the 4th day of December 1830 before me a justice as aforesaid.

S/ James Shannon, JP

	Schedule	
one Negro boy		\$250
two old horses		40
three hogs		<u>6</u>
		\$296.
Owe to John Pearson	\$70	
Ab. Vernorsdale	10	
Henry West	3	
other small claims to amount 200 in all		
	S/ Mesha Person [sic]	

To the Honorable Secretary of War of the United States of America, Or the proper Officer at Washington City

Your petitioner Meshach Pearson aged 76 years respectfully represents that he enlisted in fall 1775 and went in actual service in 1776, he enlisted Captain George Slaughter's Company in the 8th Virginia Regiment in the Continental line commanded by Colonel Muhlenberg and served out his time, in actual service except while he was a prisoner being taken at Germantown on the 4th of October 1777 after the expiration of his term, he reenlisted again in Captain Slaughter's Company for during the war, and was taken from thence to Washington's life guard, and served out his time, until the close of the war, that he was put on the pension roll at first as will be evidenced by the enclosed Certificate & drew \$96 and was then under some new regulation discontinued, that in Washington's life guard he was first commanded by Major Gibbs & then commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Fox – that he is now aged & infirm and has a wife in his family which is all, and has a Negro boy worth about \$250, two old horses worth about \$20 each, three hogs worth about \$2, my whole property is worth about \$300. That this petitioner makes out to subsist and hardly that, your petitioner has no debts owing to him and is indebted about \$200 in specie, and his whole property if forced to sell would not relieve him, but his creditors no by extreme poverty, do not press him, this petitioner prays to be reinstated on the pension list and to draw from his last date drawn, and he will ever pray &c

S/ Meshack Pearson, X his mark

[The above document appears to have been attested October 28, 1830.]

General Land Office 10th of January 1829

It appears from the Lists of Warrants issued by the Register of the Land Office at Richmond Virginia that Meshach Pearson is stated to have been a private for 3 years, and as such a Warrant for 100 acres of Land was issued in his name.

S/ G. W. Graham, Commissioner

State of Kentucky Shelby County Sct.

Meshac Pierson this day personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that he enlisted in the State of New Jersey in the year 1780 under Captain George Slaughter in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Bower, Commandant of the 8th Virginia Regiment, and he further states that he was transferred from the said company and Regiment to General Washington's life guard, commanded by Major Gibbs and was employed in driving a wagon till the close of the war.

Given under my hand as a Justice of the peace in and for the said County at my office in

Shelbyville this 18th day of May 1829

S/ Geo. P. Miller, JP

Kentucky Franklin County Sct.

This day came Thomas Fitzimon¹ the revolutionary Soldier & on the payroll & made oath that Mashac Pearson a revolutionary Soldier served as stated by him to the close of the war, that they now lived neighbors & he is poor. Said Fitzimon is known to me to be a credible witness. Given under my hand & seal this 16th of March 1832

S/ H. Wingate, JP

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing March 1, 1819, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

¹ This MIGHT be a mistaken reference to Thomas Fitzsimmons FPA S17952.

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Addendum to Meshecke (Meshac) Pearson (Pierson) S35555

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 22 Dec 2020.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Pearson, Marshal.]

BOUNTY LAND
FOR REVOLUTIONARY SERVICES.

STATE OF Kentucky }
County of Franklin } ss. [4 July 1832]

I Mashac Pearson aged seventy eight years, do upon oath testify and declare, that about or in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty I enlisted or entered the service as a private for the term of “during the war,” in the regiment commanded by Col Bowman [Abraham Bowman W396] of the Virginia line, and when I was a private, I first inlisted in the 8 Virginia ridgement under Capt. George Slaughter for three years & then enlisted in the same Companey under Lt Graves & afterwards placed in Washington life gard

I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the Bounty Land promised to me on the part of the United States, nor have I ever assigned or transferred my claim in any manner whatever: [power of attorney to obtain lands from the US and Virginia follows]

I Thomas Phitzemans [possibly Thomas Fitzsimmons S17952] aged seventy one years, do upon oath declare, that I have been long acquainted with Mashack Pearson who has subscribed the above declaration in my presence, and well know he is the identical person he therein represents himself to be; and further, I know or do believe he did perform the military service therein stated.

Thomas hisXmark Phitzsimons

Disallowed J.F. [Gov. John Floyd] 1832 Nov 7 Reject

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Addendum to Meshecke (Meshac) Pearson (Pierson) S35555

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 11 Jan 2021.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Pierson, Mesheck.]

I Shadrack Peirson [Shadrach Pearson (Pierson) S5551] of the County of Bourbon & State of Kentucky, do on oath declare, that I was a Soldier in Capt. Richard Taylors Company in Col. Russells Regiment, in the Virginia line on Continental establishment in the Revolutionary war – that I knew Mesheck Peirson, & who is a brother of me, who was a Soldier in Capt Geo. Slaughters [George Slaughter W8729] Company in the eighth Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment – that the said Mesheck Peirson enlisted to serve for three years – that two or three months before the expiration of the said term he enlisted to serve during the war & did so serve until the close of it & was honorably discharged – that he served nearly seven years, to my best recollection over six years & an half, and that the Meshick Pierson who makes this application for his bounty Land Warrant is the person who rendered the services afoursaid.

[12 June 1818]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shadrack Peirson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed text.