

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Joseph Seamons (Simmons) S3909
Transcribed by Will Graves

f10VA¹
rev'd 2/16/12

[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 Tennessee, Greene County

On this seventh day of September 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the acting Justices of the Peace in and for said County Joseph Simmons [sic] a resident citizen of said County aged Seventy eight years and being unable to attend a Court of Record, made, swore to & subscribed the following declaration before me Thomas Jones (to wit) that he was born in Richmond County State of Virginia on the 22nd day of December 1755 according to the account of his birth and age as kept in the family though the record has been burned, that he was raised principally in Richmond County but removed before the Revolutionary War to Albemarle County said State, where he volunteered in the militia of Virginia under Major Lewis (his Captain not recollected) and was marched to Williamsburg under said officer to meet the British then expected to land (the fleet or part of it being in the Bay & River) and continued in service for three months the term for which he entered, in guarding the margin of the waters to prevent the landing of said British forces, thinks that militia was then commanded by General Stephens [Edward Stevens] he was discharged at the expiration of his time verbally & returned home.

The aforesaid tour of duty to the best of his recollection was performed in 1777. 8. [sic] after which he again was enrolled as a volunteer under Captain Leonard Blue [? Blat]² for a three months tour against the Cherokee Indians and marched to the frontiers & finally to the Long Island of Holston [River] (what is now E. Tennessee) to and there was stationed some time, but the Indians retreated & his term of three months having expired he returned home being verbally discharged by his said Captain Blat.

Again after having removed to Henry County Virginia he was drafted for a tour of duty of three months put under Captain Brice Martin in 1778 and was marched to the point now called Beans Station below the Long Island of Holston [River] & there stationed as a guard to prevent the incursions of the Cherokee Indians in league with the British and served out his three months, was verbally discharged by Captain Martin & returned home.

Again after removing to Wilkes County North Carolina he volunteered for six months militia duty as an Indian spy under Captain Baker & in the command of Colonel Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland] & Foster, & continued to spy under said officers & repulse the Cherokee & Overhill Indians until his term of time expired and was discharged verbally by his said Captain Baker this service was performed in 1779.

Again in the same year he volunteered in the County of Wilkes for three months and performed a tour under Colonel Cleveland who marched him to Ramsour's Mill [June 20, 1780] where was a body of Tories collected & depredating & plundering in the vicinity & after dispersing them returned in ten

¹ For some unknown reason, Fold3 has filed this under its "Illegible, Illegible" files pages 69-78.

² 

days that being the length of that tour.

Again in 1780 he volunteered under Colonel Cleveland to go against Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] to King's Mountain, was put under the command of Colonel Campbell [William Campbell] of the Virginia & Western militia of North Carolina had united & was marched to King's Mountain & was in the memorable battle [October 7, 1780] of King's Mountain in which Ferguson was killed & many of his men & residue taken prisoners he was verbally discharged at close of said service and from its commencement until close he served three months & was slightly wounded in the leg in said engagement was verbally discharged by Captain Nall of Colonel Cleveland's command & returned home.

Again on his return home he volunteered under Captain Nall & Col. Cleveland to go against some British & Tories on the Negro Mountain & was in said expedition to the head of New River there had an engagement killed eleven Tories & took some others prisoners & returned home being one month out at that time.

Again he removed to Washington County then North Carolina now Tennessee & he thinks in the year of 1781 he there volunteered under Colonel Jacob Brown to guard the frontier on Nolichucky River & prevent the Cherokee Indians from breaking in & killing & plundering the settlements & served as spy & guard under said Col. Brown for eight months when he was verbally discharged. Said eight several tours as he has before sent them forth amount to two years three months & 10 days and for which he claims a pension. That he has no documentary or written evidence nor does he know of any person by whom he can establish his said service but that Major John Sevier & George House citizens of said County are known to him & he to them & by whom he can establish his service by reputation. That there is no minister of the Gospel in his vicinity by whom he can establish the facts required by the Secretary of War. He further states from bodily infirmity & old age he is unable to give his attendance on the Court to have his claim made out, that his name is not on the roll of the agency of any state. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this seventh day of September 1833.

S/ Joseph Seamons



Test: S/ Thomas Jones Justice of the peace
for Green County

[John Sevier & George House gave the standard supporting affidavit.



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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia and North Carolina militia service.]