

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Mathews S5732

f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/18/13

[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 County of Campbell to wit

On this 12th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Campbell County now sitting, Samuel Mathews, a resident of the Parish of Russell, the County of Campbell and State of Virginia aforesaid, aged sixty-nine years the 23rd of April last, who being first 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 7th 1832.

That I entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated:

I was born in the County of Dinwiddie in the State of Virginia the 23rd day of April 1763. That a draft being made a Captain Joseph Jones' Company of militia of Dinwiddie County aforesaid and one Nathaniel Harper belonging to his company; I volunteered as his substitute, without expecting to receive, nor did I receive any compensation whatever for so doing – I was then sixteen years of age – I was received as Daniel Harper's substitute and Captain Joseph Jones exclaimed that he wished he had 10,000 such Soldiers. Our company first rendezvoused at Petersburg in Virginia, we marched from thence to Williamsburg, where General Mullenburg [Peter Muhlenberg] commanded – thence we marched to Hampton, thence to Portsmouth where our term of service for which Captain Jones' Company was drafted expired – and we were all discharged. This tour of duty was three months, and to the best of my recollection it was in 1778 or 1779.

In the year 1780, to the best of my recollection, I was drafted for a 3 months tour, under Captain Joseph Poindexter, at that time from the County of Bedford in Virginia where I had moved to, but now that part of Bedford is called Campbell County – I marched from the said County of Bedford through the State of Virginia to a place called Edmunds' Hill below Norfolk where I served out the three months and was regularly discharged after giving up my gun. Colonel Meriwether & Major McLoman commanded the Regiment to which I was attached, for the proof of this part of my service I beg leave to refer to the Reverend Henry Brown's certificate hereto subjoined.

In the year 1781 or the latter part of 1780 I was called out when Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] was expected to attack the magazine at New London then in the County of Bedford in Virginia and served three weeks at New London aforesaid under Colonel Charles Lynch; after Tarleton retired we were discharged having served three weeks as before mentioned.

The next and last tour was performed in the year 1781 at the siege of Yorktown in Virginia. I was drafted for three months from the County of Bedford aforesaid and marched from thence under Captain Thomas McReynolds to York where I served out the three months and was discharged after the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]; I was at the surrender of

Cornwallis and have good reason to remember this tour so long as my memory shall keep her seat. – There were the Marquis Lafayette and Washington! Heaven bless them! – And all the other noble fellows of that day!

In proof of this part of my service I subjoined the certificate of my fellow soldier at Yorktown John Stewart which makes in all nine months and three weeks that I served during the Revolutionary War.

And I further declare that I have no documentary evidence in my possession nor do I know of any person living whose testimony I can procure, excepting the subjoined certificates of Reverend Henry Brown¹ and John Stewart, to prove my services. I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State whatever.

Subscribed & sworn to this day and date first above written.

S/ Samuel Mathews



Question by the Court 1. Where, and in what year were you born?

Answer. The 23rd of April 1763

Question by the Court 2. Have you any record of your age, if so, where is it?

Answer. I have not –

Question by the Court 3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer. First in the County of Dinwiddie afterwards in Bedford – since the Revolution in Charlotte & Campbell.

Question by the Court 4. How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I was drafted afterwards I volunteered and served as substitute for Nathaniel Harper.

Question by the Court 5. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service?

Answer. First under Muhlenberg & Colonel Meriwether afterwards at Williamsburg under General Washington I recollect nothing more than stated in my declaration.

Question by the Court 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I never did receive a written discharge that I now recollect.

Question by the Court 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. Thomas a Cobles, Paulett Clark & Joseph Calloway – as well as the Reverend Henry Brown

S/ Samuel Mathews

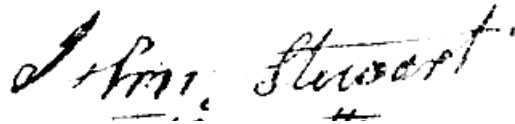
¹ [Henry Brown W9365](#)

[Henry Brown, a clergyman, and Paulett Clark gave the standard supporting affidavit

State of Virginia County of Campbell to wit

John Stewart, of the County and State aforesaid do hereby certify that Samuel Mathews, the bearer, served a three months tour at the Siege of York in Virginia in the year 1781 – that he was at the Surrender of Cornwallis, and that after the surrender, he and myself, and the rest of our Company were all regularly discharged, having served out our three months tour, for which we were drafted; – the said Samuel Mathews and myself belonged to the same company under Captain Thomas McReynolds – we marched from the County of Campbell in Virginia then a part of Bedford County. I have reason to believe that the said Samuel Mathews had served several tours of duty in the United States service as a militia man before the above mentioned service. I have known him long and believe him to be a man of truth, integrity & probity and that his statements on oath all to be credited with the full faith.

S/John Stewart

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Stewart". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/John Stewart".

Subscribed and sworn to this 7th day of October 1832

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months & 21 days in the Virginia militia.]