

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jesse Davies S8282

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Declaration, in order to be placed on the Pension List, under the Acts of Congress passed the 18th of March 1818; and the first of May 1820. – County of King George Sc.

On this second day of December in the year 1830, personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record, Jesse Davis, many years a resident of said County, aged seventy four 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 Jesse Davis, enlisted as a soldier for the term of two years, on, or about, the 9th day of February in the year 1776 in the State of Virginia, in the company commanded by Capt. Richard Bernard, and served in the Regiment commanded by Colo. Josiah Parker, in the Line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment; That he continued to serve in the said corps until the end of the aforesaid term of two years for which he had enlisted, when he was regularly discharged at Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania from the service, which discharge has many years been lost; That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension, except the present; that his name is not on the Roll of any State; and that the following are the reasons for not having earlier made application for a Pension: When he was discharged from the army, as above stated, tho' very poor he was young & robust, and enabled by honest industry to provide for himself & his family; which however being numerous prevented him from saving any thing from their necessary current support, for his own in old age; That as one mean of providing, in part, for himself & family he has for many years been an officiating Minister of the Gospel in the Bapstist Church; That now by reason of old age & constitutional infirmity, he is not only unable to labor for a subsistence, but that he is thereby incapable of discharging the duties & functions of a Minister of the Gospel; and that thus he is most reluctantly constrained to seek for the relief generously provided by his Country, or to thro' himself, on the cold charity of those who forget to feel, & to acknowledge, what they owe to the toils, the sufferings, and services of the soldier of the Revolution; That his family now consists of himself, and of an aged & infirm Sister, who is entirely dependent on him for a home & a support.

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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person 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, according to the annexed statement subscribed by me, have been made in my property.

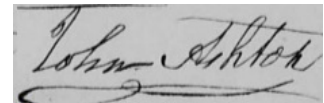
Jesse Davis

The only change in my property since the 18th of March 1818, consists in the sale of all the land I then had, or have since had – that is to say, 200 acres of poor Forrest land, sold to Frederick D. Davis at the price of two Dollars an acre, in part discharge of a debt due on bond by me to the said F. D. Davis for money advanced by him to me at divers times previous to the said sale of land to him.

Jesse Davis

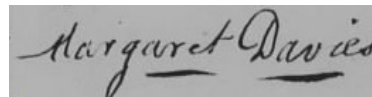
I hereby certify that Jesse Davies was a Regular Soldier for nine months in the United States Army, in time of the Revolutionary War, in the 5th Virginia Regiment, and that he enlisted under Capt. Richard Bernard, in whose company I was an Ensign.

[28 Oct 1830] John Ashton [pension application S37686]



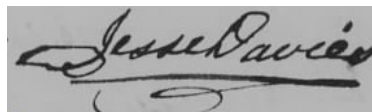
I hereby certify that Jesse Davies was a Regular Soldier in the Revolutionary War, that he and myself both resided with our Father when the said Jesse Davies enlisted for two years under Capt. Richard Bernard, and also when he set out to join the Army and further, that I was at my Father's when he returned with a full discharge, stating that he had served two years, and was thereby discharged from the service.

[signed 1 Nov 1830] Margaret Davies



State of Virginia } Sct
King George County }

On this 3 day of Aug't in the year 1832, personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the County aforesaid, the Reverend Jesse Davis, now, & for many years past, a resident of said County, and aged seventy five 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 Act of Congress, passed 7th of June 1832: That he enlisted as a Soldier in the Army of the Revolution on, or about the 9th day of February in the year 1776, in the County of Westmoreland where he then resided in the State of Virginia, under, & in, the Company commanded by Capt. Richard Bernard, and served in the Regiment commanded by Colo. Josiah Parker, in the Line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment; that he inlisted as aforesaid for the term of two years, and was marche to the North where he served out the full term of his said enlistment, & was regularly discharged at Valley Forge in Pennsylvania, but his discharge has been many years lost. That owing to the death of all with whom he served, and nearly all his cotemporary acquaintances of that day, the evidence of his service herewith exhibited is the best that he can now obtain; That the affidavit of Ensign John Ashton taken the 28th day of October 1830, being for the purpose of proving a service of nine months only, that time only is specified; and the reason, why the said Ashton did not testify as to the service of two years, was that he the said Ashton left the Regiment before the term of two years had expired; That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a Pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State.



NOTES:

Although the soldier's surname is generally spelled Davis in the papers, it is spelled Davies on the file jacket, probably because the signature on the 1832 application appears genuine.

The file contains a letter dated 10 Aug 1837 stating that Jesse Davis had died in the previous March leaving two years of pension uncollected, and that he had lived with and been sustained by his son, Frederick Davis, who was the sole devisee of his will. Another letter written in the same year states that Jesse Davis was also survived by another son, Hiram Davis, who lived at a great distance, and by a daughter who was very infirm and also lived with Frederick Davis.