

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Virginia Bounty records of
Jesse Scott¹
&
James Kerr²

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Pfannenstiel

I do hereby certify that by lists now in my possession it appears that sometime in the month of February seventeen and seventy eight I as a commissioned officer in seventh, afterwards, on a modulation of the American army stiled [sic, styled] ~~states~~ the fifth Virginia Continental Regiment received of the then County Lieutenant of Powhatan two recruits by the name of Daniel Scott and James Kerr who were [entire line illegible - perhaps a fold] Virginia serve one year. The name of a Jesse Scott does not appear on any list which I have. I recollect that there being such a man in the service, I believe in my company ~~for~~ a recruit from Powhatan either in the year above mentioned or the subsequent one, in the latter end of the year 177eight [1778] I reenlisted a number of soldiers at Middle or Bound Crook, whose terms of service were nearly expired, some for three years & [and] others for the continuance of the war; among whom as well as I can at this time recollect were Kerr and one of the Scotts whether Dan'l³ [Daniel] or Jesse, does not at present occur to me, perhaps I may by mistake have inserted the list the name of Daniel instead of Jesse, as to their having engaged for the war is not at present within my recollection. I remember to have enlisted some men for the war at Fredericksburg sometime in the spring of the year 177nine [1779], whether those were among them does not occur, my list for that year having been lost or otherwise mislaid; but I suppose it to be lost from the circumstances of their having after the defeat of Col. Buford [Abraham Buford]; placed themselves under the command [of] Colo. [Colonel] Armstrong in consequence of the alleged enlistment at Fredericksburg and continuing in service until the close of the war. I do not believe they had an opportunity of rejoining their proper Regiment as that was in a great measure dissolved by the fall of Charleston, altho [although] they might have joined when I was with Regt. Made a prisoner of war & never exchanged. Some of the

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first under the command of Gen'l Gates, afterward of Gen'l Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]

Dec 9, 1799

M Carrington
Late Capt 5th Virg Reg

I Mayo Carrington Captain in fifth Virginia Continental Regiment of infantry during the Revolutionary War between the United States and Great Britain do swear that the above certificate contains to the best of my knowledge, recollection and beliefs the truth and nothing but the truth.

M Carrington

State of Virginia
Powhatan County, to wit

Be it remembered that on the twelfth day of December one thousand seven hundred and ninety personally appeared the said Mayo Carrington before me, Wade Mosby, one of the justices of the peace for the said county of Powhatan and took and subscribed me above oath.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the year aforesaid.

Wade Mosby

Virginia
Powhatan County to wit

I, Abner Crump, Clerk of the County, aforesaid do hereby certify that Wade Mosby, Esquire, whose hand & seal is affixed to the foregoing Certificate, is a magistrate of the county of Powhatan, and that due faith and credit ought to be paid to all his Acts and Deeds as such. --

In testimony whereof I have, hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of my office to be hereunto affixed this fifth day of January Eighteen hundred - and of our independence the twenty fourth.

Abner Crump, Clk.

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State of North Carolina
Surry County

Whereas this day came James Kerr before us Jesse Lester & James Badgett [also spelled Badgett], esquires, residing in and of the county and state aforesaid and made oath in due form of Same that he entered in the service of the United States of America and was on Continental establishment in the Virginia line for during the war with Great Britain some time before the battle at Monmouth, that is he first entered into service as a Volunteer for one year under Capt. Mayko [sic, Mayo] Carrington and before his time out, he enlisted for three years at Middle Brook under Capt. Carrington and a few months after he enlisted for during the war at Fredericksburgh [Fredericksburg] in Virginia under said Capt. Carrington and served faithfully until Blueford's [sic, Abraham Buford's] defeat, and after that was given up by Capt. Hughes Woodson of the Virginia line to Col. John Armstrong of the North Carolina line and served under him to the end of the war and that he never sold all or any part of his pay for said serving. nor the one hundred acres of land due him from the United States nor the Lands due from the State of Virginia until this day, to Daniel Wheaton[?], not received any satisfaction for the same, Sworn to and furnished before us this 3rd day of September Anno Domini 1796.

Jesse Lester
James Badgett

James X Kerr
his mark

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State of North Carolina
Surry County

I, Joseph Williams, clerk of the court of said County in the state aforesaid do hereby certify attest and make known that the names of Jesse Lester and James Badgett to the within deposition is the proper handwriting of Jesse Lester and James Badgett, esquires, & who at the time of subscribing the same were Commissioned and qualified as Justices of the Peace for the County of Surry aforesaid duly authorized to administer oaths and that full faith and credit is and ought to be given to any acts as such by them subscribed as well in Courts of Justice as [illegible] , in testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said county as affirmed this 13th day of October Seven hundred and ninety six.

Jos Williams, Clk

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[edges of sheet are darkened and hard to read]

State of North Carolina
Surry County

Whereas this day comes Capt. Jesse Scott before me Jesse Lester a Justice of the Peace in & of the county and state aforesaid made oath in due form of Case that James Kerr enlisted in the service of the United States of America and [illegible] Continental establishment in the 7th Virginia Regiment for during the war with great Britain from the time before the Battle of Monmouth—that is he first enlisted into service as a Volunteer for one year under Capt. Mayo Carrington and before his time was out, he enlisted for three years at Middle Brook under Capt. Carrington, and a few months after he enlisted for during the war at Fredericks Burgh [Fredericksburg] in Virginia under said Capt. Carrington and served faithfully until Blueford's defeat, and after that was given up by Maj. Hughes Woodson of the Virginia line to Capt. to John Armstrong of the North Carolina line and under him until after the battle at Guilford Court House, and so continued in service until the end of the war. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 12th day of October 1796

Jesse Lester, JP

Jesse Scott

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[edges of sheet are darkened and hard to read]

State of North Carolina
Feby 15, 1784

I hereby testify that James Kerr and Jesse Scott of the 7th Virginia Regiment joined [illegible] of infantry before Gates' defeat in Camden and have a chance to join their own regiment and served

that tower [tour] of duty with me, as Continental Soldiers until the Battle at Guilford Court House that they never received any pay or [illegible] from the state for said service.

J.W. Armstrong
North Carolina

State of North Carolina
Surry County

This day [illegible] John Kear [Kerr] [inserted with a caret: Job Martin] before me Jesse Lester a Justice of the Peace in and of the county and state aforesaid and made oath [illegible] form of case that the above certified true copy of a instrument given [illegible] Jno Armstrong [illegible] with his own handwriting, sworn to and subscribed [illegible] me this 12th day of October.

Jesse Lester, JP

John Kerr
Job Martin

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By the books in this office it does appear that any military land bounty warrant has been issued to Jesse Scott for his services in the Revolutionary War

John Davenport, Clk
Land Office
Jany 28 1813

It appears by the books in this office that the name of James Karr is on the list of non-commissioned officers & privates of Captain Biggs's Compy of the Va line Fort Pitt in natural service warrants issued agreeably to certificate of Council dated June 24, 1783

John Davenport, Clk
L Off
Jany 28 1813

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I am convinced that James Karr mentioned in the within, is not the person named James Kerr, the present applicant, as they belonged to different regiments and served in different parts of the United States.⁴

¹ Jesse Scott was born ca 1755. He offered his oath of allegiance in Powhatan County, Virginia in 1777. (Clay, Robert Y., "Powhatan County, Virginia, Oaths of Allegiance, 1777. The Virginia Genealogist, vol. 27:3 (July-Sept. 1983), pp. 190-196.)

He was taxed in Surry County, North Carolina in 1782. Here he married Fannie Wood, the daughter of

Abraham Wood. (Mrs. W.O. Absher, Surry County, North Carolina Court Minutes, Volumes I & II, 1768-1789, Easley, South Carolina: Southern Historical Press, 1985, p. 150.) He moved to the Overton County, Tennessee between 1801 and 1810. He was active in the Pleasant Run - McFarland's Creek Church across the state line in Monroe County, Kentucky. He died sometime before the 1830 census. His children were: Nancy, wife of John Coe; Mary "Polly", wife of John Harris; and Sarah, wife of John Kerr. John Kerr was a nephew of James Kerr who served with Jesse Scott in the Revolution. Other children include Frances "Frankie", wife of William Barry or Berry, Rebecca, wife of Thomas Turner Halsell, Martha "Patsy", wife of Benjamin Franklin Sims, Elizabeth, wife of John L. Sims, and two sons, Jesse Scott and Obadiah Scott. Jesse Scott never made a claim for bounty land.

² James Kerr was the son of John and Elizabeth Henderson Kerr. His birth and baptism are recorded in the "Douglas Register". (Transcribed by W. Mac Jones, Douglas Register, "A Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths...as kept by the Rev. Wm. Douglas, 1750-1797, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1985, p. 230.) Like Jesse Scott, he offered his oath of allegiance in Powhatan County, Virginia. (See above) He was documented as living in Surry County, North Carolina by 1784. He was enumerated in Surry County, North Carolina in 1800, and appears to have died or left the area after that time. On the basis of this application, he was awarded 200 acres in Ohio, under the name of James Karr. (Certificate #1146, issued 23 October 1809). It was never claimed.

³ It is interesting that Mayo Carrington is confused whether it was Jesse or Daniel Scott that served under his command. Daniel is most likely related in some way to Jesse Scott, whether cousin or brother is unproven. Daniel Scott also made his oath of Allegiance in Powhatan County in 1777. (See above.) By 1782, Daniel Scott had also settled in Surry County, North Carolina. He married Ann Radford Poindexter, probably in Surry County. He was pensioned in Surry County in 1819. Daniel Scott died in Surry, County, North Carolina in 1824. His widow continued to draw pension until her death in 1835.

⁴ It is apparently this file of James Kerr that is cited when the revolutionary pension application of the widow, Mrs. James [Ruth Gaddy] Kerr of Wayne County, Illinois was rejected. (R 5888).