

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jesse Conway W10674 Margaret Conway VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Illinois } Ss.
Madison County }

On this fifth day of September [1832] personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court for Madison County, now sitting, Jesse Conway, a resident of the County of Madison and State of Illinois aged seventy one years, who being first duly sworn, according to Law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1777, with William Buchanan and served in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Boon [sic: Daniel Boone] of the Virginia Line of State Troops under the following named officers:

He declares that he enlisted under Captain William Buchanan and was commanded by him, and Lieutenant Joseph Drake, and Ensign Ephraim Drake [Ephraim Drake], at Reed Island in the State of Virginia, in the spring of 1777, and in June marched under the command of Colonel [John] Bowman to Boonsborough [present Boonesboro KY] where he was under the command of Colonel Boon, and was in the service eighteen months, in the fall of 1778 [7-16 Sep], the Fort was besieged by the Indians who kept up the siege for nine days and nights, when they were compelled to retire with great loss. Soon after this he was discharged and returned home to Reed Island and in the next spring, or the spring of 1779 he returned to Harrodsburgh [now Harrodsburg KY] and enlisted again in the company commanded by Captain Isaac Riddle [Isaac Ruddell or Ruddle] Lieutenant Jasper Cassner (the Ensign's name is not recollected, and Colonel Bowman, and stationed at a fort on Licking River [Ruddle's Fort near present Lair KY] and served till the 24th of June 1780 when the fort was taken and the whole garrison made prisoners and the fort was burnt by the British and Indians. The British were commanded by Captain [William] Bird. He with the other prisoners were taken to Detroit and kept there till the general peace was made when they were sent to Fort Pitt [Pittsburgh PA] and there discharged in the year 1784 having been four years prisoners. He declares that he served ore than two years in the war of the Revolution

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 of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Jesse hisXmark Conway

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Personally appeared on this fifteenth day of June A.D. 1833 before me an acting Justic of the Peace in and for the County of Madison and State of Illinois Jesse Conway a resident of the County aforesaid aged seventy two years who being duly sworn according to Law makes the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of congress passed June 7th 1832 That he enlisted as stated in his declaration of the 5th of September last as a private soldier and served as therein stated under the officers as stated, but the exact time of his entering the service he cannot recollect more particularly than is stated in his said declaration but served for one year and six months as stated in said declaration when he was discharged that he then in the spring of 1779 he thinks in the month of March enlisted again and was commanded as stated in his said declaration and served as a private soldier and served till the 24th of June 1780 when he was taken a prisoner with the whole garrison and was then taken to Detroit by the British officer Captain Bird or Byrd and was there kept as a prisoner of war till the general peace was made when he was sent to fort Pitt and was disbanded or discharged. He declares he was in actual service as a private soldier during his second tour for abot the space of one year and four

months before he was taken a prisoner and was a prisoner for about four years. But he deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below in the following grade For one year and six months I served as a private during the first campaign and for one year and four months I served as a private before I was taken by the indians and british, and I was then a prisoner for near four years; and for which service I claim a pension. He declares that he knows of no person who is knowing to his having performed the services neither has he any documents by which he can prove his services.

He declares that he is acquainted with many of the good citizens of Madison County aforesaid and in particular with Jesse Renfro a clergyman in said county and Enoch Jones who also resided in the county aforesaid and that he has been acquainted with them for the last fifteen or sixteen years

Jesse hisXmark Conway

NOTE: On 7 Aug 1854 Margaret Conway, 68, applied for a pension stating that as Margaret Renfro she married Jesse Conway on 7 Nov 1825, and he died in Greene County IL on 9 Oct 1840.