

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Reuben Jeffries W20178

Anne Jeffries

f25VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/18/13

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Virginia Rappahannock County: SS

On the 5th day of August 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the said County, it being a Court of record, Reuben Jeffries a resident of said County and State of Virginia aged seventy years the 25th day of January last past, 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 7th 1832, That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – That he was drafted in the early part of the spring of the year 1781 from the County of Culpeper in the militia under the command of Captain John Waugh in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Slaughter, rendezvoused at Culpepper Court House, was marched from thence to Fredericksburg, Bowlinggreen [Bowling Green], Richmond, Sandy Point, to Petersburg in Virginia at which place was engaged in a Battle with the enemy, and from thence marched to Chesterfield Court House, at which place he volunteered to go on the enemy's lines on James River, under Captain Woodford, Lieutenant Railey, Major Boger and Colonel Dick, where he remained the balance of the tour of 3 months, when he was discharged by Colonel Dick and Major Bowyer at Bottoms Bridges after destroying the same, it being the last of the services for that tour: That he was again drafted very directly into the service upon his return home in a Company commanded by Captain Lewis Yancey from the County of Culpeper for a three months tour of service, and was marched to Williamsburg & York-Town – where he joined the Grand Army (from the loss of memory he does not distinctly recollect the name of the commander of the Regiment to which his Company was attached, but knows that it was under the command of General Edward Stevens). That after the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] was marched as a guard with the prisoners to Winchester, and after his time of service had expired was discharged and returned home. That he served in all 6 months in the militia of Virginia, during the Revolutionary war. That he has no documentary evidence to prove his service, but can prove the same by living witnesses, to wit, John Jeffries, Alexander Jeffries and Reuben Sims, – that he hereby are relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ Reuben Jeffries¹

The Court proceeded to propound the following interrogatories to the applicant aforesaid for a

¹ I am of the opinion that this is not the actual signature of the veteran since the hand writing matches the handwriting of the body of the application

pension, to which the following answers were made, to wit:

Question, 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born the 23rd of January in the year 1762 in the County of Stafford in Virginia.

Question, 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age; but have been told it by my father and Mother.

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: I lived in Culpeper when called into service, and have ever resided in the said County to the present time until the said County was divided by law and the part whereof I live in forms Rappahannock County.

Question, 4th 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 each time that I was called into service

Question 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 I was young and had had but little experience but recollect to have understood Colonel Dick, Major Bowyer, Captain Woodford and Lieutenant Railey were regular officers, who called for volunteers at Chesterfield Court House – That at York Town there was the General Army Composed of militia and Regulars, and commanded by General Washington

Question 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 don't recollect ever receiving a written discharge. We were discharged by direction from our Captain to go home.

Question 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer: I have lived at my present residence for upwards of 40 years, and do not know the man that would in peach my veracity. I can refer to Colonel Thomas Spindle, James Green Esquire and to every man that knows me.

At a Court held for Rappahannock County on Monday the 2nd day of September 1833

Personally appeared in open Court, John Jeffries and Alexander Jeffries and made oath that they were acquainted with Reuben Jeffries (who has subscribed and sworn to the foregoing Declaration) during the war of the Revolution, and that they know of their own knowledge that he was a soldier as set forth in his Declaration, and served as therein stated.

S/ John Jeffries

S/ Alex: Jeffries

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On motion it was ordered to be certified that it was proved to the satisfaction of the Court, that Reuben Jeffries was a United States pensioner at the rate of \$20 per annum, and is the identical person named in the pension Certificate, now in the possession of Francis M Jeffries and bearing date at the War Office of the United States on the 24th day of December 1833, signed by Lewis Cass Secretary of War and numbered 23294 and that the said Reuben Jeffries died on

the 26 day of June 1837 in Rappahannock County, Virginia leaving Anne Jeffries his widow, and that the said Anne Jeffries never afterwards married, but died the widow of the said Reuben Jeffries, on the 20 day of May in the year 1841 (in the County of Rappahannock and State of Virginia where she had resided for the space of fifty years, and that previous thereto she resided in the County of Stafford) leaving the following named children, William Jeffries, Reuben Jeffries, Nancy Jeffries and Celia Jones (the wife of Rodham Jones) who are now all, and the only heirs at law of the said Anne Jeffries, and are all of lawful age.

[Attested is a true copy by the clerk of the Rappahannock court]

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"1787, January 22nd Reuben Jeffries of Culpeper to Anne Hore daughter of Edward Hore of Brunswick"
Stafford County State of Virginia

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]