

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Isaac Van Matre (Van Metre, Vanmeter) W25824 Jane f50VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves 10/26/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky County of Grayson Sct

On this 22nd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Grayson Circuit Court Isaac Vanmetre a resident of Grayson County and State of Kentucky aged seventy-three years in February 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 he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In the month of January 1778 he enlisted under Captain William Harrod in the Western parts of what is now the State of Pennsylvania, but then also claimed by the State of Virginia and in a short time afterwards joined the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Rogers Clark of the Virginia line at Red Stone on the Monongahela River, William Lynn was his Major & John Swann was his Lieutenant & Jacob Vanmetre was his Ensign. From Redstone they were descended the Monongahela & Ohio River with said Regiment to a place called the old Cherokee Fort – afterwards called Fort Massack [sic, Fort Massa or Massiac] about 12 miles below the mouth of Tennessee River at that place they hid the boats in which they descended the River in the mouth of a Creek and marched thence to Kaskaskia on the [indecipherable word, looks most like "Road"<sup>1</sup>] now called Kaskaskia River and took possession of that place. He remained at Kaskaskia after the taking of that place for some time and was discharged at the end of eight months after his enlistment and returned by way of the falls of the Ohio back to the place of his enlistment. In the spring of the year 1780 he removed to what is now called the State of Kentucky and in the month of August of the same year he volunteered under the same John Swann for six weeks against the Indians said Swann being then a Captain and was marched under the command of General George Rogers Clark who had been promoted, from the falls of Ohio first to the old Chilicothe town and took that and destroyed the growing corn. The day after taking the Chilicothe town he was marched to the Piqua town about eleven miles from Chilicothe where the Indians made a stand. They there defeated the Indians & burned the town, cut down the corn their growing and returned home after an absence of six weeks & was discharged.

In the year 1782 he again volunteered for services under Captain John [indecipherable

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*Isaac Vanmetre*

last name<sup>2]</sup> & John Handley was his Lieutenant and was marched under the Command of the same General Clark against the New Chillicothe Town on the Big Miami which place they took & burned & destroyed the corn found at that place, they marched thence to another Indian town about forty miles further up the Miami which place they took & destroyed & also the provisions & other property there found and were marched home under the command of their officers after being absent six weeks. He states that he never received any written discharge at any of the times before stated but was verbally dismissed by his officers at each of the above places, believes was the usual practice in the Western country at that time.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Isaac Vanmatre



State of Kentucky Hardin County Sct.

This day came John Helm a Citizen of Hardin County Kentucky before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County and being well known to the subscriber as a reputable man and being sworn states that he has been acquainted with Isaac Vanmatre more than 50 years. And that he served with said Vanmatre on a campaign in the fall of 1782 against the Indians on the Big Miami River, that he knows that said Vanmatre volunteered and served in the Company of Captain John Vertrees [?], John Handley was Lieutenant – and Colonel John Floyd was Commander of the troops to which they belonged and the whole was under the command of General George Rogers Clark, they rendezvoused at Louisville they joined Clark at Louisville then called Falls of Ohio and was joined at the mouth of Licking by Colonel Ben Logan. The said Helm declares that the said Vanmatre served the whole of that Campaign which was about five or six weeks duration & in the campaign the New Chillicothe on the Big Miami was taken & several other Indian towns.

S/ John Helm Sr



State of Kentucky Hardin County Sct.

This day came Jacob Vanmatre Sr<sup>3</sup> a Citizen of Hardin County (before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the Hardin County) in his 80th year and being well known to the undersigned as a reputable man and being sworn states that he has been acquainted with Isaac Vanmatre since his infancy upwards of seventy years = And that he knows of his own knowledge that the said Isaac Vanmatre served as a private Soldier in the Army of the United States in the Virginia line on the Campaign in the year 1778 commanded by Colonel George Rogers Clark in the Company of Captain William Harrod & the Deponent was the Ensign of said Company. The expedition started from Red Stone, past Fort Pitt, & down the Ohio & River to the Old Cherokee fort now called Fort Massac, then by land to Kaskaskia and took the place, and went up as high

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<sup>2</sup> FPA W8798

<sup>3</sup> FPA W8798

as Pancore now St. Louis – in the same Campaign Vincennes was also taken. And at the end of eight months the said Isaac Vanmatre was discharged with the balance of Harrod's Company at Kaskaskia. And in this trip the said Isaac Vanmatre was eight months in service.

S/ Jacob Vanmatre

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Vanmatre". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

State of Kentucky Hardin County

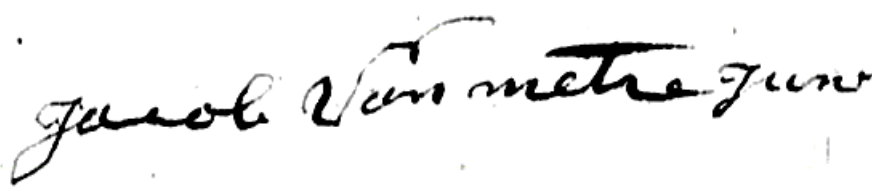
This day came Jacob Vanmatre Jr a Citizen of Hardin County in his 71st year before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for said County. The said deponent being well known to the undersigned as a reputable man & being first sworn Deponeth and saith that he has been acquainted with Isaac Vanmatre who is the brother of this Deponent ever since the Deponent has a recollection. That Deponent knew of the said Isaac Vanmatre enlisting as a soldier in the Revolutionary war in Captain Harrod's Company in the Virginia line on and Expedition of 1778 commanded by Colonel Clark against Kaskaskia & other towns. That he knew of said Isaac Vanmatre's starting & returning and he always understood that he served his full tower [tour], he was gone upwards of 8 months. Jacob Vanmatre Senior a cousin of Deponent's was an Ensign in the Company in which said Isaac served. Deponent states that he knows of said Isaac Vanmatre going as a volunteer under Clark in the year 1780 against the Chilicothe towns of Indians. On this expedition the said Isaac was 5 or 6 weeks gone then was Colonel of this Expedition –

Deponent also knows that the said Isaac Vanmatre volunteered & went another Campaign under Clark against the Indians on the Miami in the year 1782 and was then absent about 5 or 6 weeks.

Sworn and subscribed before the undersigned a justice of the peace for Hardin County this 11th day of October 1832

S/ John Morris, JP HC

S/ Jacob Vanmetre Junior

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jacob Vanmetre Junior". The signature is written in dark ink and is somewhat slanted to the right.

[f p 12: On April 12, 1853 in Grayson County Kentucky, Jane Vanmeter, aged about the 7 years, made application for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of Isaac Vanmeter, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$35.96 per annum; that her husband died in Grayson County Kentucky November 4, 1840 in the 81st year of his age; that she married him in Hardin County Kentucky on or about the 5th day of April 1825 by the Reverend James Haycrafts, a Baptist preacher; that she remains his widow. She states that her maiden name was Jane Carson. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p 15: copy of the marriage bond issued April 4, 1825 to Isaac Van-Matre and Aaron Hart to secure the marriage of Isaac to Jane Carson.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$35.96 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 10 months, 24 days service as a private in the Virginia service. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the same rate commencing February 3, 1853.]