

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Stewart W6162

Dorothy

f116VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/25/12

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

State of Virginia County of Spotsylvania: SS

On this 7th day of August 1843 personally appeared before the Court of Spotsylvania now sitting – Dorothy Stewart a resident of the aforesaid County aged seventy-nine years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled " an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Benjamin Stewart who was a private in the Army of the Revolution. That she does not know anything of her own knowledge of his services but she well recollects of hearing her husband the said Stewart during his life speak of his having been a Revolutionary Soldier, and the many difficulties & hardships he had to encounter, whilst in service, and that he enlisted as a Regular Soldier and served his time out, and was afterwards drafted and served in the Militia some time, but how long she cannot now state, nor can she state the names of any of the Officers under whom he served while in the regular, or militia services, having forgotten if she ever heard him say, nor does she know positively whether he said that he belonged to the Continental or State line, but thinks it was the latter, neither does she remember to have heard him say what Regiment he was attached to, or anything in relation to the Country through which he marched, nor the time when he entered, or left the service, neither does she remember to have heard him speak of being in any engagements but she recollects that he stated that he was in service at the time that they Marquis Lafayette was retreating from the British Army and that after they had retreated some distance above Richmond, that an express was sent to order them to halt. She further states that her husband the aforesaid Benjamin Stewart was a resident of the aforesaid County of Spotsylvania when he entered the service: She further states that he was repeatedly urged by his neighbors & friends before his death to make application for a Pension, but that he never could be prevailed upon to do so because as he said he thought he could make out without it, and did not like to ask anything from the Government. She further declares that she was married to the said Benjamin Stewart on the 24th day of December 1792 [last digit written over and unclear] in the aforesaid County of Spotsylvania by Parson Boggs, and that her husband the said Stewart died on the 15th day of August 1842. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but that the marriage took [several words written over and illegible] 1st day of January 1794, viz. at the time above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year 1st above written

S/ Doratha Stewart

Doratha Stewart

[f p. 9: On August 7, 1843 Robert Stewart of Spotsylvania County Virginia gave testimony that he is the son of Benjamin Stewart deceased and that he frequently heard his father speak of being in the Revolutionary War..." and I recollect distinctly of hearing him say that he was one of the Guard to convey a parcel of Hessian Prisoners to some place the name of which I do not remember...."

Robert Stewart

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[f p. 36]

The affidavit of Dorothy Stewart of the County of Spotsylvania and State of Virginia taken on the 19th day of November 1844 before [indecipherable signature] Justice of the Peace in and for the aforesaid County. This affiant being 1st duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make and subscribed the following statement in addition to her Declaration made on the 7th day of August 1843 for the purpose of claiming the benefit of the act of Congress of 7th of July 1838 – That at the time she made the aforesaid Declaration she could not recollect the officers names under whom her husband served, but since then and upon further thinking upon the subject, she recollects that he was under one Captain or Lieutenant Badnett, and one Captain Morror or Morris in one of the State regiments of Dragoons. This affiant further states that in her former Declaration she stated that her husband after serving out his time of enlistment was afterwards drafted, and served in the militia, in this she thinks, she was mistaken & that her husband enlisted both times – that he enlisted the first time very early in the war for three years in the first state Regiment, and served his time out, and then reenlisted for during the War under the aforesaid Morrow or Morris.

S/ Doratha Stewart

[f p. 10: On March 25, 1847 in Spotsylvania County, town of Fredericksburg, Catharine Stewart gave testimony that she is the daughter of Benjamin and Dorothy Stewart; that her mother and her brothers and sisters frequently urged their father to apply for his pension for his service in the revolutionary war; that her sister Elizabeth Ballard, wife of Benjamin Ballard and the father of Benjamin Ballard now living in Spotsylvania died about 20 years before her Father; that she often heard her father speak of his service in the revolution but cannot recollect the names of his officers except the name of Captain Charles Ewell and one Crump or Croucher.

Catharine Stewart

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[f p. 14: Marriage bond issued December 14, 1790 to Benjamin Steward [sic] & Reuben Straugham in Spotsylvania County Virginia conditioned upon the marriage of Benjamin Steward & Dorothea Straugham.]

[f p. 53]

I do certify that Benjamin Stuart [sic] enlisted in the 3rd Regiment L. dragoons for the war.
Richmond October 12th, '83 S/ Chiswell Barret then Lt.

I do certify that Benjamin Stewart enlisted as a soldier in the 3rd Regiment Dragoons 22nd of
December 1779 for the war, and is now on furlough
October 13, 1783 S/ Robt Morrow
Capt. L. D.

I do certify that Benjamin Stewart enlisted as a soldier with me in the service of this state in
March 12th 1776, and that he continued as a good & faithful soldier to the 1st State Regiment till
December 1779, at which time he received his discharge, the time of his enlistment having
expired

S/ J. Allison, Lt. Col. 1st S. R.

Executive Department February 1st 1845

I hereby certify that the foregoing are true copies of papers preserved in the files of this
department.

S/ Wm H. Richardson SC

[f p. 81]

The affidavit of James Jones¹ a Revolutionary Pensioner of the County of Caroline and State of
Virginia aged 84 years taken at the home of Richard Jones in said County before Keeling Row a
Justice of the Peace in and for said County

This affiant being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath state that he was in the
3rd Virginia Regiment upon Continental establishment, that he belonged to Captain Churchill
Jones's Company of light Course of said Regiment, and that he became acquainted with a man by
the name of Benjamin Stewart who belonged to the said Regiment though not in the same
Company with himself but that the said Stewart was a Dragoon in one of the other Companies
attached to the Regiment and served to the close of the war. This affiant further states that he,
himself [indecipherable word] and the Regiment in the year 1780 and sometime after he had
been in the service he became acquainted with this man Stewart who was from Caroline or
Spotsylvania County Virginia he does not recollect which.

S/ James Jones, X his mark

[f p. 94]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers
of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and
received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed
the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 14th day of October 1783, in the
name of Benjamin Stewart, as a soldier of Cavalry for £58.5.3, which Certificate appears to have
been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
1st day of February 1845.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

¹ Probably the same man as FPA S45890

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private of dragoons for 2 years in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]