

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Vance W6338

Nancy

f45VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/27/11

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

State of Virginia County of Pendleton: SS

On this 7th day of September 1838, personally appeared before me Jesse Henkle a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Nancy Vance aged eighty-two years who being first 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 4th 1836: That she is the widow of John Vance who served as Sergeant Major, and marched from the County of ___ in the State of Pennsylvania to Westchester Virginia and from thence to Williamsburg and from thence into the State of Georgia in this tour he was under the command of Captain John Stinson and Lieutenant ___ Rice & Lieutenant Robert Bell her memory will not permit her now to state the year that above tour was performed in, but she well recollects that in the tour he served twelve months; she further declares that her husband the aforesaid John Vance performed several tours of duty and she believes always went as a volunteer; that he was in the battle of Germantown was there wounded; that she is not now able to state how long he served in the other tour of duty but she does well know that he was in the war nearly all the time from the beginning to the ending of it and she believes he served as Sergeant Major during the time he was in the service, and she refers to prove now on file in the pension office of the United States proving the service of her late husband John Vance who was an invalid pensioner of the United States upon the Virginia agency. She further declares that she was married to the said John Vance on the ___ day of October 1773. She was married by Colonel William Crawford who was a Magistrate of the County where she married and who was afterwards an officer of the Revolutionary War, and was afterwards taken a prisoner by the Indians and burnt; She has no records of her marriage, and does not know if any can be found, that her husband the aforesaid John Vance, died on the 8th day of February 1827 leaving her his widow and that she has remained his widow ever since that period.

S/ Nancy Vance, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year written above before me

S/ Jesse Henkle, JP

[Henkle certified that he was 56 years of age and has known the veteran and his wife well; that they were married for 42 or 43 years; that the veteran has been dead 11 or 12 years and was a pensioner of the United States at the time of his death; that the veteran and his wife have 3 children who are older than the affiant.]

[f pp 5-6]

To the Honorable the Speaker and Members of the Legislature of the State of Virginia,
Gentlemen,

Your petitioner humbly sheweth That in the year seventy-six I turned out a volunteer under Captain Stevenson as Sergeant and Clerk to the Company and marched to Williamsburg, and there joined the 8th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Peter Milensburg [Peter Muhlenberg] and marched from there to Charles Town in South Carolina and the Company I belonged to, with two more Companies, was sent to assist at the Battle of Sullivan's Island [June 28, 1776], from thence we marched to Sunsbury [Sunbury] in Georgia under General Lee [Charles Lee] and remained there until our time of service was out, I then returned to Fort Pitt [Fort Pitt] and there joined the 13th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Crawford in Captain Robert Bell's Company, and acted as Sergeant Major to the said Regiment, and part of the said Regiment was sent down to join the main Army at Philadelphia under General Washington, where I then acted as Agetant [Adjutant] for said Regiment for three months, was at the battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], and at the Battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777], got wounded in my leg in a very desperate manner and was also wounded through the cheek with a Bayonet, and some time after the Battle General Milinsburg [Muhlenberg] gave me a very honorable discharge, which I took good care of until my house was burned down by accident, and so lost it, and the wound I received in my leg still continues to run and so disables may to walk that I am not able to labor for my support, being now 67 years of age, and as I served in our Revolutionary War for liberty, I hope and trust that your honorable body will take my poor and distressed situation under your serious consideration, and grant me as a poor old soldier such relief as may support me in my old age, And your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray &c.

S/ John Vance

John Vance.

I do hereby certify that John Vance served in the 13th Virginia Regiment as Sergeant major and for 3 months as adjutant and behaved himself as a good soldier In Captain Robert Bell's Company was in several engagements in the year seventy-seven was badly wounded in his ankle and run through his cheek with a bayonet at Germantown and was recommended by the General who gave him his discharge. I seen his wounds and discharge. Given under my hand this 27th day of November 1813

S/ David Steel Capt.

David Steel Capt.

13th Virginia Regiment

Pittsburgh

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$75 per annum commencing the 4th day of March 1843, for her husband's service as a Sergeant in the Virginia service.]

[Note: the Virginia State Library has posted online a 38 page file containing the papers relating to the state pension granted to this veteran. Those papers, however, do not contain the original of the veteran's petition to the Virginia legislature for his disability pension but rather are a series of powers of attorney dated each year between 1814 and 1826 whereby the veteran authorized his agents to collect his \$40/year pension and receipts signed by the agents.]