

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob City W6672 Elizabeth City MD VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 20 Nov 2014.

State of Virginia Bedford County S.S.

On this 22nd day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Bedford now sitting Jacob City a resident of the County of Bedford State of Virginia aged Seventy two years the 28th day of June last past who having been sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That in the beginning or pretty early in the revolutionary war he enlisted under Capt. Reynolds at a place called Sharpsburg in the State of Maryland. He was then between 15 and 16 years of age and listed for five months. the Lieutenants name was Cresley Urndurf, our Colo's. name was Steel. he thinks he was under Gen'l. Lee [Charles Lee of VA?]. it has been so long ago that he has forgotten many particulars which happened while the service. he remembers several of his neighbours boys who enlisted at the same time he did Benjamin Madcafe Henry Teter and John Teter. He has forgotten exactly when he marched but marched though different parts to the North and served out the full time for which he enlisted and returned home to his fathers. His father then removed from the State of Maryland to Rockingham County in the State of Virginia. Being (sometime after his father had settled in Rockingham) called upon as a Militia man to go against the Brittish his father hired a substitute to go in his place for which he got credit for a tour of duty. sometime in the year he was again drafted as a militia man to go against the british who had then got in Albemarle County [June 1781]. He was drafted out of Capt. Bagg's [possibly Thomas Bogg's] Company of militia and marched under captain Cresman [probably George Chrisman] to near Williamsburg and marched he recollects by what was called the big church and to burnt ordinary [8 mi NW of Williamsburg]. He remembers he was with the Marquis De Lafayette & Gen'l. Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] & served out his full tour of duty and returned home. He was afterwards drafted to go against the Indians but was discharged in a few days. He does not expect he can now prove any of his services as he supposes it is probable that any person that knew anything about it may be dead or that he has no chance to get their testimony and that if he ever had any written discharges they are lost or mislaid. He is conscious that he served faithfully seven months in the revolutionary war exclusive of the tour for which his father hired a substitute. He was born in the State of Pennsylvania in Lancaster County on the 28th day of June 1760. He has no register of his age only what is stated in a book of his fathers now in the possession of his Brother. He now lives in the County of Bedford & State of Virginia where he has resided for nearly thirty years past. He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

Question by the Court –

1st. where & in what year were you born– answer In Lancaster County & State of Pennsylvania 28th day of June 1760.

Question 2nd. Have you any register of your age if so where is it– Answer. I have none but in a book which formerly belonged to my father & is now in the possession of my Brother

Question 3^d. where were you living when called into service where have you lived ever since the revolutionary war and where do yo now live– Answer. I lived in the State of Maryland when I enlisted for 5 months and in Rockingham County Virginia when I was drafted. I removed to the County of Bedford from Rockingham where I have lived the most part of my time for thirty years past and where I now live.

4th. State the names of some of your regular officers who were with troops when you served; such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect & the general circumstances of your services.

Answer. when I enlisted I was very young it is long ago. I have forgotten may particulars, cant recollect at this time where I marched. It was however in the Northern States and think I remember to have been with Gen'l Lee. who else I do not recollect, and have forgot what regiment I was with, but am certain I

served out the time for which I enlisted.

5th. Did you ever receive any discharge from service & if so by whom was it given and what become of it. Answer. I do not recollect whether I ever had any discharge if I had they are lost or mislaid.

6th. State the names of some to whom you are known in present neighbourhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a Soldier in the Revolution— Answer. I am personally acquainted with several members of the Court now sitting more particularly with Major Samuel Mitchell, Colo. David W. Quarles and Henry Brown – Tighlman A Cobbs, Thomas R. Clayton, Mosby Arnold and others of my neighbours. Jacob City

I Howel Robeson of the County of Bedford & State of Virginia do hereby certify that I have long been acquainted with Jacob City of said County and recollect to have heard him say in a conversation with my father many years ago (who was also a revolutionary Soldier) that he had like to have been taken by the light horse in the time of the Revolutionary war. This conversation took place long before Jacob City could have had any expectation of getting a pension Howell Robinson

State of Virginia } SS:
Bedford County }

On this 24th day of June 1833 personally appeared in open court before the court of Bedford county now sitting, Jacob City, a resident of Russell parish in said county & state, aged 72 years the 28th of last June, 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 of 7 June 1832. That the last of June, or first of July in the year of 1775, he enlisted in the service of the United States for the term of five months. He enlisted at a place called Sharpsburg in Maryland near which place, & Hagerstown he then resided. Hi company officers were Capt Reynolds Lieut Cresley Orenturf or some such name; he cannot recollect the name of his ensign. He thinks he was under Gen'l. Lee. Col. Steel commanded the regiment to which he was attached, tho' he cannot recollect the number. He was discharged in the week of Christmas 1775 by Capt Reynolds verbally. He enlisted for five months & staid at the Barracks in Sharpsburg for some time waiting to recruit a sufficient number to form a company. He was in the army at least five months, discharging military service the whole time. He cannot recollect the county in which he lived – tho' he can recollect it was about 11 miles from Sharpsburg. He was engaged in no battle during this enlistment. He marched from Sharpsburg thro' York & Lancaster Pennsylvania crossing the Susquehanah [sic: Susquehanna] River, he thinks at a place called Anderson's Ferry. He left Philadelphia, he believes to his right hand, but cannot recollect where he crossed the Delaware River. He believes he was in Trenton. He marched on to Brunswick New Jersey, in which state at various places not now recollected he performed the greater part of his service. He was only 15 years old when he entered the service & cannot therefore recollect distinctly all the names of places, officers, & other circumstances attending his service. He believes the soldiers got forty shillings bounty, and he thinks he was a regular. It was supposed the British might be overcome in a short time, & the war ended directly – and that accounts for the short term of his enlistment. He does not recollect the officers & numbers of the militia & regular regiments & companies, who were with the troops. All his officers named above he believes were regulars. He does not recollect the names of any other regular officers.

In the month of April after the termination of the tour abovementioned, his father moved to Rockingham County Virginia. In the month of June or July 1781, (in the summer of the year Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781]) he was drafted into the service of the United States as a militia man from Rockingham County Va. from Capt. Bagg's Company. He marched under Capt. Crisman, Lieut. Gum, & ensign William Bryan. The British were then in Albemarle County, from which they retreated, & we pursued them, crossing the Blue Ridge mountains at Swift Run Gap into Orange county, marching by Louisa Courthouse thro' Hanover & New Kent counties to near Williamsburg. The British had reached the town before us & were in possession of it when we arrived. He joined the Regiment commanded by Col. Hamilton. He does not recollect the name of his Major. The army was commanded by Gen'l.

Marquis La Fayette [Marquis de Lafayette]. Pretty shortly after we joined the army, we had an engagement with the British about two miles from Williamsburg. The British forced the Americans to retreat. Of the regular officers, with whom he served, he recollects Genls. La Fayette, [Anthony] Wayne, & Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. There were regular & militia regiments & companies with the troops, but he cannot recollect their officers. During this tour, he was continually marching over the country about Pamunkey River & Williamsburg. He served this tour at least two months, and was discharged in August by Capt. Crisman. But had no written discharge.

He has no documentary evidence of his services either tour, and knows no person living by whom he can prove them.

He served not less than the periods mentioned below, to wit: the first tour five months – the second tour, two months – in all seven months, for which he claims a pension

- 1 He was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, the 28th June 1760
- 2 He has no register of his age – never had one – His father had one, but his brother carried it to the west, to what place he does not know.
- 3 The first time he entered the service, he lived near Sharpsburg, Maryland – has lived in Rockingham, Albemarle, & for the last 25 or 30 years, in Bedford Virginia, where he now resides.
- 4 He was called into service in the manner stated in his declaration
- 5 & 6 interrogatories he has answered in his declaration.
- 7 The Rev. Mosby Arnold, & Capt. Henry Brown, are persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood, who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolution.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Jacob City

NOTES:

On 17 June 1841 Betsey City, age 80, applied for a pension stating that she married Jacob City at Brocks Gap in Rockingham County by Rev. Anderson Morfett in March of 1781, and that he moved to Bedford County in 1799 and died there on 6 May 1836. On 19 Jan 1844 Elizabeth City (as the name was spelled) was said to be 82.

Elizabeth City's 1841 application was supported by a son-in-law, William W. Stevens, who gave Betsey City's maiden name as Runion and listed her children as follows: Catharine, Nancy, Abraham, John, Jacob, Polly, Christopher, Elizabeth, Sally, Samuel, and Patsey. William W. Stevens stated that he "married Nancy City in 1802 – City having been in his neighborhood about 2 years." They certified that Jacob City kept his family record in "dutch" (i.e. German).

Another son-in-law and his wife, John and Catharine Wood, made a similar statement and added the following: that they were married in 1803, that John Wood was a few months older than his wife, that Betsy Runion was the daughter of John Runion, and that she moved from Brocks Gap to Bedford County in 1799 or 1800. They stated that the family record was kept in a "Psalter, or collection of Davids Psalms, by Martin Luther in the German or Dutch Language – and copy was also left by said City of said Family Register in said Psalter, on a separat piece of paper – also in Dutch – but that neither of deponants can read dutch." Both signed with their marks, witnessed by Jenn S. Wood. The Psalter is dated Germantown, 1768.

A copy of the original long version of the family record is on HeritageQuest but not Fold3. Translations of the two family records made by the Pension Office are copied below.

A Treasury Department document states that the administrator of Elizabeth City received her final pension payment up to the date of her death, 31 Dec 1844.

Fold3 has this folder indexed with the Maryland files under the name Jacob City.

In the year 1782, on the 22nd day of January, I Jakob Zetti had a daughter born named Kattarina Zettisin
In the year 1783, on the 11th day of September, I Jakob Zetti had a daughter born Anna Zettisin
In the year 1785, on the 17th day of October, I Jakob Zetti had a son born named Abraham Zetti
In the year 1792 (?) on the 17th day of Har—, I Jacob Ceti had a son born named Jacob Ceti.
In the year 1793 (?) on the 20th day of November, I Iacob Ceti had a daughter born named Magdalen
Cetisin
In the year 1788, on the 7th day of March, I Jacob Zetti had a daughter born named Lis— Zettisin
In the year 1790, on the 14th day of January, I Iacob Zetti had a son born named Johannes
In the year 1797, on the 14th day of January, I Iacob Zetti had a daughter born named Sera Cetisin
In the year 1799, on the 4th day of July, I Jacob Ceti had a son born named Christian Ceti
In the year 1805, on April 18, I Jacob Ceti had a daughter born named Beddi

Katarina – J. 22, 1782

Annasi (?) – Sep. 11, 1783

Abraham – Oc. 17, 1785

Johan – Jan. 14, 1790

Jacob – Har. 17, 1792

Balli – No. 20, 1794

Selli – January 14, 1797

Christian – July 4, 1799

Sehm – Har. 17, 1802

Beddi – April 18, 1805