

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Peake (Peak) W6863

Elizabeth

f92VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/1/12

[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 Kentucky Henry County: Sct.

Be it known that on this 7th day of February 1834 personally appeared before William McCracken a Justice of the Peace in and for Henry County Kentucky and one of the Justices of the Henry County Courts William Peake a resident of said County & state aged 69 years 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 that is to say being a resident of Wheeling on the Ohio River in the State of Virginia he did in the month of April in the year 1781 and of the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier upon a tour of six months in the Company of Captain Ebenezer Lanes [Ebenezer Lane?] – that he was kept stationed at the Fort at Wheeling as a part of the Garrison of that place during the whole period of his said engagement except when absent on scouting parties which was several times, the case being the spring & summer of said year – that the Country was a frontier and much plagued by the Indians and that it required the vigilance and exertion of all the able-bodied men in that quarter to repel their incursions & punish them when made – he states that he served out his said term of engagement actually & fully and was discharged at the termination thereof.

He further states and declares that afterwards in the month of March 1782 as well as he remembers he again entered the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier in the Company of Captain Mitchell upon a tour of six months, – that he still lived in Wheeling and the Indians during this year were much more troublesome than they had been the year before – that he was kept stationed a part of his time during his said engagement at the Fort at Wheeling in Garrison for the defense of the place and during the residue thereof he was actively engaged in scouting in spying parties against the ____ . He recollects that at one time he assisted in pursuing a party of Indians across the Ohio River – that upon that occasion he was without any provisions whatever four days. He states that he performed actual an active service during the whole period of his said engagement and at the termination thereof having fully and faithfully performed the same he was discharged.

He further states and declares that in the month of April as well as he remembers 1783 he again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Indian Spy for the term of three months under Captain Williams – that his residence was still at Wheeling and the range of Country over which he had to opit [? 'assist'?]¹ in spying extended a considerable distance above

and below Wheeling and back from the Ohio River – that he was during the whole period of his said engagement actively and actually engaged as an Indian Spy and after having fully and faithfully performed his duty as such during the whole period of his said engagement he was discharged.

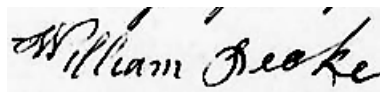
He states and declares that he is growing old and his memory is greatly impaired by the lapse of time but from his present best recollection he did serve in the manner above stated – that he did not serve less than 12 months as a private volunteer soldier and three months as an Indian Spy during the revolutionary War and for that service he claims a pension.

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ William Peake



Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the said Justice

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in Prince William County Virginia in 1765

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

Answer – I have at home in my Bible

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 at Wheeling Virginia when I entered the service and there continued until the year 1792 when I moved to Kentucky to that part of it now known as Franklin County where I continued to live till about 16 years ago when I moved to Henry County Kentucky where I have lived ever since.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer – I volunteered

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – There were no regular officers with the troops where I served. The Country was a frontier one and thinly peopled – men were scarce and we had no officers higher than Captain. My services were performed in the Fort at Wheeling and in scouting parties against the Indians – and in spying – I was a spy three months and a private volunteer 12 months.

6th 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 never received any written discharge.

7th 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 will name John O Head & Samuel Davis.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ William Peake

[John O Head, a clergyman, and Samuel Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 16: On October 3, 1843 in Trimble County Kentucky, Elizabeth Peake, aged about 70, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that her maiden name was Elizabeth Forts; that she married William Peake in Scott County in 1791; that they lived in Scott County Kentucky until about 1818 when they moved to Trimble County then Henry County where they continued to live until his death on September 28, 1839; that at the time of his death her husband was a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she has no record of her marriage because she loaned the book containing the record of her marriage and ages of her children to one of her neighbors many years ago and was never returned; she signed her application with her mark.]

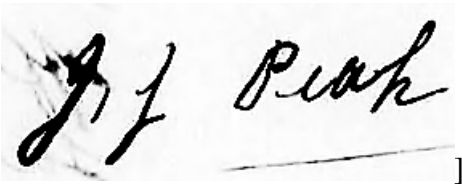
[f p. 18: On October 3, 1843 in Trimble County Kentucky, Robert Frost gave testimony that he is the son-in-law of Mrs. Elizabeth Peak; that he married her youngest daughter [not named]; that from the best information he the affiant can obtain the oldest child of William and Elizabeth Peak was John Peak who died about 2 years ago and at the time of his death was upwards of 40 years of age.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Frost". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name is written in a fluid, connected style typical of the 19th century.

[f p. 20: On October 4, 1843 in Trimble County Kentucky, Daniel S Lane, 48, gave testimony that he knew John Peake the eldest son of William and Elizabeth Peake and that said John Peake was about 4 years older than the affiant and died 8 or 10 years ago.]

[f p. 11: On April 4, 1855 in Trimble County Kentucky, Elizabeth Peak, aged about 80, a resident of Trumbull County Kentucky made application for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of William Peak who died, she thinks, in the year 1839; that she married him in Scott County Kentucky; that her name prior to her marriage was Elizabeth Forts. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 27: On May 28, 1850 in Franklin County Kentucky, John J. Peak, 60, gave testimony that he is the brother of William Peak who was a revolutionary war pensioner; that William was his oldest brother; that William and Elizabeth must have been married about the year 1793 or 2 to the best of his recollection.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. J. Peak". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The initials "J. J." are written in a large, bold, and somewhat stylized manner, followed by the name "Peak" in a more standard cursive.

[f. p. 60: On May 12th, 1850 in Trimble County Kentucky, Andrew Mitchell gave testimony that he was well acquainted with William and Elizabeth Peak for the last 35 years; that they lived together as man and wife; that he, the affiant, wrote the will of William Peake and saw the old family record of said Peake where it appeared they were married about 1792; that he is acquainted with their 2nd son, Christopher Peak, who is about 56 years of age.]

[facts in file; The only other child of the veteran and his widow named in the documents in this file is a son named Christopher who was living in 1850 and was there second son.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]