

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Deane (Dean) W6998

Betsey Deane

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Fauquier, State & District of Virginia.

On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of April 1818 before me the subscriber sole Judge of the Superior Court of Fauquier County personally appeared John Deane of the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia aged seventy years who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war that he the said John Deane enlisted as a private soldier in the County of Fauquier and State of Virginia in a company of Infantry commanded by Captain John Chilton of the third Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment commanded by Col. [George] Weedon, that he continued to serve in the said Corps, and in the service of the United State until the end of two years the term of his enlistment when he was discharged from service, that he received a written discharge at Valley Forge which he has long since lost, that he does not remember the time when he was enlisted and when he was discharged that he was in the Battles of York Island [Fort Washington, 16 Nov 1776] and German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777] that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of his country for support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the annexed certificates of Joseph Blackwell, Sr, John Blackwell and the affidavits of Philip Linor [pension application S38143] and Samuel Elliott [W19225]

Culpeper County District of Virginia

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of may 1821 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for the said County made so by the constitution and laws of Virginia and possessing an unlimited common law and chancery jurisdiction and possessed of the power of fine and imprisonment, John Deane aged seventy five years in September next, resident of the county aforesaid in said District who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows – six months under Captain James Scott of the County of Fauquier in the minute service that he enlisted and served under Captain John Chilton of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Regiment until he was killed at the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] – and afterwards under Captain John Blackwell who succeeded him in command, making in all two years in the regular service. the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia regiment was commanded by Colo. George Weedon – and afterwards two months in a company of militia commanded by Captain Elias Edmonds – and that he was regularly discharged when his term of service of two years enlisted under Captain Chilton expired, at the valley ford [sic: Valley Forge] – that he was discharged as aforesaid in the month of February but the year he does not recollect [1778]. That he is unable to state the date of the original declaration proved before the Honb’le. Robert White Judge of the Superior court of law for the County aforesaid, a record of which he has not preserved. That he has received his pension up to the 4<sup>th</sup> of march 1820 and that the number of his pension certificate in 230.

I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

The following is a copy of the schedule of the said John Deane – two work Horses, 2 cows, 2 calves, and a yearling, one sow and nine shoots [sic: shoats], one bed, six chairs and a table, 2 ploughs – 2 Hoes – 2 axes & 1 Grubbing hoe worth 93 Dollars & 33 Cents. The declarant also states that he is a farmer on

rented land at the rent of sixty dollars per annum. That he is quite unable to pursue his business to any value. That he has a wife 62 years of age – that he has nine children in all, – five of whom live with him – a daughter named Betsy about 24 years of age – Levinia about 23 years of age – a son by the name of Richard about 21 years of age – a daughter named Lucy dumb and subject to fits about 18 years of age, and a son by the name of Martin about 17 years of age – also two orphan children viz Fanny Johnston aged about 15 years and Maria Johnston aged about 11 years his grand children. That all his aforesaid family are chargeable upon him, except his two sons Richard & Martin who assist him to labour on the farm – and that he is unable to support his family without the aid of his Country.

John hisXmark Deane

[On 24 Sep 1836 Betsey Dean, 82, of Rappahannock County VA, applied for a pension stating that she married John Dean in May 1780, and he died in August 1828. She added that “immediately after their marriage as aforesaid the said John Dean entered the service again and remained therein until the close of the War.”]

Fauquier County } Ss.  
and State Virginia }

This day William Tomlin, Sen’r. [S6261] aged seventy eight years personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the aforesaid County, and in the Sate aforesaid, and being duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he was well acquainted with John Dean, who served as a soldier in the war of the revolution that he belonged to the same Company in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Reg’t. in which this deponent served. That the said John Dean enlisted in the early part of the year 1776, and served with this deponent until the latter part of the year 1777 at which time this deponent enlisted in the cavalry and left said Dean in service, in the company and Regiment aforesaid. This deponent left the service for a short time in 1780 & came home. the said Dean was then at home, in the said county and was just married – that he always understood from others and verely believes that the said Dean Did again, enter the service after he was married, and served to the close of the war, and further this deponent sayeth not

William hisXmark Tomlin Sen

Test/ Wm R Smith

Rappahannock County } Ss  
& State of Virginia } [25 Sep 1836]

This day James Jones aged Seventy Eight years personally appeared before the under Signed a Justice of the peace for the aforesaid County & being duly Sworn According to Law deposes & says that he was well acquainted with John Dean dec’d. who serv’d as a Soldier in the war of the Revolution that he Enlisted at Warrenton in Fauquier County & State aforesaid in the spring of the year 1776 & that he the said Dean Boarded at his fathers until he march’d to the north a short time after he Enlisted & Join’d the 3<sup>rd</sup> Va. Regiment as he always understood; the said Dean Return’d home in the Winter 1779 80 and on the [blank] day of May 1780 he was married to Betsey Prail & immediately after the marriage took place the said John Dean Ded. join’d the Army again & serv’d to the Close of the Warr. the said John Dean ded and Betsey his wife always liv’d near this deponent & he died the [blank] day of August 1828 and that his Wife Betsey Dean has remained a Widow ever since his death & further this deponent saith not

James hisXmark Jones

State of Virginia Fauquier towit

This 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 1836 came personally before me William R Smith a Justice of the Peace for the county aforesaid William Tomlin a Revolutionary Soldier aged Seventy Eight years & made Oath that he was acquainted with John Dean a Soldier of the revolution before he entered the service that they were together in Capt John Chiltons Company of the third Virginia Regiment Comanded by Colonel Thomas Marshall & that they were together in the Battles of York Island White plains [28 Oct 1776] Brandy

Wine Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] & Germantown, and the s'd Dean was a brave noble patriotick soldier & that whilst they were in service together on many occasions s'd. Dean informed this Affiant that he had left at home a wife & one Child & further this Affiant testifies not Sworn & subscribed to the day & date above written in presence of  
William hisXmark Tomlin  
Wm. R Smith J.P.

The affidavit of Wm. Tomlin, taken this 16th of Novr 1836. This affiant being duly sworn, says that he has given two affidavits, the first in 1818, as he believes, in behalf of John Dean who was then applying for a pension; and the second, in November of the current year, in behalf of the widow of said Dean: that being unlettered both affidavits were prepared by another from his statements and for his signature, and mark, the latter mode of signing having become necessary since 1818, from a defect in his eye-sight: that in the last affidavit, he contradicts a part of the first, which says, as appears, from Mr. Edwards' [James L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner] letter, that he knew nothing of services rendered by Mr. Dean in the Revolutionary War, after this affiants return home in 1780. This affiant solely affirms that the statement, if any such there be, in the first affidavit, that he knew nothing of services rendered after said time is wholly incorrect, and that it either resulted from a misapprehension of said statement on his part, or from an error of the amanuensis who prepared it. This affiant, then and now recollects distinctly that the said Dean and himself enlisted under Capt. John Chilton of the 3rd Regiment, in 1776, and served two years – that after the said time this affiant enlisted under Major [William] Washington in Milans Regiment [sic: Stephen Moylan's 4<sup>th</sup> Continental Dragoons] for three years – that on his discharge he returned home in December 1780. This affiant further says that before his time was out in the 3rd Regiment, he was permitted to enlist under Major Washington, the understanding being that all who re-enlisted and whose time was nearly out in 3rd Regiment, should be considered as having served their two years: that on his return home, he was drafted the fall following, and marched to the siege of York – that he frequently saw the said Dean during the said siege, acting in the capacity, and performing the services of a soldier. Of this, the affiant is clear and positive. Any statement in the first affidavit inconsistent with this is incorrect: and if this affiant had understood the first affidavit as saying he knew nothing of Mr. Deans services after this affiants return home in 1780, it would have been corrected so as to conform to the facts herein stated. This affiant finally says the part borne by himself and his acquaintances in that memorable siege is too deeply imprinted on his mind to be forgotten; and he again solemnly declares the statement abovementioned as contained in the first affidavit is incorrect, and resulted from one of the causes above mentioned. Given under my hand and seal this 16th of Nov'r 1836.

State of Virginia } Ss  
Rappahannock County }

This day [10 Jan 1837] personally appear'd before a Justice of the peace in and for said County Spencer Withers [S6400] aged seventy three years & made Oath according to Law says he was well acquainted with John Dean Dec'd. a Soldier in the American Revolution and Verily Believes that the said John Dean Enlisted early in the year 1776 and march'd to the North This Affiant Enlisted in the year 1780 & was march'd to the South this Affiant never saw the said John Dean from the time of his enlistment untill the Seige of York Town in Virginia in the year 1781 when he met with him at the Seige & was Attach'd to Colo. Elias Edmond's Reg't. of Infantry from Fauq'r. CH. Va. the same Reg't. that this affiant belong'd to: and march'd as one of the guards of the prisoners to Winchester & this Affiant further states that the said John Dean always Liv'd in Fauq'r & Culpeper Ctys. now Rappahannock Cty. till his death & that he never knew but one John Dean & that the s'd. John Dean Married in Fauq'r. Cty. Va. but at what time he don't know & further this affiant saith not  
Spencer Withers

State of Virginia } Ss  
Fauquier County }

This day [30 March 1837] personally appeared before me James S. Pickett one of the

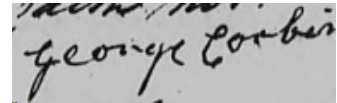
commonwealths Justices of the peace in and for the county aforesaid Reuben Murray [R7524] aged seventy five years, and being first duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith, That he this deponent served two tours in the Militia of the State of Virginia in the Revolutionary War – first; at the time the Brittish landed at old Jamestown, and the second tour at the siege of York Town Va. in 1781, that he this deponent was a Sergeant in Capt. Linsfield Sharps [sic: Linchfield Sharpe, R17780] Company of Militia at the Siege of York Town Va. that deponent was acquainted with a John Dean a Revolutionary Soldier then in service; deponent does not know what Company said John Dean was attached to, for the soldiers were frequently transfered, but said J. Dean was attached to the same Regiment with this deponent, which was commanded by Colo. Elias Edmonds; dep't is not certain which of the tours he saw the said John Dean in the service of the Revolutionary War, but his impressions are that it was at the Siege of York Town – and further this deponent saith not — Reuben Murray

State of Virginia } Ss.

Rappahannock County } [11 April 1837]

This day personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for said County, George Corbin [W1237] aged seventy three years and being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith: That he was intimately acquainted with John Dean dec'd. a Continental Revolutionary soldier, that he saw the said John Dean dec'd at the seige of York Town in Virginia in the year 1781, and that the said John Dean dec'd was attached to Colo. Elias Edmonds's Regt., but to what company he does not recollect at this time, as the men were frequently trasferred from one Company to another at the siege

This deponent was taken sick a few days before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] and did not march to Winchester with the prisoners, but after the close of the war the said John Dean decd. moved to Culpeper County, now Rappahannock County near to this deponent, and he has frequently heard him the said John Dean dec'd and others say that Dean went to Winchester as one of the Guard of the prisoners; and this deponent further states that he always understood and verily believes that the said John Dean dec'd was married about the middle of the revolution to a woman by the name of Betsy Prail and that the said John Dean decd. died the — day of — in the year —, and that the said Betsy lives at this time in Rappahannock County Virginia and has remained a widow ever since the death of the said John Dean. And further this deponent saith not.



State of Virginia, Culpeper County} Ss

This day [12 Apr 1837] Personally appeared Before me a Justice of the Peace in the county aforesaid, Jesse Garner aged 67 years, after Being first Duely Sworn, according to Law, Deposeth & says, that he was Intimately acquainted with John Dean, Deceased; a Revolutionary Solder & was well acquainted with his wife Betsey Dean, the said John Dean Deceased & wife, Resided for many years a neighbour to this Deponent & after the close of the Revolution, this Deponant was not in the Revolution him self But he had two Brothers older than him self one By the name of Vincen Garner [Vincent Garner] & Jonas Garner, and this Deponant often time heard said Vincen & Jonas Garner say that they served in the Latter Part of the Revolution with said Dean, deceased, & this Deponant, having heard since their Return many conversations Between said Dean – Deceased & his two Brothers Jonas & Vincen Garner & this Deponant heard them then speak of many occurances which took Place at the seige of york town in Viginia & this Deponant well Recollects that he heard his Brother Jonas Garner asking John Dean if he Remembered the cannon Ball that came Roling on the Ground at the seige of york their was a man Present saying he would stop the Ball & in attempting to Doe so he Lost Both of his Legs, & said John Dean Deceased said he Did, & that he also Recollected many other circumstances which occured During the war & this Deponant also heard his Brother Jonas Garner, & John Dean Decased say that they Guarded the Prisoners to Winchester to gether, & this Deponant further states that he understood & that he has no Doubt But that it is true that the said John Dean Decased intermarried with a certain woman By

the name of Betsey Prail about the middle of the Revolution, & after the close of the war said John Dean Decased moved to Culpeper County now Rappahannock where they Lived until his Death, which this Deponant Dont Recollect as to the time he Did Die, But his wife has Remained a widow up to this time & is still a widow, further this Deponant sayeth not.        Jesse Garner

NOTES:

The file contains a letter of introduction by Thomas L. Moore dated 7 Sep 1821 for John Deane to James L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions. It reads: "Jno Dean the bearer is a revolutionary soldier and pensioner His renewal papers were inclos'd to the secretary of War about two months ago, and in a letter which I wrote you a month since I earnestly requested your answer at the earliest day possible. The little property which yet remains to this old man and a large family is under execution; he has prevail'd on his creditor thus far to postpone the sale which will rob him of his last comforts in expectation of receiving his pension. No answer being rec'd. his urgent necessity induces him to travel to Washington on foot. I beg you to [several illegible words] claim, and if his papers are not in form (which I hope is not the case) give the necessary instructions in writing, and if you can draw them off from his own statements."

The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 6 May 1780 by John Dean and Richard Fisher for the marriage of Dean to Elizabeth Prayl. On 4 Nov 1836 Elizabeth Norris, "upwards of seventy years," stated that it was said that John Dean married Elizabeth Prail at the parson's house, "which was the common custom in those days." On 6 Nov 1836 Elijah Bashaw, 72, stated that "John Dean & Elizabeth Prale were lawfully married in his fathers house," and that "it was stated that the first child of Elizabeth & John Dean was born in his s'd. John Deans absence in the service." On 12 April 1837 Rawleigh Bashaw, 65, stated that John Dean and Betsey Prail were married "at his mothers house."

A Treasury-Department document states that the administrator of Betsey Dean received her final pension payment up to the day of her death, 12 Aug 1839.