

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Howe ¹ W7765

Margaret Howe

f51VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/3/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

The State of Ohio Warren County: SS

On this 3rd day of October in the year of our Lord 1831 personally appeared in open court before the Court of common pleas for Warren County aforesaid now sitting James Howe a resident of Warren County Ohio and 69 years [old] who being first 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 was born 5th of February 1763 in Richmond County Virginia, that he has not any record of his age nor does he know of any such record. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as hereinafter stated. In Richmond County Virginia sometime in the year 1781, he went in the Militia Service as a soldier & as a substitute for his brother in law William Jones who was drafted to serve a militia tour of three months. He was attached to Colonel Nelson's [Thomas Nelson's] Regiment – that Lieutenant Kelsick [Samuel Kelsick] commanded his company & one Roberts was ensign he believes but it is not certain that a man by the name of Redmond was a Major & commanded a battalion of the Regiment aforesaid to which applicant belonged – said Corps was marched to Lands Town [?]² where it halted for a time, it was then marched along the Rappahannock [River] & Captain George Harrison took the command of said company, that after serving the aforesaid tour of three months, In the year 1781 he marched to serve another tour of three months in the Militia as a substitute for his brother Thomas Howe who was drafted to serve for that time. He was marched to Gloucester in Virginia near York Town where the British then besieged by General Washington this tour he served under Captain Samuel Fontleroy [Samuel Fauntleroy] & day not recollected [nor] any other of his officers. That he served out his brother's term which expired before the surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781]. That he was then drafted to serve a tour of three months for himself he went into the service on his own account at Gloucester where he remained as a soldier in the Militia until Cornwallis surrendered he was discharged soon after this, & did not quite serve out his three months, but got credit for a three months tour as he understood by the then rules of the service, that he was honorably discharged from the service though he received no written discharge, that he has no documentary evidence of his service & that he knows of no person living who can testify to it. He hereby relinquishes all claim to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension

¹ BLWt26608-160-55

² 

roll of the agency of any State.

He states that there is no clergyman near him to whom he is well known, that he refers to the affidavits of David Collett & William Dean [one or more indecipherable words]³ herewith both of whom are aged & infirm men & cannot attend court without great inconvenience & probable danger to their health.

He further says that he lived in the state of Virginia after the revolutionary war until about 11 years ago when he removed to Warren County Ohio where he has resided ever since.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court 3rd October 1832.

S/ J. K. Wilds, Clk

S/ James Howe



[p 35: affidavit given in Clinton County Ohio on August 9, 1832 by Daniel Collett in which he states he has known the applicant for about 10 years; that the applicant is a man of truth and veracity; that affiant has heard the applicant speak of his militia at the siege of York.



[p 36: On October 1, 1832, William Dean gave testimony that he has known the applicant about 25 years; that the applicant is a man of truth and veracity; that witness has spoken frequently with the applicant about his service in the militia prior to and at the siege of York. This affiant signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 43]

Declaration of James Howe a resident of Wayne Township County of Warren and State of Ohio made this 18 day of September 1833 Amendatory to his original declaration made in the Common Pleas of Warren County in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 –

Personally appeared before me the subscriber one of the justices of the peace within and for the County of Warren and State of Ohio on this 18th of October 1833 James Howe, who being by me sworn according to law saith, that as stated in his original declaration he was born on the 5th of February 1763 – by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot state with absolute certainty the particular date of his entering and dismissal from the service but according to the best of his recollection he entered the service as herein after mentioned, to wit – That sometime in March, as he recollects it was when the farmers were breaking up their corn ground in 1781 in Richmond County Virginia, he entered the militia service as a substitute for his brother-in-law William Jones, who was drafted to serve a tour of three months, and that he served out his tour of three months in the manner stated in his original declaration & under the officers there stated, during all which time he was a private soldier & was dismissed the service and sometime in the month of June 1781 at Richmond Court house by Captain George Harrison,



but received no written discharge – In the same year sometime in July he again entered the militia service at Richmond Court House under Captain Samuel Fauntleroy as a substitute for his brother Thomas Howe who was drafted to serve a tour of three months, that he was marched by said Captain to Gloucester near York Town Virginia where he served out his tour of three months in the manner stated in his original declaration as a private soldier – General Weedon [George Weedon] Commanded the troops at Gloucester he cannot recollect any other officer who were later – he well remembers that his last mentioned tour of duty expired during the siege of York Town, and that he did not quit the service, but immediately entered upon a three months tour of duty for and on his own account as stated in his original declaration, at Gloucester but he cannot remember the name of his Captain, but it was either Captain Northern or Captain Kelsick, that he served at Gloucester as a private soldier until after the surrender of Cornwallis, Shortly after which he was discharged, not having served three months, but was told he should have a credit for a three months tour according to the then rules of the service and sometime after he did actually receive from the Government of Virginia pay for a three months tour.

S/ James Howe

[p 40]

Declaration of James Howe a resident of Wayne Township in the County of Warren Ohio, made this 8th day of April 1834 Supplementary to his declaration heretofore made on the 3rd of October 1832 and 18th September 1833 for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the Act of Congress the second [sic] day of June 1832.

Personally appeared before the Honorable Judges of the Court of Common Pleas within and for Clinton County and State of Ohio James Howe a resident Citizen of Warren Township County of Warren and State aforesaid who, on this 8th day of April 1834, being duly sworn according to law depose and saith, that as stated in his former declarations, he for the first time, sometime in the month of March 1781 entered the Service of the United States and served for the full period of three months at the expiration of which period, he, immediately and without leaving the service, entered upon a second tour for the full period of three months in the manner heretofore by him stated in his original and Amendatory declaration; that his said last mentioned tour of service expired during the Siege of York Town, when he again immediately and without leaving the service, engaged and entered upon his third tour, which was about the first of October of said year, and continued in the Service for at least four weeks after the Surrender of York Town, though he did not serve out the time for which he engaged to wit, three months: – From old age and the consequent loss of memory it is impossible for deponent to state with absolute Certainty the precise length of time he served in his third and last tour, but he unhesitatingly states that he verily believes he served for at least eight weeks or two months – He repeats that from the time he entered the service, which he believes to have been about the first of March 1781, he never left it until he was discharged, as immediately above stated, after the Surrender of York Town, and that in all he served from first to last for the full period of Eight months, during all which time he was in actual Service – For his last tour of service notwithstanding he did not serve the full three months, he was allowed a credit and was paid for a full tour – If the above statement as to the length of time he served in the last tour is still unsatisfactory he hereby relinquishes all claim to any allowance for or on account of the same, but confidently hopes to be allowed for the two first. Deponent also states, this declaration is made in Clinton Court because it was more convenient for him to attend said court than that of Warren. The place of holding said Courts being equidistant from him.

S/ James Howe

[p 18: On June 2, 1853 in Clinton County of Ohio, Margaret How[sic], 72, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act as the widow of James How, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum [sic]; that she married him in Frederick County Virginia January 6, 1803 by someone perhaps named Chastian, a Methodist minister; that her maiden name was Dean; that her husband died in Warren County Ohio March 19, 1838 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 18: On June 1, 1853 in Warren County Ohio, Rebecca Dean, 70, gave a supporting affidavit in which she states she was acquainted with James and Margaret Howe for a period of 35 years or thereabouts; that James Howe died March 19, 1838 in Warren County Ohio. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 3: On March 26, 1855 in Clinton County of Ohio, Margaret Howe, 73, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of James Howe, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in Frederick County Virginia January 6, 1803; that they were married by Mr. Trister, a Methodist preacher; that her name prior to her marriage was Margaret Dean; that her husband died near Harveysburg, Warren County Ohio March 19, 1834 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.22 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months and 26 days in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]