

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joseph Jones W9079

Sarah Jones

f40VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 1/16/14

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

Commonwealth of Kentucky, Owen County

On the first day of October in the year 1832 personally appeared in the open Court before the Justices of the Owen County Court now sitting, Joseph Jones, a resident of said county of Owen and Comth of Kentucky aged 81 years and nearly six months 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; he resided in the County of Caroline and State of Virginia at the Commencement of the revolutionary war and as early as the month of November 1775 being a resident of said county, he volunteered as a private soldier in a company commanded by Capt. John Long the Lieutenant of which was Saml Woolfolk [Samuel Woolfolk] and one ___ Jamison [probably David Jameson] was the Ensign which company was attached to a regiment under the Command of Col John Thorn of Spotsylvania County Virginia and that he entered the service accordingly upon a tour of six months and was immediately appointed an orderly sergeant of said company and served as such during said tour. He rendezvoused with his said Company & regiment at the Bowling Green and marched directly from thence to Richmond and on the Williamsburg at which said places and in that vicinity they remained during their said tour. He recollects also that Christopher Blackburn was adjutant of his regiment and that his said regiment was attached to a Brigade under Command of Genl Weeden [George Weedon]. He recollects that one of the other companies of his regiment was commanded by Capt. Robert Ware and another by Capt. David Jamison but he does not recollect the names of any of the other company or field officers. He recollects that the reason of their being called out at that time was that Lord Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Governor of the colony of Virginia] who had been governor of Virginia before the Commencement of the war had collected a considerable fleet & force of men and was threatening to do much mischief in the county - that he did make an attack on the Town of Hampton but was unsuccessful and continued after stationed himself as he understood at Norfolk. This declarant recollects to have seen whilst upon this tour Col. Woodford [William Woodford] who had the reputation of being a brave man and good officer and who was sent during his said Tour from Williamsburg to Norfolk with a detachment of the men for the defense of the inhabitants and their protection and he recollects to have understood that Col. Woodford had a battle [December 9, 1775] with the British at or near the Great Bridge in the neighborhood of Norfolk and that a Capt. Fordia [Captain Charles Fordyce] belonging to the British Troops was killed in the action besides a number of soldiers. He states and declares that he served out his said tour and was verbally discharged by his officers and that he thereupon returned to the place of his residence in Caroline County.

He further states and declares that soon after his said return about the month of July 1776 being still a resident of the said county of Caroline there was called upon the militia and he stood a draft and was drafted upon a tour of three months and was attached to a company under the command of the

same officer under whom he served the first tour viz. Capt. John Long - one John Woolfolk was Lieutenant of the said Company, the name of the ensign has escaped his memory - the said company was attached to the regiment under the command of Col. Mathews of which regiment one ____ Armstead was Major - the names of the other field and company officers he has forgotten. He rendezvoused with his company & regiment at Caroline Court House & marched down to Williamsburg. Gen. Weedon had the command of his brigade. This tour he was always at Richmond and was during the whole of it between the rivers York and James. At the expiration of his term of service in the second Tour he was discharged verbally by his officers and again returned to his residence in Caroline County. He states that upon his entering his second term he was immediately made orderly sergeant & served as such during said term.

He further states and declares that soon after his last mentioned return home he moved from the said County of Caroline to the County of New Kent to wit about the month of November 1776; that about that time it was found necessary to enroll and number all the able-bodied men in the section of the county, so that each one might take his regular tour when there was any need for it to repel the incursions of the British which were very frequent & protect the county from their ravages; that the whole country was frequently in motion and under arms; that he remained in New Kent County from the fall of 1776 till the fall of 1777; that during that period he performed several short tours of duty under the above mentioned arraignment and indeed was most of the time under arms and in active service. That during said time he was upon two occasions under the command of Capt. John Bacon. That in both these tours he was called out for three months but was permitted to return home each time without having completed the full tour; that Pleasant Meredith was Lieutenant on both of these tours and the company acted separately from any other upon each one of them.

He further states and declares that in the fall of the year 1777 he returned to his original place of residence in Caroline County; that the arraignment in relation to the numbering and mode of service of the able-bodied men above mentioned prevailed also in said county and that under the regulation he was absent from home bearing arms in defense of the county near one fourth of his time from that period, to wit: fall 1777 till the spring of 1780; that from the great number of short tours performed by him during said time he cannot recollect the particular times at which they were performed nor the manner in which they succeeded one another nor all the various officers under which he served. All the services which he performed, however, during this time were performed between the rivers York & James and were principally performed in single companies. He recollects distinctly that in two or perhaps more of these sudden and short tours he was under the command of Capt. John Woolfolk; that in at least one he was under the command of Capt. James Sutton; that in two he was under the Command of Capt. John Fitzhugh and in one of them, he was under the command of Capt. G. Terrill. He further states that during one of these tours particularly, he was under the command of Capt. John Woolfolk and attached to the regiment of Col. Temple [Samuel Temple] and that whilst on the tour he was sent by Col. Temple in search of some Quakers who refused to bear arms with orders to bring them into camp & in discharge of this duty he took one William Burris and tied him on a horse and carried him to camp and when he arrived with him the Col. attempted to force him to carry a gun and use it, but he obstinately refused so to do and he was finally suffered to return home. He further states that there were a number of Quakers in that section of the county all of whom refused to bear arms or promote the war in any way and it was finally determined to compel them to hire substitutes when their tours came on and when they refused to do it, to sell a sufficiency of their property and apply the money in that way. And upon one occasion this declarant was sent by Col. Temple to the houses of two of them whose names were ____ Hargrove ____ with directions to seize and sell forthwith a sufficiency of their property to pay the hire of a substitute for each one which he did do and the Col. did hire a substitute for each one of them. He states that during his said service he was also immediately appointed an orderly sergeant on the aforesaid tour.

He further states and declares that in the spring of 1780 he again was drafted upon a three

months tour as a private and was attached to a company the officers of which were Capt. John Woolfolk and Lieutenant ___ Chapman , the Ensign not recollected. He was immediately made an orderly sergeant; that his company was attached to the regiment of Col. Anthony Thorn of which Regiment, ___ Armstead was Major; that his said Company & regiment rendezvoused at Chesterfield in Caroline County and marched directed from then to Williamsburg where they remained until they together with other troops were forced to retreat before a superior British force and continued our retreat through the country by the way of Richmond up to Charlottesville. He further states that upon this Tour Genl. Nelson [Thomas Nelson] was the Commander of his brigade and at the expiration of his term of service he was verbally discharged and returned home to is residence in Caroline County.

He further states and declares that sometime in the month of Dec 1780 or early January 1781 as well he at this time recollects he was again drafted upon a three month tour as a private and was attached to a company commanded by Capt. John Fitzhugh, John Thompson was the Lieutenant of which company he was appointed orderly sergeant and served as such during said tour and his said company was attached to a regiment commanded by Col. Anthony Thorn, & ___ Armstead, Major, the same field officers under whose command he was in his preceding tour. That he rendezvoused with his company & regiment at a public house in Caroline County know by the name of Flanders which house was at that time kept by a man whose name was Head Lynch; that he marched from thence to Williamsburg and from thence to Richmond at which place and it's vicinity they marched until forced to retreat by the British forces under the Command of Genl. Arnold [Benedict Arnold]; that in the retreat the regiment to which he belonged was dispersed and again rendezvoused at a placed called Hickory Neck Church. His company was then attached to a regiment under Col. Matthews and he remained in the service under said Matthews under the expiration of his term of service and he was then discharged during this tour he frequently say Genl. Baron Steuben [Friedrich Wilhelm Augustus von Steuben] who had the command at that time of the forces in Virginia. His company and regiment were attached to the Brigade commanded by Genl. Nelson. He recollects also to have seen whilst on this tour Col Clarke and Col Bowyer.

He further states and declares that some few weeks after his return he thinks in May 1781 Col Simcoe a British officer came into his neighborhood and took several of his neighbors prisoners amongst whom were John Thomson and Thomas Hackett; that Simcoe came to this Declarent's house in company with some of his officers and soldiers, the main body of his detachment being only a short distance off and Simcoe & those who were in his immediate company had the above mentioned persons in custody. He further states that about this time Col Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton] took some of the members of the Virginia Legislature prisoners at Charlottesville and came very near taking the whole of them and that while these transactions were taking place the main British Army under the command of Lord Cornwallis was lying at Cook's fork on the Pamunkey River.

He further states and declares that about the first of June 1781 he was again drafted on a tour of three months as a private in the company of Capt. George Terrill, Lieutenant D. Cobb & attached to the regiment of Col. Samuel Temple of which company he was immediately made orderly sergeant & served as such during said tour; that he rendezvoused at the Courthouse in Caroline county and marched immediately with his said Company and regiment to the assistance of the Marquis De La Fayette who had taken command of the American Forces in Virginia and who was at the time following Lord Cornwallis in his retreat towards Portsmouth; that after joining the Army, La Fayette continued the pursuit to Williamsburg where the British Army remained a short time and afterwards continued their retreat to Portsmouth. The American Army pressed forward and sometimes had some warm skirmishing with the rear of the British Army. At the crossing of James River near James Town an attack was made on the rear of the British Army by a party under Major Galvan, who was sustained by the Troop under the command of Genl. Wayne [Anthony Wayne] and the whole forces of the British marching out to the support of the rear, Genl. Wayne's situation became difficult and hazardous and he was saved only by the interposition of La Fayette who called him off and the whole of the American

Army retired behind a swamp. The declarant was not one of the party making the attack but was attached to Genl. Nelson's Brigade. He states that he continued in the service under the said officers during his said tour of 3 months and at its termination received a discharge in writing from his officers which was the only discharge in writing he ever received during the whole of his services in the war of the revolution and he has lost that one. He states that he recollects during this Tour to have seen besides his own company and regimental officers, Genl. La Fayette, Baron Steuben, Genl. Wayne, Genl. Nelson, Col Thorn, Col Posey, Col Clarke, & Major Galvan.

He further states and declares that about the middle of Sept 1781 he volunteered as a private in the Company of Capt. James Sutton which company was attached to the regiment of Col Samuel Temple of which company he was appointed orderly sergeant & served as such during said tour & that his company found the Army at the siege of York and that at the commencement of the siege his company and himself with it was detailed to prep horses and teams to aid in the construction of the breastworks of the Army; in hauling brush particularly; that they were engaged in this business mainly during the siege; he was presently present and saw the work progressing and at one time he rode in company with Quarter Master Genl. Frances Woolfolk between the American works and British fortifications; that during the progress of the siege he was sent to Queens Creek a distance of about 12 miles to assist in taking a cannon from on board a vessel and carry it to the American Army which service he performed. He states that the company & regiment to which he belonged was attached to the Brigade of Genl. Nelson. He recollects to have seen whilst in service on this tour, Genl. Washington, La Fayette, Wayne, Steuben, Nelson & Francis Woolfolk who as well as he now recollects was a Quarter Master General, Col Mathews, Col Thorn, Col Clarke, Col Posey, Major Armstead, Christopher Blackburn, Capt. John Long, John Woolfolk and Robert Ware. He further states that directly after the successful termination of the siege and surrender of Cornwallis he returned home to Caroline County. He states that he performed no further service after the surrender of Cornwallis. And he has no documentary evidence of any of his said services whatsoever and that he knows of but one person by whom he can prove any of his services whose testimony he can now procure, the name of which individual is Sally Jones and by her he can prove circumstances only which show that he performed a portion of them.

He hereby relinquishes very claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except to the present and declares that his name is not on the pension rolls of the Agency of any State.

Interrogations propounded to the said Joseph Jones by the court, viz

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Caroline Co. and State of Virginia on the 8th day of May 1757 according to the best information which I have on the subject

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

Answer: I have a record of my age in my Bible which is now at my own house in this county.

3rd: Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer: When first called into service I lived in the County of Caroline Virginia and lived in that County during the whole of the war except one year from the fall of 1776 to fall of 1777 during which period I lived in new Kent Co. Virginia. After the surrender of Cornwallis I returned from the Army to my home in Caroline Co. where I lived several years and then moved to Spotsylvania County Virginia where I remained till the year ___ and then moved to Fayette Co., Ky. and afterwards to Scott County, Ky. and from thence in the year 1799 I moved to the place on which I now reside in Owen County Kentucky and have remained stationary since.

4th: How were you called into service were you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?

Answer: Upon the first tour which I performed and the last at the siege of York I was a volunteer upon all the other tours I was drafted or took my regular turn with my neighbors.

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

Answer: Upon my first tour I recollect to have seen the service besides my own company & regimental officers Genl. Weedon commander of the Brigade to which I was attached, Col Woodford, Capt.

Robert Ware & Capt. David Jameson upon his 2nd tour he recollects to have seen in the service besides his own company & regimental officers, Genl. Weedon -- in the course of my services which were various and frequent to have seen and served with Col. Anthony Thorn, Col John Thorn, Col Bowyers, Col Clarke, Col Posey, Capt. John Woolfolk, Capt. Samuel Woolfolk, Capt. George Terrill, Capt.

Fitzhugh, Capt. Button, Capt. John Bacon, Major Armstead, Col. Samuel Temple, Genl. Nelson, Genl. Stevens, Genl. Baron Steuben, Genl. Wayne, Genl. Lafayette, Col Matthew's, Major Galvan, Genl.

Francis Woolfolk, Genl. Washington; that the whole of his services were performed between the York & James Rivers in endeavoring to protect the section of country from the incursions of the British and that from the fall of the year 1775 up to the surrender of Cornwallis in the year 1781 that part of the state of Virginia found but little repose and most of the able bodied men myself among the number were a large portion of said time under arms.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?

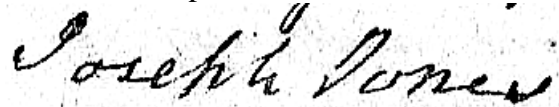
Answer: I never received a written discharge but for one tour of three months which was signed by my officers and which I have lost.

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 of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Answer: I am acquainted with John Searcy, a clergyman, William Maddox, Obadiah Willhoite & Taylor Searcy, Tobias Willhoite who can say what my character.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Joseph Jones

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Jones". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes.

[John Searcy, a clergyman, and William Haddon, Obadiah Wilthoite, Taylor Searcy & Tobias Willhoite gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 29]

The Affidavit of Sally Jones taken on the 5th day of October 1832 to be laid before the Secretary of the War Department of the United States of America to be used on the half of Joseph Jones an Applicant to be placed on the pension Roll of the United States as a revolutionary soldier. This Affiant being of lawful age and first duly cautioned charged and sworn deposeth and saith: that she was born in February 1761 according to the record of her age -- that she knows Joseph Jones of Owen County, who she has been informed has made his application in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That she was acquainted with him in the year 1775 in Caroline County Virginia -- that she recollects of his having been engaged in the service of the United States in the war upon frequent tours of duty from that time up to the year 1780, that is, she has seen him when he was about starting upon said tours and understood that he was going and saw him upon his return & understood that he had performed them -- that she cannot say how many tours he performed during said period but that from her present recollection she is certain that she heard and understood during said time of his being frequently in the service. This deponent further says that she was herself a resident of Caroline County and lived about that time in the neighborhood of said Joseph Jones. This deponent also further states that in the spring of the year 1780 or about that time as well as she remembers he went into the

Army in the company of Captain John Woolfolk who was a neighbor – and that she saw him when he returned – that from that time until Cornwallis was taken she recollects of his having gone into service upon 3 distinct & several occasions and of seeing him when he returned & she understood that he had performed the service and discharged his duty whilst upon his tours. She says that she knows nothing about the length of the tours of duty performed by him – that from her present recollection & impressions he must have been engaged during the principal part of his time – She recollects also to have heard the names of the principal part of the officers he went out under but she cannot now pretend to say what the names of all of them were: but she recollects to have understood that he was out in one or more of his tours under one Fitzhugh as Captain also under one G. Terrill as Captain and upon some other occasion under James Sutton and further saith not.

S/ Sally Jones, X her mark

[p 18: On September 25, 1838, in Owen County Kentucky, Sarah Jones, 77, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Joseph Jones a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$80 per annum; that she married him November 12, 1779 in Caroline County Virginia; that her husband died December 5th, 1837 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 21 family record:

[paper damaged, first name missing but presumably "Joseph"] Jones son of Thomas & Sarah was born 8th May 1751

Sarah Chandler daughter of Robert & Lucy Chandler was born 5th February 1761

Joseph Jones & Sarah Chandler was married on Thursday the 12th of November 1779 by the Reverend [paper damaged and name is illegible] Rector of Saint Marzaratts

Thomas Woodfolk Jones Son of Joseph & Sarah Jones was born Monday morning 13th May 1782

[paper damaged and name is illegible son of Joseph & [paper damaged and text illegible] born Saturday 11th September 1784

[Name too faint to discern] daughter of Joseph & [text too faint to discern] was born on Friday [text too faint to discern]

[Note: There are several other entries which are too faint to discern from the image posted online]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service. His widow was pensioned in a like amount commencing December 5th, 1837.]