

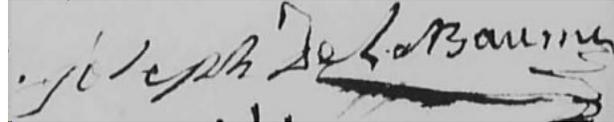
Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph De La Baume R2856

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 23 Dec 2013.

This day personally appeared before me Joseph De La Baume a resident of Bexar in the United States of Mexico [now Texas], and made Oath that he came over from France during the Revolutionary war of the British Colonies under the command of Gen'l. the Marquis de la Fayette [Lafayette] as a Captain and that he commanded a company during the war of the Revolution, and that he was present and commanded his company in all the battles where La Fayette was present and at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]. That he then obtained leave of absence from the Army to visit Louisiana, and during his stay there the Revolution broke out in France, which prevented his return to his native country. He resi[de]d in Louisiana until 1800, when he removed to his present residence which is thirty two years since. When the Revolution broke out at this place [1810] he was possessed of seven thousand Doubloons and twenty five thousand dollars in silver and large quantities of valuable plate, which was taken by the Royalists of this country, who suspected him of entertaining "liberal principles," and himself imprisoned and kept in Irons for seven months. No portion of his property has ever been returned to him. He is in his hundred and second year since the sixth day of the present month. He further states that he is very poor and is too infirm to labour and therefore prays that a pension may be granted as provided by the acts of Congress of the United States of America.

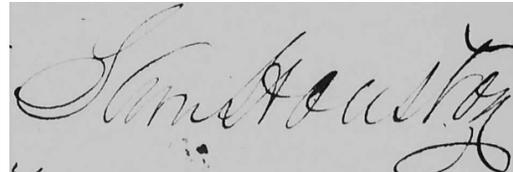
He further makes oath that all his official papers were taken and destroyed by the Royalists when he was take prisoner, as well as his private papers – and that his only reliance is upon official papers on file in washington City for the evidence necessary to his identity and the justice of his claim to a pension. Done at Bexar 18th Jany 1833.



I Certify that the inclosed statement was taken by me, and deposited before the Alcalde [Mayor] of Bexar and that I know him to be the proper officer, before whom the same should be taken.

Bexar

18th Jany 1833 Sam Houston



[The file includes a copy of the above application in Spanish and a letter in Spanish dated 13 Feb 1833 from Baume to Stephen F. Austin requesting that he certify the application.]

Governour Lewis Cass Secretary of War of the U.S.

Bexar Department of Texas in the State of Mex[ico] the 15th February 1833

Honorable Sir:

You will receive herewith a petition of mine to the Government of the U.S. praying that a pension, or some Release may be granted to me for the reasons therein expressed.

I do further make know to you that I am too old and infirm to be able to transport myself to the U.S. to petition and enjoy the same there: I pray therefore that the same be remited to me here, if possible and if not in the State of Louisiana by writting to me as below directed. I observe at the same time that I never knew that such an Act had ever been passed to releave the Soldiers of the Revolutionary war till now – that I have a wife of upwards than Sixty years of age.

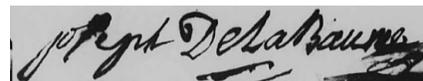
I further advert that, before the french Revolution, I was Count of the now extinguished County De la

Baume (not far from Avignon in France) and that the Company I commanded was called de la Baumes of the Regiment commanded by the Vice Count de Bonnevalle:

that, in case I should not be found as such in the Register at Washington, I will, upon receiving your answer, write to the General Marquis de la Fayette for further autentications on the subject.

Be then so good, Respected Sir, as to dirrect your answer on the resultate of this my humble petition to my Attorney Esteban F. Austin (via Brasoria [Brazoria] Texas – or as by him dirrected

And remaining your very obedient and respectfull servant I am yours



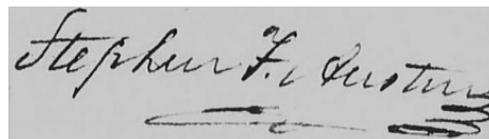
San Filipe de Austin (Texas)/ Feb'y 20, 1833

Sir, In compliance with the request of Cap. Joseph De la Baume, contained in the forgoing letter, I transmit the enclosed papers addressed by him to the war department of the U.S.

I have been personally acquainted with the petitioner since 1821 – his character for honor and integrity is unimpeachd – he is highly respected by those who know him – he is very old & infirm & poor. That late Baron de Bastrop frequently told me that La Baume came ot america with LaFayette as a captain in the french army. I believe that the statement made by him before the Alcalde of Bexar in Spanish and that in English certified by Gen. Sam Houston of Tennessee, which are enclosed contain the truth. I know that the Spanish statement is authenticated before the proper officer – that he was duly appointed and in the legal exercise of the office of Register and acting Alcalde of the city of Bexar at the date of the said statement. I know his signature and those of the witnesses.

Any communications addressed to my care for Cap. La Baume shall be promptly forwarded to him at Bexar, or to his family should he have died before they reach me.

Should what I have said be of any service to the petitioner my writing & signature can probably be identified by Gen. W. H. Ashley [William Henry Ashley], or Col. T. H. Benton [Thomas Hart Benton] of Missouri I have the honor to remain very respectfully/ your most ob't. s't.



War Dept/ Pension off/ Dec'r. 1833

Sir The claim of Capt. Joseph De La Baume for revol'y service in the allied army has been received & examined.

The principles of that allied service referred the pay & remuniration of the officers & soldiers of each to their respective governments & consequently the Act of 7 June '32 under which this claim is present provided alone for those who belonged to the American forces. The papers are placed on our files.

Stephen S. Austin [sic] esq'r/ San Filip de Austin/ via Brasoria Texas

[See endnote.]

NOTE: The 1832 law did not make any such restriction as claimed in the letter from the Pension Office.