Virginia documents pertaining to Jesse Basye VAS2422
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia. Some online documents were not deciphered.]

To the Honourable the Executive of Virginia. The petition of Jeremiah Basye Respectfully sheweth, that his Brothers Benjamin [Benjamin Basye VAS2421] and Jesse Basye inlisted in the year 1775 as soulders in the Revolutionary War in Capt. Jno. Chiltons [John Chilton BLWt519-300] Company in the 3d Virginia Ridgment in the County of Fauquier for Two years he presumes as the Law then Existing onley authorised enlistments for that length of time and were engaged in all the Battles in which that Company was Concerned and afterwards as he is Informed and Believes marched to the South where they died in the Service of their Country unmarried and without Children leaving your petitioner they only Surviving Brother and nearest of kin, in Consequnce of this Connexers your petitioner has been endeavouering to obtain whatever of reward has been Vouchsafed to them by their Country for which they gave up their lives, but thus far, has been so unfortunate as not to have succeeded, he therefore again begs leave to present his Claim to your Honourable Body in the hopes that Justice will be done to their Right and to him as their [several words missing] him that portion of Lands secured to them or their Heirs by Law your Petitioner is advised, by those most Conversant with qustions of this sort that the papers which will accompany this petition will shew that his deceased Brothers were intitled to a Bounty of Lands according to the provisions of Law – that they inlisted for two years at first they were in Service after that period have Expired and after the period when the Act authorising inlistments to be made for three years was ennacd which your petitioner is advised is proof that they Reenlisted after the passage of the latter Law, and of Court according to its provisions your petitioner begs leave futher to state that altho much Time has passed away during which he might have prefered his Claim he was not unmindfull of his right but having Removed out of this State he was not in a situation to incur the Expence and loss of time, which the attempt would subject him to, and sence he has been endeavoring to obtain it, he has Expended as much money or nearly so, as the Lands would sell for, if he were to obtain it – he therefor Relies under [illegible word] Circumstances his Clam will Receive the Corrminance[?] and favour your Honourable Body, and his proofs, that liberal Construction which Equity demands – after so great relaps of time, and the Consequent differuctlies in the way of obtaining full and perfect proof in Relation to a subject so nacient – your petitioner begs leave, to state that he was at washington City about Two weeks ago and in the War depatment, where they stated to me that I Should apply to Richmond for my Land warrants and bring them there to be Certify’d – your petitioner &c Jeremiah Basye

In the year 1776 in [undeciphered word], I joined in Fauquier County in Capt. John Chilton’s [BLWt519-300] company in the 3d Virginia Regiment, for the period of two years; I was Serjeant in that company and was engaged with my Regiment in the battles on York Island [Manhattan], at White Plains [28 Oct 1776], at Brandy Wine [Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777], Princeton [3 Jan 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777], and, finally, as a private in a company of Militia under command of Capt. Thomas Helm [VAS1478] [page torn] was at the siege of York-Town [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. After my term of enlistment in the 3d Va. Reg’t had drawn nearly to a close, I agreed to enlist and did enlist in the Dragoons under Major William Washington, who had been transfered from the 3d Va. Reg’t to the Dragoons, (and the latter promoted to a Majority,) for the period of three years. After the year 1776, there were no enlistments in the 3d Va. Reg’t for a shorter period than three years or during the war. I received a grant for two hundred acres of land, under my last service, from the Commonwealth of Virginia. Benjamin [Benjamin Basye VAS2421], Jesse and William Basye [William Basey (Basye, Basye) BLWt1650-100], were my near neighbours, and enlisted for two years in Chilton’s company in the 3d Virg’a Reg’t. They enlisted some
months before I did; and on the 23rd of December 1777, I enlisted, as above said, under Major Wm. Washington, the state having agreed to give all those then in the 3rd Reg’t furloughs for three months and bounty in lands if they would enlist anew for three years or during the war. Having enlisted, I returned to Fauquier and on the first of April those who had reenlisted met at Fredericksburg and returned under the command of Major Washington, to the North, but, in the course of the year, I think in the summer of 1778, Major Washington was promoted to the command of [George] Baylor’s Reg’t of Dragoons, and was ordered to the South; I remained to the North until the last of December (23rd) 1780, when I was discharged at Lancaster in Pennsylvania. At the time I returned to Fauquier on my reenlistment, on furlough, I left Benjamin, Jesse and William Basye, who had enlisted some months before me in Chilton’s company in 1776, in service in Chilton’s company. I never saw either of them after I came home on furlough. I understood, and believe, for I never heard it contradicted or doubted, that they afterwards served in the Virginia line to the South. Benjamin and John Basye died in service, as I have always understood. from under my hand this 8th of April 1829.

Teste [William Tomlin S6261]

Robert Brent