

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Jesse Witt: W6524

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia}

County of Bedford Sct}

On this 30th day of August in the year of our Lord 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of the said County of Bedford in the state aforesaid, Jesse Witt a resident of the County and state aforesaid, aged according to his belief seventy years on the 11th day of May last past, who being first duly affirmed according to law, doth on his affirmation, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832, that he enlisted in the army of the United States on the first day of March 1777 with Capt. George Lambert and served in the 14th Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named officers towit Colo [Charles] Lewis who commanded the Regiment in the first instance and Abraham Buford who was the Major of the same, George Lambert the Captain [last name illegible] the 1st Lieutenant, Rogers the 2nd Lieutenant and Ward[?] the Ensign of the Company in which the applicant enlisted he resided in the said County of Bedford in the aforesaid state at the time of his enlistment and marched from the said County on the 25th of March 1777 with his company which was joined by other companies at Fredericksburg, the route was subsequently through Alexandria Georgetown and Baltimore to the main Army under General Washington then lying at Middlebrook in New Jersey. Upon joining the army the 14th Regiment was a part of the brigade under General Weeden [sic: George Weedon] in the first instance. he continued in the service under the immediate command of General Washington during the whole subsequent period of his service and was in the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & Germantown [4 Oct 1777] in the course of the last mentioned year - after the battle of Germantown (but at what particular period or in what order he cannot remember) Col Davis & Col Parker [see note below] commanded the Regiment and Gen'l. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] the Brigade to which he belonged. The army to which he was attached went into Winter quarters at Valley forge and in the spring of 1778 crossed the delaware river and pursued the British army through New Jersey to Monmouth and thence they marched to White Plains in New York and afterwards to West Point. at the latter place he was compelled by sickness to quit the field & was sent to a hospital - his company quartered that winter as he understood at Middlebrook in New Jersey, at which place he joined it in the month of May 1779 but his infirmities and & inability were such that he was shortly afterwards sent back to the Hospital and did not join his company again til shortly before his discharge, on the 10th of September in the year 1779 in the high lands of New York. he received his discharge which was signed by Colo. Parker & Gen'l Muhlenburg. He enlisted for the term of three years and after serving [two or three words illegible] from the foregoing dates more than two years, was discharged in consequence of disability incurred in the performance of his duty. The discharge given him by Colo Parker & Gen'l. Muhlenburg bears testimony to the fidelity with which he has served his Country, and recommended him to the legislature of Virginia as deserving the attention and assistance of the Government. This discharge he shortly afterwards placed in the hands of the delegates representing his county in the General assembly and was in consequence thereof placed in the invalid pension list and drew for many years half pay or forty dollars per year. The discharge above mentioned he has never seen since he sent it to Richmond and supposes it may be filed and preserved in the archives of the State. - He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state except in the State of Virginia.

Affirmed and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[signed] Jesse Witt

NOTES:

In May 1779 Gen. Washington assigned Col. Richard Parker to recruit reinforcements for Charleston SC, and Col. William Davies was Parker's temporary replacement.

On 25 March 1843 Alice Witt, 79, applied for a pension stating that she married Jesse Witt (year illegible), and he died 3 Feb 1842. With her application is a copy of a statement signed by Alcy Brown and witnessed by Henry Brown Jr and Samuel Brown that, "I being of age intend marriage to Jesse Witt," dated 6 May 1786. There is also a copy of a bond signed by Jesse Witt and Henry Brown, Jr. dated 6 May 1786 in Bedford County for the marriage of Witt to Alcy Brown. Documents in the file state that Alice Witt died 9 July 1844 leaving the following living children: Lettice Witt, Elizabeth Witt, Daniel Witt, Alice Witt, Milly Witt, and Jesse Witt.