Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Paul Speers VAS1848 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Cabell County]

To the Honorable, the Legislature of Virginia

The Petition of Paul Speers of Cabell County, humbley sheweth, that during the American Revolution, he was a Young man, that he was on several occasions called upon to perform Tours of duty, which he did without hesitation – and not from any hope of pecuniary reward. Yet at the close of the War, he was found in the camp & from the frequent exposures in the month of October 1781 he was discharged from the Hospital, that he has & herewith incloses the certificates Just. Livingston [Justice Livingston] the Surgeon, certifying his discharge.

Your Petitioner humbly states, that the effects of his sufferings in the camp, has closely followed him thro' life that by his industry he has raised a large family, who have all left him except his youngest son, that he is old & infirm & without the means of support, altho' his Family is small, his wife of equal age, they are no longer able to provide for themselves That it is with great pain, that he has to acknowledge to his government, his dependent situation, but without their aid he must become chargeable, to those, on whom he has no claims – & hopes that his services altho rendered from different views, than to procure a place on a pension List, when pressed with age & want will be so appreciated to afford the Humble boon of an annual allowence, sufficient to provide for his sustenences, and as an old and gratefull Soldier, he will ever pray Paul Speers/ Nov 12th 1827

Oct'r 27th 1781

Poul Sp[rest of name and several words undeciphered] hospital and has leave of absents to Recover [undeciphered word] Health Just't Livington/ Surgeon states hospital

State of Ohio/ Lawrence County To wit

This day personly appeard before me Simeon Shattuck an acting justice in and for Winsor township Charity Spears of lawfull age and made oath that she was aquanted with the s'd Paul Spears above fourty years ago and knows he had his Discharge ever since she was aquanted with him and always understood he served a faithfull tour in the Milietary servis for I was aquanted with his Mother and Sisters and Brothers and I understood there was grate grief about him before he came home by his sending his money and clothes home before he came him self for he was sick and left at the hospitle and I saw the man that the told me brought him from the hospitle after Cornwalas was taken at little york [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] and further this deponant sayeth not

July 26th 1827

Simeon Shattuck JP

State of Ohio/ Lawrence County Ss

This day personly appeard before me Simeon Shattuck an acting justice of the piece in and for Winsor township John Folzrer[?] of lawfull age and made oath that he saw the marks of the wounds that Paul Spear told him he the s'd P Spears got by hard lying when he was in the war he also says he was aquainted with the s'd. Spears for severl years and I have understood from all information and conversation and all circumstances that he the s'd Spears served a tour in the Militery serves and by the hardship he suffered in the war and the wound in his hip he says caused a pane now for more then thirty

years past which for that time has often rendred him incapeble of common labour and further this declarant sayeth not July 26th 1827 Simeon Shattuck JP

Virginia Cabell County to wit

Paul Spears Jr. of Lawfull age personally appeared before me the Subscriber a justice of the peace for said County & made oath in due for of Law that the only property which his father Paul Spears Sr. owns to the best of his knowledge is a few wheel right tools & one Skellet the whole worth about six dollars Given under my hand this 16th day of August 1827 Solomon Thornburgh

Virginia/ Cabell County to wit

This day Henry Peyton [pension application VAS1846] of Lawfull age personaly appeared before me the subscriber a justice of the peace for said County & made oath in due form that about forty years ago he the said Henry Peyton was acquainted with Paul Spears of said County & that he the said Henry Peyton from the Circumstance of seeing the discharge of the said Paul Spears & from conversation at different times with said Spears he the said Henry Peyton verily believes that the said Paul Spears was in the military service of the united states previous to the time above referred to Given under my hand this 17th May 1827 S. Thornburgh

Dec'r 6th 1827 ref'd to Claims/ 1827 Dec'r 22d Rejected/ 24 Reported