Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to James Mason VAS4005 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

State of Virginia Greensville County to Wit

Personally appeared before me Nathaniel Land a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Greensville and State of Virginia John Goodrum Sen'r [S8589] aged Seventy five years Being first duly sworn on the holy Evangelists of Almighty God, saith That in the year One thousand seven hundred and seventy five Captain James Mason of Brunswick County commanded a Volunteer Company and repaired to head quarters at Norfolk, That he remained there till after that town was burnt [1 Jan 1776] and then the army moved to the Great Bridge where this affiant joined it in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy six. That after the Battle of the Great Bridge [9 Dec 1775] the said Capt James Mason raised a company of what was called minute men for twelve months and marched to Little York. But before the expiration of the twelve months Captain Mason received a Commission in the Continental Service in the fifteenth Regiment and joined the army Commanded by General George Washington in Philadelphia in the Summer of 1777, that afterwards the army moved to the State of New Jersey. This affiant receiving an appointment in the Staff Department left the fifteenth Regiment and went to South Carolina. That when he left the said Regement the said Capt James Mason was then with it That after this affiant left the Regiment he understood that the aforesaid Capt James Mason left the army before the expiration of the three years. And this affiant further saith that Edmund Mason, George Mason, and Jane Mason are the only surviving heirs and distributees of the aforesaid James Mason now deceased. Given under my hand and seal this 16th day of December 1830

I John Slate of Virginia and County of Brunswick do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Col. David Mason [VAS506] who commanded the 15th Virginia Rigiment upon continiltal establishment during the revoluitionary war & that he continued in the service for three years & perhaps longer. I belonged to a company commaned by Capt. James Mason which company was attached to s'd Regment, Capt. James Mason was in the survice three years or more sometimes commanding, sometimes on recruting & other survice. given under my hand this 23rd day of March 1831.

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The Executive are respectfully requested to take into consideration, the application of the heirs of Capt James Mason for land Bounty. It appears from the Affidavit of Mr. John Goodrum Sen'r a man of unimpeachable character, that Capt Mason entered the service of his County in 1775, in command of a volunteer company; that after the Burning of Norfolk, he raised a company of minute men, and was in active service in that command until the Continental Congress, after the Declaration of Independence called on the several states for their respective Quotas of Troops for the common defence. That he rec'd a commission of Captain in the 15th Reg't on Continental Establishment and at the head of his company, joined the army under Washington in Philadelphia. After serving there for some time, Mr. Goodrum was ordered to the South, where he remained for some time after the term of enlistment of the Company was expired. He states that that term was three years, and the Executive have recently granted that Gentleman his Bounty land, for his service, on his enlistment in Capt. Mason's Company. Mr. Goodrum states that after he left the Reg't he heard that Capt. Mason left the army before the three years were out. It is apparent from the affidavit that he proves actual service in Capt. Mason for more than 3 years, if the

service in the volunteer & minute corps, be computed. But in the family, Capt Mason being my Grandfather, it has never been understood or beleived, that he resigned or left the service otherwise than on furlough probably to be married to his second wife. It appears that in '83 he rec'd in person the bal[lance] of his pay as Captain & by the certificate of the Register that he rec'd no Bounty land. I find that his brother, David Mason, a Captain [sic: Colonel] in the same Regiment, rec'd warrants for his Bounty Land in 1807. My Grandfather died in 1784, and his oldest child was only 14 years of age. There is no person interested in this application, but the heirs, who are my father, Edmund Mason, George Mason, & Jane of of Major Seth Mason of Frederick County. The difficulties, heretofore attending these claims have prevented them from even enquiring into the claim. Very Respectfully

B Mason/ Jan'y 28th 1831.