Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Joseph Mosby VAS4046

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.]

Henrico County Sct:

This day Jesse Cornett [S9193] personally appeared before me Lyddall Bowles a justice of the peace for said County and made oath that he was well acquainted with Mr. Joseph Mosby having been raised in the same neighborhood. That the said Joseph Mosby was an officer in the Revolutionary Army he thinks a Lieutenant his brother William [William Mosby VAS767], he recollects perfectly Major William Mosbys purchasing a horse from this affiants father – the horse got away and was found some where about Petersburg and his father at the request of Major Mosby, went there to prove the property. Both the Mr. Mosbys were in the regular army, and were in actual service commanding men when the Vessels were burnt in James River when Lord Cornwallis [part missing at bottom of page] he does not [part missing at bottom of page] York. He does recollect that they were in service off and on nearly the whole war. This affiant was in service at the time the Vessells were burnt, as a Militia man. This affiant further makes oath that Mr Joseph Mosby returned upon a Furlough from the northern campaign in consequence of bad health.

Given under my hand this 13th day of April 1833.

Lyd'l Bowles

County Henrico Sct:

This day Obadiah Griffin [S8614] personally appeared before me Lyddall Bowles a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that he was in service with the late Mr. Joseph Mosby during the Revolutionary war that he was an officer in the Regular service either a Lieutenant or Ensign, he well recollects that the said Mosby and his brother Major William Mosby served to the north, the latter was then a Captain he thinks in the Continental line. When this affiant was ordered out, it was to march to the South both the said Mosbys marched to the South at the same time.

This affiant further makes oath that both William and Joseph Mosby were in service upwards of three years, he cannot now recollect the exact time, but to the best of his knowledge and belief it was at least for the time above stated. These facts are known and recollected by him because he was a near neighbor of the Mosbys went to school with them, and grew up with them.

Given under my and this 17th day of April 1833. Lyd'l Bowles

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session, 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 5th day of August 1783, in the name of Joseph Mosby as a Serg't inf for £23.10.5, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this Sixteenth day of May 1833. Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.

The heirs of Joseph Mosby respectfully represent to the Executive that their father the said Joseph Mosby entered the army of the Revolution at an early period of the war and continued in service as they have understood until his health became so much impaired as to compel him to return home from the northern campaign on furlough. That notwithstanding his bad health he was again in service under the Marquis Lafayette when the State was invaded by Cornwallis. His neighbors who were also in service at that time, state that he was an officer, either a Lieutenant or Ensign, their affidavits are enclosed. Upon

inspecting practically the books in the Auditors office, he appears to have been a Sergeant and received pay as such, as appears by the Certificate of the Auditor enclosed herein. They think it probable he received a Commission from the Governor & Council when the State was invaded, but not having access to the Executive Journals are unable to ascertain that fact, otherwise than by the affidavits filed herewith. They pray the Executive to allow them such bounty in land as they may be deemed entitled to.

Wm Lambert[?] Atty

NOTE: Muster rolls for the company of Capt. William Mosby in the 5th Virginia Regiment list Sergeant Joseph Mosby as follows:

Aug 1776 - 1 May 1777: "left in Virginia"

May 1777 - 30 June 1777: "in Virginia"

Aug 1777: "Left Virginia"

Nov 1777: Enlisted 17 Jan'y 1776; "Left Sick in Virginia"

Dec 1777: enlisted 17 Jan 1776; "sick Virginia"

Jan 1778: "sick in Virginia"