

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Deatly (Deatley) S10139 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } Ss.
County of Westmoreland }

On this 29th day of April 1834 personally appeared before me Francis C. Triplett a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, James Deatly a resident of the County of Westmoreland and State of Virginia aged Eighty four years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated.

He was called out some time in the year 1777 or 1778 (the precise time not now recollected) but it was when the Enemy's Ships first made their appearance in the Potomac River) and was stationed on the said River until after the said Ships left the River the object of this was to watch and guard the movements of the enemy and to guard the residence of Col. John A Washington [John Augustine Washington, brother of George Washington] and to prevent the negroes from taking the Canoes and going off to the Enemy. He states that during this service he was under Captain Paty Sanford [Patrick Sanford] and others, and must have been in service at least Eight Months.

He further states, that he moved into the County of Essex and State aforesaid and after having been a resident of that County some time, he was called, or drafted into service, and marched from said County, under Capt. Kellis, to Richmond where they met with the 3rd Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Charles Dabney, to which Regiment his Company, (that is Capt Kellis Company) was attached, and in which Regiment he served his tour out at Richmond and other places on James River. he further states that this tour was for two months. He also further states that James Holbert, William Garrett, and James Newman were his messmates during this tour, all of whom he believes are now dead

He was afterwards drafted for two months, in the fall of 1781 and marched from the said County of Essex under Capt. Kellis & Capt. Hancock Lee to a place called Hubards old field [sic: Hubbard's Old Field], where, from some cause not now recollected, he was put under some other officers whose name he does not remember, from Hubards old field he was marched to different places and at length he was taken sick and being unable to march any further, he obtained a furlow from a Captain Sthreshly for four days but as this was but a few days before the siege of York he did not get well enough to return until after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at the siege of York [sic: Cornwallis at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781]. This tour was for two months, which time he served out with the exception of a few days.

He was born in Richmond County Virginia, but was living in the County of Westmoreland when first called into service; afterwards moved to the County of Essex as before stated. He has no record of his age, but states that he is now upwards of Eighty four years of age. He is now living in the County of Westmoreland, and State aforesaid, and has been a resident of of said County for Thirty years past.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension list roll of the agency of any State. James hisXmark Deatley

[On 26 July 1834 Deatley made a similar declaration, but with the following addition:]

He cannot swear positively how long he served, but thinks that he was in service at least twelve months, during which time was either in Garrison or in the field and was in every instance called into service by competent authority, and during the said service he was not employed in any civil pursuit. He has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of but one person living who can testify to his services.

This day, William Cogwell personally appeared before me a justice of the peace for the county of Westmoreland, and made oath; That James Deatley was at the seige of York in 1781 as a common soldier under the command of Capt Thomas Kellis; and He also saw him as a soldier under the command of the same officer in the City of Richmond & at Charlottesville in the Spring of 1781.

Given under my hand this 30th day of Novemb. 1834 Law Washington J.P.

NOTES:

On 26 July 1834 Christopher Deatley, “going on seventy five years old,” certified that his brother, James Deatley, had served 12 months or more.

On 2 Jan 1837 John Taliaferro wrote to the Pension Commissioner “[i]n referrence to James Deatley, the stout but crippled man, I took to your Office early in the early part of the Session.... a sober, industrious man, and of unquestioned integrity & veracity.”