Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Seay S31352 Transcribed by Will Graves f18VA 1/24/12

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Kentucky Washington County Sct.

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Washington County Court now sitting Jacob Seay aged 74 years in December next a resident Citizen of the said County of Washington & State aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law made the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision of the Act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as follows (to wit).

In the first place as a private drafted Militia man from the County of Amelia and State of Virginia under Captain Craddock [probably William Craddock] bound for a place called Williamsburg on James River if I recollect not, I am not certain who said Craddock's under officers were, Our route was starting from Amelia Courthouse thence through the Town of Petersburg on the Appomattox River from thence to Mimes [Mims'?] ferry on James River, & from thence to the mouth of the stream called Chickahominy of the said James River, stopping sometimes at each of the above named places & after remaining some time at the last named place (Chickahominy) there an express met us & we were all discharged I being on this tour from home about six weeks to the best of my recollection. The above tour was performed in 1777 or 1778 I believe.

Then again in one of the above named years I marched again as above, as a drafted Militia Soldier under Captain Booker [probably Edward Booker] of said State of Virginia & County of Amelia, setting out as above from Amelia Courthouse, thence to Petersburg & stopping for some time at a place just below, called Blamford [?] Church, ¹ from thence moving slowly from place to place stopping some time at each place until at length we arrived at Mimes [?] ferry on James River where we remained at least three weeks at which place we were discharged. If I am not mistaken I was from home this tour eight weeks.

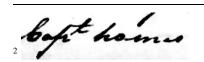
Then again in my third tour I started again as a drafted Militia Soldier from the County of Amelia & State of Virginia & left home on the 10th day of January 1781 under Captain Crawley bound for place low down in Virginia on James River called Portsmouth which place the Traytor [traitor] Arnold [Benedict Arnold] occupied that winter as a British commander. It was the same winter that Morgan defeated Tarleton at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781]. Our route in this tour was from the aforesaid County of Amelia to Chesterfield County where we were armed & near which place Captain Crawley sickened & returned home & we were then put under a Captain

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homes [?]² & we were conducted from said Chesterfield Courthouse by said Captain Homes & two Continental field Officers as I believe to a place called Suffolk a small town on the Nansemond River in the Vicinity of Portsmouth, In the neighborhood of which place we spent the winter: our further route in this tour was from the before named place Chesterfield Courthouse to the Town of Petersburg from thence taking a road down James River on the South side thereof passing at a place called Cabbinpint [Cabin Point] & another called Smithfield to the aforesaid neighborhood & town of Suffolk. After getting there some short time the above said Captain Homes left us & our Company was then dissolved & myself & several men was put under a Captain Allen from Cumberland County, Virginia & Sergeant Samuel Overton with several other of our men was put under a Captain Haskins from Cumberland County & State of Virginia above I can't say certainly what became of the balance; Our Brigadier General in the first part of this tour was Robert Lawson, at length he went to the South & joined General Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army, and after that General Muhlenberg was brigade commander & if I am not rougley [? Wrongly?] informed the Barron Steuben was our Commander in chief. Our two field Officers above named who conducted us from Chesterfield Courthouse was a Colonel Downman & Major Edmundson. From this Tour I was discharged on the 11th day of April & 10 days to get home in, make this tour three months & ten days.

On my returning home the same year sometime in the next June I believe I engaged with a Mr. Ford an undertaker [sic, caretaker?] at the public buildings at the Point of Fork lying in Virginia between the South & North Forks of James River. The aforesaid buildings was for our Armory, Store houses, Blacksmith & Taylors [tailor's] shops & for Artificers of various occupations [?] to work in, at which place I continued to work for at least two years, the greatest inducement that kept me there was that it was considered a Military Establishment as all the workmen that was engaged there was exempted from the Militia deauty [duty] while there, which induced me to believe it will be considered as military deauty & such as well entitled such as did work there at that time to the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. As a further proof of its being a Military establishment as soon as the building was made fit to receive munitions of War, there was brought there a quantity of beeves [?] to the amount of at least 5000 & vast items of ammunition of various descriptions & about 20 Taylors [tailors] under a Continental Captain Peyton besides Blacksmiths & other Artificers to repair, clean & keep the arms in order, likewise a Company who was [word written over and indecipherable] names of Overton & Hamilton who issued at least 100 Rations per day, & I believe the whole of the business carried on there of every description was carried on under a Contract made by & with Colonel Davis who was Commissioner of the War Office for the State of Virginia as I was informed.

In answer to the Interrogatories to be propounded to all Applicants I answer that I was born in the year 1758. I have a Record of my age, & there was one kept in my father's house. When I was called into the service I lived in the County of Amelia State of Virginia, & I now live in Washington County & State of Kentucky. I was always drafted into Service & I never had a written discharge nor I never was a Substitute, I have in this Declaration stated several Officers both Continental & Militia, & I don't remember the number of any of the Regiments I served in; I am in hopes there will be some record evidence found to set me right should I have made any mistake through lack of memory.



If I have made no mistake in my first tour I served six weeks in my next eight weeks & in my last three months & ten days, which makes the whole six months & eighteen days, & two years service at the Point of Fork; The Affidavits herewith transmitted will more fully prove the above Statements. I lastly state that I have no documentary evidence of my Service & I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Jacob Seay

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[Barnabus McHenry, a clergyman, and Samuel Grundy gave the standard supporting affidavit. In their affidavit they included the fact that the applicant served for 2 years as the high Sheriff of the County.]

State of Kentucky Washington County Sct.

On this 24th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Washington County Court now sitting Samuel Overton a resident Citizen of said County of Washington & State aforesaid who being duly sworn according to law states & says himself & Jacob Seay Esquire was raised Children together near neighbors in the County of Amelia & State of Virginia & from their size said Overton is certain said Seay must be two years older than himself besides which with said Seay & Overton have had frequent conversations about their ages [several words written over and indecipherable] induces said Overton to believe that said Seay is 74 years old sometime this year; respecting said Seay's two first tours of duty performed & named in his Declaration I only [?] remember such tours being performed and well remember Captain Booker being at Mimes ferry on James River on above of [indecipherable word], as I have seen him there myself if I mistake not the aforesaid Seay with him, Said Seay's three months & ten days tour named in his Declaration Aquarian he set out from home on the 10th day of January & was discharged the 10th day of April 1781 also his statement made in said declaration respecting his work at the Point of Fork I know both of said Statements to be true, respecting his term of service I being with him in starting & returning in the three months tour & with him at the Point of Fork at least twenty-two months at said place, which lacks only two months of two years, which is agreeable to his own statement, I also state & know that said Seay acted as a Magistrate in the County of Washington & State of Kentucky at least 14 years & 2 years as High Seraph & from good information & my own knowledge of him I believe he has faithfully discharged his duty, & that he is a truthful honest man. I make this statement in reference to his Declaration I having particularly & [indecipherable word] examined the same.

S/ Saml. Overton

Sum Oviter

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20.88 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months & 8 days service as a private in the Virginia militia.]