

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jacob Sperry¹ W2187

Christina

f66VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/29/12

[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.]

[f p. 13]

State of Virginia Frederick County SS

On this 4th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Frederick County and sitting, Jacob Sperry a resident of the said County of Frederick and State of Virginia aged about Seventy-eight years, who first 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 in the militia under the following named officers viz.: Captain Charles Mynn Thurston and Lieutenant Edward Smith in the month of December 1776, that he marched with the said Company from Winchester, through Fredericktown in Maryland, York and Lancaster and Reading in Pennsylvania, to Trenton when they arrived soon after the Hessians were taken at that place [December 26, 1776], after which they joined Lord Sterling [Genl. William Alexander, Lord Stirling] with whom he remained marching about to Morristown and other places in New Jersey until he was discharged after having served three months: He entered the service in the Militia again in the fall of the year 1777, not long before the battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777], under Captain Wilson and Lieutenant Goldlove Heiskell [Goodlove Hiskell] and marched from Winchester the same route as before as far as Reading, and from thence joined the main Army under General Washington in the neighborhood of Philadelphia where he remained until the expiration of three months, when he was discharged: And he entered the service again in the Militia him for March or April 1781, under Captain Frost [probably William Frost], marched through Fauquier County to Fredericksburg, then to Richmond, went below Richmond and stayed a while, and then marched back to Richmond, and on the expiration of the term of three months was discharged – that he does not recollect any of the Company or field officers with which he served but those that he has named excepting Lord Sterling – And that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service, excepting the affidavits that accompany this declaration.

And in answer to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department the said Jacobs Sperry declares:

1. That he was born in Frederick County Virginia about the year 1754.
2. That he has no record of his age – that it was recorded in his father's Bible, but he does not know where it is.
3. That he was living in Winchester, when he was called into service and has lived there and in Frederick County ever since, and now lives in Frederick County Virginia.

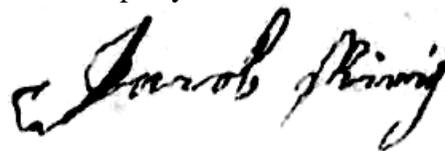
¹ BLWt26144-160-55

4. That he was a volunteer the first tour; a substitute for man named Gilkerson the second tour, and he was drafted the third.
5. That he cannot state the names of any of the regular officers who were with the troops where he served excepting Lord Sterling.
6. That he did receive discharges, but they are lost & don't recollect by whom they were given.
7. John B Tilden Esquire of Newton, Stephensburg, Samuel Kersheval of the same place, Major Isaac Hite and Peter Sperry near Middleton in Frederick County and others that he could name.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in Open Court.

S/ Jacob Sperry



[John B Tilden, a clergyman, and Lemuel Bent gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 28]

Virginia Frederick County to wit:

I certify that on this day John Sperry² and John Grim³ personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made oath according to law that they are and have been from their youth well acquainted with Jacob Sperry an applicant for a Pension from the United States, that they served with him in Captain Charles M. Thurston's Company of militia during the Revolutionary War, in the year 1776 & 1777, and know that he served in the said Company for three months on that tour, that he the said John Sperry is about seventy-five years of age and that he the said John Grim is nearly seventy-nine years of age. And I do certify that day the said John Sperry and John Grim all persons of good character and standing and entitled to the fullest credit. Given under my hand this 4th day of September 1832

S/ Daniel Gold

[f p. 36]

Andrew Pitman⁴ came before me a Justice of the Peace in and for said County, and made oath that he knew Jacob Sperry to have served a time in the Militia under Captain Lauck which he believes was in the year 1781 he said Pittman being in the same establishment of Militia of Frederick County Virginia and after rendezvousing at Barry's ferry on Shenandoah they then marched to little York Virginia against Cornwallis where they served this tour after joining the Army under the Marquis Lafayette. Witness my hand & seal this 5th day of September 1832.
S/ John B Tilden, JP

[f p. 21: On March 16, 1849 in Frederick County Virginia, Christina Sperry, 79, filed for her widow's pension under the 1848 act as the widow of Jacob Sperry; that she married her husband August __ 1794 or 5; that her husband died October 12, 1833; she signed her application with her mark.]

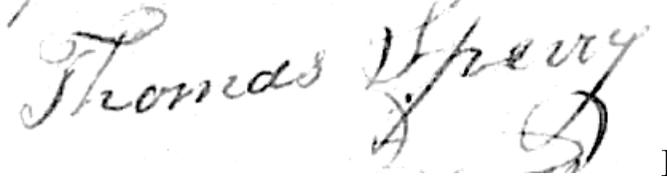
² FPA R9992

³ FPA S8628

⁴ FPA W9998

[f p. 7: David Stickley testified in Frederick County Virginia on July 19, 1849 that he was then 69 years old; that he was born and raised on a farm adjacent to the farm of Jacob Sperry and his wife; that he was married in June 1800; that he was single several years after Jacob and Christina Sperry were married; that the could not have been married any later than 1796 or 1797.]

[f p. 10: On July 18, 1849 in Frederick County Virginia, Thomas Sperry, 62, testified that he is a nephew (a Brother's son) of Jacob Sperry; that he remembers the time of the marriage of Jacob and Christina but cannot say for sure what year it was but knows it was before 1800

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[f p. 17: On March 27, 1855 in Frederick County Virginia, Christina Sperry, 83, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Jacob Sperry stating that she married him in 1794; that her husband died in Frederick County Virginia in 1834 and that she is still his widow; she states that she is a widow at the rate of \$30 per annum under the act of 1848. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]