Pension Application of Jesse Corn W909

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee  
Franklin County  

On this the [blank] day of June 1841 personally appeared before me James Bledsoe – a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid Nancy Corn a resident citizen of the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy eight years agreeable to her Record and after being duly sworn for that purpose on her oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress of the United States passed July the 7th 1838

She states that to her undoubted belief founded on things within her own knowledge and part on the information of others that her deceased husband Jesse Corns was a private soldier of the United States of America in the War of the Revolution, and served against the common enemy of his country, that to her belief that he engaged in said service some time probably in the early part of the Revolutionary War, that to her belief he commenced service in Albemarle County State of Virginia and served pursuant to his then engagement some considerable time, she thinks for some years, she has no Documentary evidence of the same, and relies mainly on such matters of evidence as the Rolls of the War office may afford. She has a knowledge of his being in the service from an acquaintance with him previous to his going into the service and from a knowledge of his being absent, and being understood to be in service, at the time (as understood from undoubted neighborhood report) and from corresponding circumstances and the impression that the whole period of their matrimonial union fixed on her mind, the subject of the Revolution and his services being a favorite subject of his social interviews with his friends. That she is as positively impressed with the fact of his services in the Revolutionary war as she is of any fact that she is not an eye witness to.

She further states that she was married to the said Jesse Corn in Albemarle County State of Virginia that the marriage was celebrated by a minister of the high church of England that she has no record of the marriage but that she has a record of the age of her deceased husband and the age of herself and the ages of the children the issue of their bodies born after their said marriage, she states that calculating from the age of their oldest child Elizabeth, and from the fact that Declarant was married in February, and and her said daughter being born December the 4th 1780 she has no doubt of the correctness of her said husbands record and calculating from her husbands record now in her possession and to her undoubted opinion in the handwriting of her deceased husband she was married in February 1780, the precise day of the month not recollected. She was married by Charles Clay a high church minister in February and to her best calculation in the year 1780 that Record of the ages of her children as set down by her deceased husband in his Bible and as she has no doubt is in his own hand writing is as she believes correct in all respects and she further states that the same his [sic] remained in her possession ever since which family Record of the ages she now taken out of said Bible is made a part of this Declaration and wrote on (Family Record)

She continued the wife of said Jesse Corn from the time of their said marriage until his death, he having died on the 5th day of March 1809 in Patrick County state of Virginia, having died as she believes from having caught cold in consequence of an exposure to cold that operated on him more powerfully owing to his having previously lost one leg Rendering him more susceptible of cold She further states that she has not intermarried but continues the widow of the above mentioned Jesse Corn. She further states that after she was married to the said Jesse Corn that he served a short tour of service in the hollows of the Yadkin perhaps about one month, which fact she is advised is not (in all probability) of Record in the war office (if however it be found of Record or otherwise appears in evidence she prays this may in all things be
considered as an application for a Pension under the act of Congress passed July 4, 1836.

Sworn and subscribed this 26th day of June 1841, before me Nancy her Xmark Corn

State of Kentucky    Clinton County    On this the 13th day of January 1846. personally appeared before me Ephraim Guffy a Justice of the peace in and of the County aforesaid William Morison Sen’r. aged about 78 years whose statements are entitled to full credit and after being duly sworn for that purpose on his oath makes the following affidavit towit that he affiant was Raised in Henry County State of Virginia that he witness became acquainted with Jesse Corn who moved into the neighborhood of witness when witness was a boy perhaps not more than 7 or eight years of age and from that time for the space of twenty years or more witness was well acquainted with s’d. Jesse and his wife Nancy Corn. witness states that s’d Jesse Corn married Nancy Handcock Daughter of John handcock he further states that sometime after Jesse Corn into the neighborhood that John Handcock the farther of s’d Nancy moved into the neighborhood of witness and also the mother of Jesse Corn and three brothers of Jesse Corn to wit George Peter and Samuel Corn. witness was will acquainted with all of them and lived a great part of the time not more than two miles from the familiy of Handcocks and Corns witness further states the he is a brother in law to Armager Handcock who is a brother to s’d Nancy Corn. that he witness married Nancy Morrow & s’d Handcock married Jane Morrow both the Daughters of Thomas Morrow. he further states that s’d Jesse Corn was considered by all his acquaintance as having been a True soldier of the Revolution. witness after he was old enough to muster mustered under Capt. Jesse Corn for several years. that s’d Jesse was afterwards promoted to the office of Major and witness thinks held s’d office until he got oripled so that he had to have his leg cut off that s’d Corn Died in the State of Virginia. he states that Richard Sharp & James Sharp both maried Daughters of Jesse Corn & Nancy - that after the death of Jesse Corn s’d Sharps and Corn moved to Tennessee in franklin County - where some of them they now live as witness understands. witness well Recollects that he himself went with a man as he thinks by the name of Henry Willborn to the house of Jesse Corn to give him notice something about the service and Recollects that Small was a capt and that Jesse Corn went under s’d Small some tours as Ensign. this he will Recollects though witness was then small, but cannot state anything further with sertainty about sd Trip he further states that he has often heard George Corn speak of being in the Revolutionary service that he was Reputed a good soldier and Peter perhaps was also a soldier as will as Jesse & George. it is the opinion of witness he was but is not certain. witness moved from the State of Virginia to the state of Kentucky about forty years past where he has lived ever since. that Armajor Handcock his brother in law & who is the brother of s’d Nancy Corn came to the same neighborhood in Wayne County Ky about 20 years after witness came and that they lived within about four miles for about twenty years until said Handcock moved out of the neighborhood.

State of Kentucky    Clinton County    On this the 28th day of November 1849. personally appeared before me George Gwynn a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Armager Handcock a citizen of Wayne County Kentucky aged 79 years the 18th day of July last, he being a man of first Rate Character and after being Duly sworn for that purpose on his oath makes the following affidavit towit. That he was Born July 18th 1770 in Fluvannah [sic: Fluvanna] County Virginia joining Albemarle County that he well recollects Jesse Corn coming to see his sister Nancy before he went to the war as an enlisted soldier in the Revolutionary war that after the war was over and Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781] Jesse Corn came home and again came to see his witnesses sister. That she and said Jesse Corn were married in the month of march next after the surrender of Cornwallis was taken affiant was not preasant at the marriage but well recollects that they with several other persons Road off with them to Get married and Returned the same day and they and all said they
were married  that they lived together as husband and wife until the Death of said Corn which took place many years ago in Patrick County Virginia  that witness was mustered under said Corn after the war was over in Patrick County Virginia said Corn was then Captain and after and after that Captain Turner Took the place of Corn and Corn became Major. That he was well acquainted with said Corn until he died  that said Corn became lame and had his leg Cut off and walked with a wooden leg. affiants sister Nancy Corn was Eight years Older than himself. That Col. James Sharp Died some years back and also witnesses sister Nancy Corn, and well Recollects said Corn being in service. That said Jesse had three Brothers all who served in the Revolutionary War as witness always understood These Brothers were George Samuel and Peter all lived in the same County Virginia Patrick County  witness moved from Patrick County Virginia in the year 1814 to Wayne County Kentucky where he has lived Ever since that he is now on a visit to see his children in Clinton County Kentucky about 8 or nine miles from his place of Residence.

[signed] Rmajor hancock

State of Tennessee  }
Franklin County  }  This day personally appeared in open court John Turner & George McCutchen and made oath in due form of law that they were acquainted with Mrs Nancy Corn in her life time. That she is now dead. That out of ten children, the following six are the only ones who still remain (to wit) Elizabeth Sharp, formerly Elizabeth Corn married to Richard Sharp Sen, Mary Sharp, formerly Mary Corn, and who is now a widdow, but was married to James Sharp deceased - Nancy McCutchen formerly Nancy Corn married to George McCutchen - John Corn, Samuel Corn, all five of whom are now alive and reside in Franklin County State of Tennessee -and Jesse Corn who lives in Patrick County State of Virginia - and that they are all children and heirs of the late Mrs Nancy Corn. the undersigned John Turner having known the said children from their youth   Sworn to and subscribed in open Court April 1st 1850

John hisXmark Turner  George McCutchen

State of Kentucky  }
Canton County  }  Sct
On this the 22d day of August 1850 personally appeared before me George Swope a justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid Elizabeth Dabny aged 75 years, widow of Capt. George Dabny deceased who was a revolutionary pensioner [W3007] at and in said county. Said Elizabeth is now a pensioner and an old lady of the first respectability and after being duly sworn for that purpose on her Oath makes the following affidavit towit  that she knew Jesse Corn in Montgomery County Virginia about the year 1803 or 4. That said Corn was a wooden leged man and was a brother in law of R Major Handcock who lived many years by affiant in Wayne County Kentucky said Corn was called Major Corn and was a preacher That said Corn preached in the neighborhood often. That said Corn did not live in Montgomery but lived in Patrick County as she thinks, The [illegible word] of which was not more that 4 or 5 miles from where affiant lived  That said Corn was a man of high respectability and was known or called a revolutionary man  That said Corn has been dead many years, as she has heard and has no doubt, and his widow some few years. This she only knows from information she has from the relations and some others.
That Mrs Corn lived as she always understood at Winchester Tennessee. That she never saw Nancy Corn the widow of said Jesse that she knows of she lived for 25 or 30 years within about 2 miles of R Major Handcock who is the brother of said Nancy Corn and that he is a man of exemplary character.

Elizabeth her-mark Dabney

NOTES:

Jesse Corn’s original enlistment is in the file of his brother, John Peter Corn, W5885. Part of the paper is missing at places indicated by *. 
february
[*] to certify that Peter Corn and Jesse Corn [*] [illegible word] Lieutenant John Thompson and Lenard [*]ompson as Soldiers in Capt Jouett Company [*] [illegible word] said Corns testified that they would stay no longer then the said Thompsons did and not to Exceed two years from the day they inlisted [signed] Lenard Thompson

The file includes a copy of a bond signed in Fluvanna County VA on 25 Feb 1780 by Jesse Corn and Benjamin Hancock for the marriage of Corn to Nancy Hancock.

Nancy Corn’s pension certificate says she was inscribed at $60.00 per year commencing 4 March 1848 and ending 17 June 1848, when she died. The final payment was to surviving children: Elizabeth Sharp, Mary Sharp, Nancy McCutchen, John Corn, and Samuel Corn.

On 29 Jan 1849 Mary Sharp wrote from Winchester TN that her husband had died 12 Aug 1847, and her mother, Nancy Corn, died 17 June 1848 at age 85 years and five months. She also referred to her "old Uncle Mager hanCock" and stated that her mother had lived with her about 30 years.

The Family register is written barely legibly on back of the title page of a small New Testament printed in Edinburgh in 1800. On 26 June 1841 James Sharp Esq. of Franklin County TN deposed that the family register was in the handwriting of Jesse Corn. A note beneath Sharp’s signature reads, “one of the most respectable men in Franklin County formerly a member of the Legislature.”

Jesse Corn Sr. was born Oct the 31-1753 Nancy Corn was bornd feby 17-176[?]
Eisebeth Corn was bornd decem the 4-1780 John adam was bornd january 26-1783
Wm Corn was bornd jan’y 17-178[?]
Jesse Corn jr was bornd march the 11-1787
Mary Corn was bornd augst the 8-1789
Samuel Corn was bornd april the 10-1792
Suckey Corn was bornd december the 16-1794
Nancy Corn was bornd april the 1-1797
George Corn was bornd sept the 30-1799
dicea Corn was bornd jan’y the 11-1803