

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Samuel Gay VAS3693
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Most of the documents in this file are not legible enough for transcription.]

The State of Ohio Fayette County [2 Sep 1830]

Before me Sampson Demsey an acting Justice of the peace of said County, Personally came Joseph Parat Sen [Joseph Parret (Parrott) W4108] of Point [undeciphered] in said County aged about seventy years who being first duly sworn according to law, upon his solemn oath Deposeth and Saith That he this deponent was serving in the [?]th Reg't of infantry commanded by P Mullenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] in the Virginia line on Continental establishment in the year 1776 that he, this deponent, continued in said Reg't till some when in 1777. That during the time this deponent was with said Reg't Doctor Samuel Gay was serving as Doctor and Surgeon in said Reg't. From 1777 till 1781 this deponent was absent from said Reg't on service in the west. When this deponent returned to said Reg't in 1781 Doctor Samuel Gay was still in said service and as this deponent then learnt and understood the Doctor was in service all the time this deponent was absent from said Reg't. This deponent further states, that he does not of his own knowledge know of what time Doctor Gay left said service himself, with whom this deponent was personally acquainted after [several undeciphered words]. That Deponent saith further – That is personally acquainted with Peter Gay now of the town of Washington, in the county of Fayette & State of Ohio, and knows him, the said Peter Gay to be the same he, deponent, knew when the said Peter Gay was a child then at Doctor Samuel Gay's in Virginia, as the legitimate son and child of the said Doctor Samuel Gay – and further this deponent saith not.

Joseph Parret



The State of Ohio, Fayette County ss.

Before me Sampson Demsey an Acting Justice of the peace in and of said County, personally came [undeciphered word] Peter Gay of the Town of Washington in the County and State aforesaid aged about forty four years, who being by me duly sworn according to law, on his Solemn Oath deposeth and saith, That he this deponent is a son and legal Heir to Doctor Samuel Gay late of Rockingham County Virginia deceased. that this deponent understood, that as was informed by his Father and others, that this deponent's Father had served in the Virginia line on Continental Establishment during the Revolutionary war, as a Regimental Surgeon, and this deponent recollects of being frequently told by his Father that he this deponent's father, had served in said war to the Close of the same. This deponent saith further, that he verily believes his father was entitled to Land from the State of Virginia for his services in the Revolutionary War, for this deponent has seen his Father have what he called Certificates for Land Warrants and heard him say he was entitled to the quantity allowed to a Major. This deponent further saith, That in a conversation, which took place between Col. Benjamin Harrison and this deponent's Father in the hearing of this deponent, Col Harrison saith to deponent's Father "Doctor, why don't you get your Land. I know you were entitled to Land for your service throughout the war," to this the Doctor replied I expect there will be lands to be got in the West after a while, for my services, and I wish to get Lands in the west." This deponent saith further, That his Father neglected to pursue the warrants from time to time untill it appeared that the time to Land warrants, limited by law, was past, his Certificates then were thought to be of no worth and as this deponent verily believes, were indeed lost. This deponent saith further, that he has had search made in the books of the Surveyors Office to know if any warrants had been [undeciphered word] and received from said office a Letter in words and figures following towit

Surveyors Office [undeciphered word] Sept 9 1830[?]

Dear Sir, I have carefully examined the books of this office and am satisfied that no warrant has ever been received in the names of Doctor Samuel Gay. By obtaining proof of his service for 3 years or the war, you may obtain a warrant at Richmond, which can be located here or exchanged [two undeciphered words] located on any [several undeciphered words] for sale N W of the Ohio. I am sir very respectfully your ob. serv't Allen Latham

And further this deponent saith not.

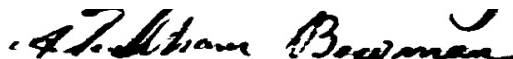
Sworn to and subscribed before me, in my office in
Washington on the 23^d Sept 1830 S. Demsey Ju peace

Peter Gay

The State of Ohio – Fayette County [21 Nov 1831]

Personally appeared before me Benjamin Allen acting Justice of the Peace in and for the county aforesaid, Abraham Bowman [W396] who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he knew Doctor Samuel Gay in the Revolutionary war, that he served as a Sergeant in the Virginia line on Continental Establishment in the 8th Reg't. commanded by Col Muhlenbergh that he knew him in the year 1776 and was with him until 1783, and that during which time he continued in the said service – at which latter period he retired to [undeciphered] Town in virginia and that he this affiant, then understood, and now believes, that said Doctor Gay has honorably discharged the service.

Abraham Bowman



The State of Ohio Fayette County

Personally appeared before me Benjamin Allen an acting Justice of the Peace in and for said County John Newland [S40197] who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he knew Doctor Samuel Gay in the Revolutionary War, that he served as a Sergeant in the Virginia line on continental establishment in the 8th Reg't Commanded by Colo. Mulhenburgh – that he knew him in the year 1776 and from thence untill some time in the year 1783 – and that about the latter period, he understood, & now verily believes it to be true, that said Doctor Gay was hon[edge of page] discharged. That he this affiant was well and personally aquainted with Doctor Samuel Gay that he resided in the same County with him both before and after the Revolutionary War

John hisXmark Allen

Sworn to & subscribed before me [illegible] aforesaid this 21st day of November AD 1831

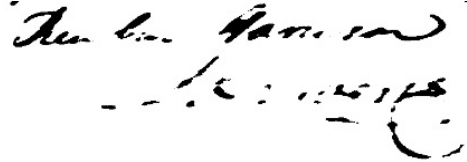
To his Excellency John Floyd Esq'r/ Governor of Virginia

Dear Sir [several undeciphered words] are addressed to to your Excellency under the belief that the matters therein treated of are of such a nature, that they must be acted on by your Excellency in person, or by some person under your immediate direction By an Act of virginia of date 1779 every person as Surgeon is intitled to the like quantity of land as is allowed to commissioned officers who receive simmilar pay and rations. By the same act the same allows to a Major 4000 acres of land. By the resolution of congress of 1776 & 1780 Regimental Surgeons and Majors are ranked in the same grade. The impression with this applicant is that in the war office there is contained all the evidence necessary to establish his fathers claim, in whose name he hopes your Excellency will cause the warrents to issue He would suggest to your Excellency that by an Act of Congress Lands due for revolutionary service can yet be realised He would further state that by impowering certain agents to apply in person or by other agents subjects the person intitled to the benefits of Governmental bounty to considerable expence & risk of entire loss. If any expence or costs will arrise in prosecuting those old claims, let the same be certified by letter from any of the offices concerned to this applicant in Washington Fayette County Ohio and the same shall be remitted by Mail.

Yours very respectfully/ Peter Gay

Rockingham County to wit

We Reuben Harrison [W7689] and Joseph Cravens both residents of this County and near the spot where we were born some years prior to the Revolutionary War, and have generally been here ever since, Do hereby certify that we were both well acquainted with Doctor Samuel Gay, late a resident of Harrisonburg [sic: Harrison burg] of said County; And that we recollect to have understood and think both from himself and Col. Benjamin Harrison who was an officer of Militia during that struggle that he the said Doctor Samuel Gay had served more or less in said war, and that he was in a Campaign called & generally known here by the name of the Mackintosh campaign [sic: Gen. Lachlan McIntosh BLWt1549-850, commander of the Western Department of the Continental Army 26 May 1778 - 5 Mar 1779], but have no knowledge personally further or how long he may have served or whether under the authority of Virginia, or of the United states government [undeciphered word]
Given under our hands this 16th day of May 1833



Harrisonburg Rockingham County Va.

This is to certify that I am the son of Col. Benj. Harrison referd to in the affidavit of Joseph Cravens & Reuben Harrison that I was well acquainted with Doctor Samuel Gay late a resident of the [several undeciphered words] my Father in his lifetime say, that he the said Samuel Gay served with him in the revolutionary war. I recollect [several undeciphered words] often told me that the said Dr Gay served as a surgeon to one of the regiments. I think it was his own redgiment, in the McIntosh campaign. I have heard several others who were on the same campaign speak of Doctor Gay being a surgeon in one of these redgments, Given under my hand this 16th day of May 1833

Peachy Harrison

Harrisonburg Rockingham County Virginia

This is to certify that I was born in the above named place about the close of the Revolutionary war as I am informed; and that from my most erly recollection was acquainted with Doctor Samuel Gay untill the time of his removal to the state of Kentucky, wher I am informed he died; I was likewise informed that he had removed from Shennandoah [sic: Shenandoah] County to this place soon after the close of the Revolutionary war; I have frequently heard my father say that Doctor Samuel Gay was a surgeon in the war of the Revolution, and that [several undeciphered words] him in McIntoshes campaign. Likewise I am fully under the impression that he served in the army as a Surgeon in other places & situations, But when or where or the precise manner in which the impression is left on my mind, I cannot now say, But believe it was the general received oppinion of the community here during the life time & residence of Doct Gay in this place; This statement is made at the request of Mr [undeciphered] Gay, [several undeciphered words] to him, who I have been acquainted [several undeciphered words] & acknowledged son of Doctor Samuel Gay; Given under my hand this 16th day of May 1833

Joseph Dick

C B Woodruff being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that he has been acquainted with E F Eastman [see endnote] for about Three[?] years and beleives him to be a bad man, has heard him spoken of by many reputable persons as Liar and not to be beleived, and also been acquainted with Peter Gay for the same length of time and beleives him to be a man of good Moral Character And among his neighbours stands fair as a man of truth and veracity
[17 June 1833]

C. B. Woodruff

[The following is from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

State of Virginia, Nelson County S.S.

On this 27 day of may 1844, before me Edmund F Coffey a Justice of the peace, in and for [undeciphered word] personally appeared Samuel Gay who – a resident of said County – being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the balance, or arrears of land due the heirs of Samuel Gay dec'd of Christian county Kentucky – who was a Surgeon in the Revolutionary war.

That declarant is the son and — heir of the said Sam'l Gay dec'd – who was a surgeon in the Revo'y war. That he served from sometime in 1776, as Surgeon of the 8th Continental Reg't Commanded by Gen'l Muhlenburgh, until the end of the war. (See the certificate of Jos. Paniott of Ohio, on file in the office of the Executive department Va.) He was it seems allowed by the Executive 6,000 Acres of land, in 1832, for a service of three years. But that additional Bounty land is due him the said Sam'l Gay – as appears from Commissioner Smith's Report in 1835 – for services to the end of the war – and over, and above 6 years services – from the [blank] day of [blank] 1776 – to the [blank] day of April 1783 – the latter being the end of the war; That his Father Sam'l Gay died in Christian County Kentucky on the [blank] day of [blank] 1811 – leaving 3 children, to witt – Peter Gay, Catharine Donnatin, and declarant. and further declarant prays, that a warrant may be issued by the Executive, in favour of said heirs for the quantity of land still due them.

Sam'l Gay

NOTE: The file contains a letter appearing to have been signed by E. F. Eastman, but the online image is not legible enough for transcription.