Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Jones R5715 Transcribed by Will Graves

f23VA 1/14/14

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia County of Dinwiddie: SS

On this 15 day of October 1832 I John Goodwyn a Justice of the County Court of Dinwiddie went to the house of John Jones a resident of Dinwiddie County at the instance [insistence] of same & his friends, he being entirely incapable from bodily infirmity of coming to court & personally appearing before Court, to take his declaration so far as he might be capable of making one & making an examination of him, and witnesses as might be produced in order to his obtaining the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. And I certify that I find his mind to have become nearly non compos & am informed that it has been so for some years. His recollection seems almost obliterated & to have lost the power of connection entirely. It is stated to me that he seldom recognizes his most familiar acquaintances. When a leading question is propounded to him relating to any important incident in his former life, he seems to experience some sudden & partial scintillation of intellect, & his answers leave the impression that he has a momentary consciousness of the circumstances & incidents adverted to. For instance when asked whether during the revolutionary war he had not served as a soldier under Captain Joseph Jones – & also under Captain Boswell Goodwyn? He replied at once "yes." When asked if he had served as much in the Army as two years? He replied "I think I did more." He [indecipherable word, perhaps "stated"] something though not very coherently of his having been in the Army when General Lafayette fired on Mr. Bollings house in Petersburg when General Phillips [William Phillips] was supposed to be in it. – And incident generally believed in this part of the country. When asked where he was posted then he replied "in Chesterfield" – the County which is separated from Petersburg only by the River & when asked what Captain he then served under, he stated "I believe Captain Boswell Goodwyn."

I certify that I then proceeded to take the subjoined certificates under the oath of each of the witnesses respectively which leave no doubt on my mind that the said John Jones was a faithful & active soldier in the revolutionary war for at least 2 years & from his parents & my previous understanding on the subject he is about 76 years old. I will add that he sustained a fair & unimpeachable character in the neighborhood until bodily infirmities or other causes have disordered his intellect.

S/ Jno. Goodwyn, JP

I Ephraim Vaughan of the County of Dinwiddie do hereby certify that I have known John Jones of the said County well for between fifty & sixty years. That I know that he was a soldier in the militia in the service of the United States during the revolutionary war, and as well as myself

served in all more than two years. I do not recollect what officers he served under always but I recollect his serving a tour in 1781 under Captain William Lewis & another the same year under Captain John Nicholas. That he said Jones is about 76 years of age – he & myself having both been born – raised & since resided in a mile of each other in Dinwiddie County. That his mental faculties have become greatly impaired & his pecuniary circumstances so much reduced that he or his family who have to support him stand in much need of the pension to which I know him to be justly entitled under the late Act of Congress. Subscribed & sworn to the day aforesaid

S/Ephraim Vaughan 1

State of Virginia Dinwiddie County, to wit

On this 31st day of January 1834 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the said County of Dinwiddie John Flanders aged 76 years and Ephraim Vaughan aged upwards of 65 years who being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith each for himself, that sometime in the summer of the year 1778, John Jones and themselves were called into service of the country in the Army of the Revolution, the said John Jones as a private in Captain Boswell Goodwyn's Company Virginia militia & Colonel Joseph Jones' Regiment, – and during which term of service the said John Jones and themselves were in the battle fought between the Americans and British at "Hoods on James" in the State aforesaid; and that the said John Jones continued in said service as a soldier for and during the space of six months; and that the said John Jones and themselves were during the said term of six months, in the battle fought between the contending armies at Petersburg on the Appomattox River in the said State.

And afterwards, to wit, in the year 1779, the said John Jones was again called into and entered the service of our country as a private in Captain William Lewis' Company of Virginia Militia (believed to be in Colonel David Walker's Regiment) but what length of time the said John Jones continued in this last tour of service the deponent Flanders cannot positively say, but he understood and believes that the said Jones continued in the said last term of service at least six months, and the deponent Ephraim Vaughan recollects that they continued (Jones & himself) together in this last named tour at least six months, they do not recollect with precision, the time that the said Jones was called out to serve this last tour; but believes it was in the early part of that year (1779) – Also that they have no doubt but on the other hand from reports and circumstances they believe the said John Jones did serve in the Army of the Revolution as he has stated in his declaration dated 15th of October 1832; – they have known the said John Jones from their youth & they have always understood the said Jones was born in the County of Dinwiddie, and know that he has resided therein from their first acquaintance with him except when he was in the service of the Country, or casually, or otherwise, upon business or pleasure out of the same.

S/ John Flanders²
S/ Ephraim Vaughan, X his mark

I Peter Eppes³ an officer of the revolutionary war both in the Continental line & subsequently in

¹ Ephraim Vaughan R10919

² John Flanders S10675

³ Peter Eppes S8424

the Militia service, & a resident then & now of the County of Dinwiddie, do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with John Jones of the said County, and that I know that he was a soldier in the revolutionary war – that I saw him engaged in a portion of the militia services which he performed & though I have no personal knowledge of all of his services I have no doubt that he fully & faithfully rendered it for the time that his friends now state & that he stated before the failure of his recollection, that I believe him to be about 76 years of age & that I never heard of his having received any pension & did not believe that his name is on any pension roll whatever. And I will add that he has always supported in the County the character of an honest correct man & that it is generally reputed & believed that he performed considerable service in the militia during the War.

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid

Better Epps

I Peter Eppes of the County of Dinwiddie do hereby certify that Mr. John Jones of the said County was a Soldier in the Revolutionary war in the militia service and acted as a Soldier in the year 1781 as given under my hand this first day of September 1832

S/ Peter Eppes