

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Adam Deem S10522 PA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Virginia Ss At a quarterly Court held for Wood County at the Court House thereof before the Commonwealths Justices of the peace in and for said County on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> day of June Anno Domini 1833. Present

Jeptha Kincheloe, Jonas Beeson, Henry L Prentiss John A. Kennaird, John Taylor, Joseph Tomlinson Robert Edelen Barnes Beckwith, Henry Steed, Benjamin Mitchell, Charles Rector and Mason Foley. Gent. Justices.

Personally appeared in open Court of said Wood County Adam Deem a resident of said County, and State of Virginia aged Seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to Law – doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1777 [sic] (as near as he recollects) with Capt. Myre Stokely [Nehemiah Stokeley; see endnote] (as he was called his Christian name might have been Nehemiah but was call'd Myre) Thomas Stokely [Thomas Stokeley] (a cousin to the Captain I believe) was our Ensign in I think the 8<sup>th</sup> Reg't. of Pennsylvania line, Commanded by Col. Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead]. there were several Colonels and Majors along, I think Major [Joseph Lewis] Finley was in our Reg't. Col. [John] Gibson, Col. Byard [Bayard], were names now recollected. I enlisted in Fayette County Pennsylvania [at that time claimed as part of West Augusta District, VA], I enlisted for six months and rendezvous'd at Hannah's Town [Hannastown] a small Village and marched from thence in Scouting parties some time, and then marched to Pittsburg and was there inspected, from thence we went up the Allegana [sic: Allegheny River] and built a fort, and call'd it fort Armstrong [near Kittanning PA, June 1779] and from thence we returned to Pittsburg (Except those who were left at the fort) at Pittsburg we prepared for a Campaign and march'd up the Allegana [11 Aug 1779] to an Indian Town, Call'd Monsey Town [Munsey Towns], and destroyed their Corn, burnt their Town and returned [14 Sep], on this Campaign on our way up we had a slight engagement with the Indians, in which we killed seven Indians and the balance ran off, after this tour we returned to Pittsburg, my time having expired with the rest of the Company we were discharged and I returned home with others after serving six months and some Days.

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

Adam hisXmark Deem

Sworn in Open Court  
Teste Jno Stephenson Jr. C.W.C.

Virginia Ss

At a monthly Court held for Wood County at the Court House thereof before the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace in and for said County on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 1834. Upon the further application of Adam Deem a Revolutionary Soldier who filed his declaration and applied for a pension at the June term last of this Court

I Jacob Deem Jun. of Wood County aged forty three years & upwards do certify that I have from my earliest recollection understood from my Father Jacob Deem [pension application R2838], that his Brother, Adam Deem was a Soldier in the revolutionary War, and I believe the statement to be correct. Given under my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of Feb'y 1834 Jacob Deem Jr.

I Peter Deem son of Jacob Sen'r aged upwards of forty one years have heard the above statement of my Brother Jacob and Concur therein

Given under my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> Feb'y 1834 Peter Deem

I Jacob Deem of the County of Wood nearly 70 years of age do hereby Certify and depose that my brother Adam Deem who made application to the County Court of Wood to certify his Declaration to the War Department to obtain a Pension at [blank] Term 1833 is my elder Brother, that at the time he enlisted, we were both at home with our Father John Deem in Fayette County Pennsylvania, that I was personally knowing to his enlistment & that he was in the service of the United States six months. That we have ever since lived in close intimacy and our families never further than 20 or 30 miles apart, and I never heard it doubted or even questioned but Adam my brother aforesaid was a revolutionary soldier Given under my hand this 1<sup>st</sup> February 1834                      Jacob Deem  
[Rev. Reece Woolf and seven other citizens certified the character of Adam Deem]

[On 9 May 1834 a certificate was issued for a pension of \$20 per year for six months service by Adam Deem]

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. Singleton wrote on this report "Fraud."]

Adam Deem, said to be a Pensioner – his name was not furnished by the abstract from the Pension office.

I the undersigned Adam Deem in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War, give the following statement of my age & Revolutionary Services: to Wit – I shall be seventy four years of age on the 10<sup>th</sup> day. I am a native of Maryland and lived near Brownsville Pennsylvania during the war of the Revolution. in my 18<sup>th</sup> year of age I cant tell in what year it was – I Enlisted under Capt. Miles Stokely for six months, received ten dollars bounty money – and was guarding the Frontiers of Westmoreland county for about three months. I was some time aiding in enlisting men, cant say how long from Westmoreland we went to Pittsburg and was at that place inspected by Col. Broadhead – part of my company – part of Capt Jacks company, and part of Capt. Irvins company – in all about sixty men – these men under my Captain – Col. Campbell, Col. Byard – and Major Finley went up the allegany and built Fort Armstrong – returned to Pittsburg and immediately thereafter the whole army under Col. Broadhead went up the allgany to the Munshe towns – the Indian Warrires [warriors] had left that station and gon over on the waters of the Susquehanna, on our way up met with a party of Indians Killed som and on getting to the towns, we burt them & destroyed the corn, returned to Pittsburg & went home haveing been in service six months – my Brother Jacob proved my services & I proved his – Jacob is two and a half years younger than I am. H L Prentiss wrote my declaration – I gave the same narative to him I now give In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name Dec'r. 13, 1834                      Adam hisXmark Deems  
Witness/ J M Steed

we the undersigned are of opinion from personal Inspection are of opinion that Adam Deem cant exceed sixty years old – he has not a grey hair in his head and his general appearance otherwise does not indicate a greater age than sixty years.                      W. G Singleton/ J. M. Steen

A Copy

Note – this man is in my opinion clearly an imposture – W. G Singleton

Memo. made from letter to Sec War by J D Wilson

Adam Deem alleges that he served six months in Brodhead's Pennsylvania regt. The allegation is not sustained by the rolls, and one fact is very strong presumptive evidence against the case, there were no enlistement for 6 months in that Regt [see endnote] – Mr Singleton states that Deem is not more than sixty years of age.                      Let to Hon L. Cass, Sec War Ap'1 18 1836.  
name dropt from Roll 20 March 1835./ Mr Prentiss agt

NOTES:

According to F. B. Heitman's *Historical Register of Officers of the Continental Army* Nehemiah Stokeley was a Captain in the 8<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania Continental Regiment from 16 Oct 1777 until he retired on 31 Jan 1779. If Deem enlisted under Nehemiah Stokeley, it would have been before the latter date.

If Adam Deem enlisted in his "18<sup>th</sup> year of age" (age 17), as he stated to Singleton, he would have been born in 1761 or 1762.

Federal censuses give the following ages for Adam Deem:

1820	Wood County	over 45	(born before 1775)
1830	Wood County	60-70	(born 1760 - 1770)
11 Sep 1850	Wirt County	93	(born 1757)

Census records for Jacob Deem show that he was born about 1765, which implies that Adam Deem was born in 1762 or 1763:

1820	Wood County	over 45	(born before 1775)
1830	Wood County	60-70	(born 1760-1770)
1840	Wood County	70-80	(born 1760-1770)
14 Aug 1850	Wood County	85	(born 1765)

While enlistments in the Continental Army were generally for terms longer than six months, it was not uncommon for men to volunteer for militia tours of six months or two consecutive tours of three months and then to be attached to Continental forces.