Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Mealey S9408 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 21 July 2015.

Virginia Goochland county towit

On this 17th day of September 1832 personally appeard in open court before the court of the county of Goochland now sitting James Mealey a resident of said county and state aged 68 or 69 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 act of congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was drafted, into the service of the united states, from the company of Capt Humphrey Parrish, in the county of Goochland, in May 1781 and was marched by one captain Roberts to join the army, that he joined the army in Spotsylvania county, and was attached to the company of Capt Tolls [possibly Stockley Towles], Mosely Lieutenant, and served as a private in that company. When drafted he lived in the county of Goochland and state lives in the same county, that he served in the retreat from the British through several counties, until the junction with General Wayne in Spotsylvania as he thinks [junction of troops of Anthony Wayne with those of Marquis de Lafayette on North Anna River, 10 Jun 1781], thence through several of the uper counties in the state, was engaged in cutting the road called the Marquis's Road [12 - 14 Jun], then he marched into Hanover and was at an alarm at Dandridge's in that county, then to Hanover town, thence through Richmond and New Kent to Mobbin's Hills [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond] where the army remained three or four weeks [16 - 31 Jul 1781], thence by Ruffin's ferry [on Pamunkey River] into Surry and back again by [undeciphered word], thence back into Hanover through Richmond and remained there till the enemy passed, and then pursued them to old James Town, where they embarked that at that place there was a skirmish between the armies [Battle of Green Springs Plantation near Jamestown, 6 Jul 1781]. that the army stayed at Williamsburg where this declarant had the small pox, about a fortnight [14 - 26 Sep], and there was joined by the French, that then he marched to York and served at that place until the surrender [19 Oct 1781] – that there he was at the poplar fort and was employd in the entrenchments, that while there he was very near being captured by the enemy on an errand on which he was sent by his colonel – and that he continued in the service at York until discharged making six months and four days service – that he was never in any battle, other than the skirmish mentioned and the seige – that he served with the regulars under the Marquis and General Wayne, that Colo [Sampson] Mathews was Colonel of his regiment and Scott Major, that he has seen the Marquiss and General Wayne, and General Washington was on the works at York, but does not remember any inferior officers – that he is an ignorant man and may have miscalled places, but the relation is correct – that he served one half of his time under Capt Brooks and received a discharge from him but has lost it, and has no documentary evidence. that there was a record of his age in the county of Chesterfield but he does not know where – that Benjamin Isbell [pension application S9358] and James Shelton [S10257] are the only persons alive who can testify to any part of his services that he know of. that Colo Joseph Shelton, Mr William Isbell and Doctor Andrew Kean are persons in his present neighbourhood who know him and can testify to his character.

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 or Teritory

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid James hisXmark Mealey

Virginia Louisa County SS

on this 22nd day of September 1832 personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid, James Shelton Esquire a citizen of said county and a credible person who being duly sworn doth on his oath say, that he has long known James Mealey an applicant for a pension under the late act of Congress and that he has an indistinct recollection of having served with said Mealey in the revolutionary war but owing to the decay of his memory, he cannot say precisely when or

where, but thinks the captain was named Tolls – Given under my hand this day and year abovewritten Wm. Shelton (Min'r.)

Justice of the peace for Louisa county Va.

I Benj. Isbell a citizen residing in the county of Goochland hereby certify that I have known the above declarant since his boy hood, that he joined the army to which I was attached in Spotsylvania County and marched with it through the retreat, and was still in the army when I was discharged at Thompson's Mill in Louisa county and I do verily believe that he continued in service till after the capitulation at York

Sworn & subscribed the day and year aforesaid [1 Oct 1832]

NOTE: In the 1830 federal census of Goochland County, James Mealey is listed as head of a household of "Free Colored Persons."

Bengamin Silies