Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Teas W1663 Sarah Teas PA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[Copies of the following documents are also in the bounty-land records of the Library of Virginia.]

At a Court of Quarterly session, continued and held for Nelson County, at the Courthouse, on Tuesday the 27th day of November 1832.

On the motion of Charles Perrow and Eleanor his wife, and Sarah Teas. It is ordered to be certified to the Governor and Council of the Commonwealth of Virginia, and to that department or departments, of the Executive Government of the United States, at Washington City, having cognizance of Revolutionary claims; That it satisfactorily appears to the Court, from the affidavits of Robert Rives Sen'r. Hezekiah Hargrove [pension application S5481], Lunsford Loving, Joseph Royall and John Stewart, that William Teas dec'd. and late of this County, was an officer of the grade of Cornet, in the War of the Revolution, that he was attached to, and done duty, in the Corps of Cavalry, commanded by Col. William Washington (a Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment) That the said Teas was seen by two of the witnesses, Hargrove and Royall, doing duty with the said Corps during its last campaign, viz: the Campaign in the South, under Gen'l. Nathaniel Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], that he was seen at the battles of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], Cowpens [SC, 17 Jan 1781], and Eutaw Springs [SC, 8 Sep 1781], that during the said Campaign and service, he, the said Teas was wounded either in the sword or bridle hand (a sabre cut) and in one of his legs by a musket ball. That he served from the time he was seen attached to the corps, until the close of the War; That it also appears to the Court, that the said Teas in his lifetime, often related to his acquaintances and neighbours, the incidents of his said services, and that at a time when there lived many in his county, who were actors in the same scenes, who would have contradicted his statements, if they had been untrue, yet it appears to the Court that it was the belief of his neighbours, from the year 1791, to the date of his death, and that it was never contradicted or doubted that he had served as a Cornet in Washington's corps, from the time of his joining it, till the end of the war. That he brought with him, when he emigrated to Virginia, from Pennsylvania, and retained for many years thereafter the sword, which, he alledged, was the companion of his said service. That it also appears to the Court, that the said Teas, in his lifetime, was often urged to prefer his claims for his said services, which he declined for the following reasons: That he was a patriotic Irishman, who had settled in Pennsylvania shortly before the Revolution broke out, and he always declared that he entered the service of his adopted country from a sense of duty, and not for gain, and that he had done no more than his duty as a good citizen, and asked no other regard than the protection and liberty he enjoyed. That the said Teas, whilst alive, was known to a majority of the Court, and they feel constrained to add their perfect and entire confidence in whatever statement he hath made upon the subject of his said services. And this Court doth order that it be further certified, that the said Teas died in the year 1824 leaving his wife and one child, his sole heirs at law, his wife the said Sarah Teas is now alive, and his child the said Eleanor Perrow, formerly Eleanor Teas, hath intermarried with the said Charles Perrow, is also alive, and that the said Charles Perrow is the administrator of the said William Teas dec'd., administration having been granted him by this Court; and that it satisfactorily appears to the Court, that the witnesses, whose examinations are hereinbefore referred to, and will be hereto annexed, are men of unimpeachable veracity, and that their evidence is entitled to the fullest credit.

Nelson County, towit:

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the said County, Robert Rives Sen'r. and made oath that he was acquainted with William Teas from the year 1791 to the time of his death, that he always understood that it was the impression of the citizens in and about the residence of said Wm Teas that he had served in the Cavalry in the time of the Revolutionary war, and, he thinks, as a

Cornet in Washington's troop. That he well recollects in consequence of his acquaintance with that service he was appointed by the Court of Amherst as Captain of a Volunteer Company of Cavalry, and that from his manner of exercising his company, he could not doubt but he was acquainted with that service. This affiant further saith that he always considered said Teas as a man of excellent character, and of great integrity. Given under my hand this 5th day of October 1832. Wm. H. Digges

Nelson County, to wit.

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Hezekiah Hargrove, and made oath that he is a soldier of the war of the Revolution, and that he served in the South. That he was in what is commonly called the Guilford expedition, and was under the command of Gen'l. Green – that whilst in that expedition and others, to the south, he became acquainted with a certain William Teas, who was attached to the corps of horse commanded by Col. William Washington, whose corps was also in that expedition. That the said Teas was a regular, but what was his grade, if an officer, or non-commissioned officer, or whether he was a trooper, he cannot, after the great lapse of time, and from the sameness in the dress of the officers and troopers of that corps, say, – but he has a distinct recollection that he was a member of that corps before and after the Guilford expedition, that he was in the battle of Guilford and other engagements in the South, in one of which he was badly wounded either in the sword or bridle hand. That he was, himself, often in the Southern service, and often saw the said Teas attached to the same Corps, and that he verily believes that the said Teas served during the war. That after the close of the war of the Revolution the said Teas emigrated to and settled himself in the County of Amherst, where he intermarried with Sarah Loving, by whom he had one daughter Eleanor, who hath intermarried with Charles Perrow and is now alive - that the said Teas departed this life some years ago, perhaps in the year 1824 or 1825, intestate, as he has been informed, leaving his widow, the said Sarah, and his said daughter, Eleanor Perrow. Given under my hand this 3rd day of October 1832. Ro. Rives

Nelson County, to wit: This day personally appeared before me, a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, Captain Lunsford Loving, and made oath, that he was acquainted with Capt. William Teas, late of this County, and that his acquaintance began more than forty years ago, that the said Teas intermarried with his sister, that their acquaintance was therefore intimate. That he was a native of Ireland, as he the affiant always understood from him, and from a certain John Thompson, now also deceased, and emigrated to the County of Amherst, together with the said Thompson, from the State of Pennsylvania, where they both, theretofore, resided. That they settled themselves at Amherst old Courthouse, not long after the close of the Revolutionary war, and engaged in merchandize, and that he has frequently heard the said Teas in his lifetime say, that he was a cornet in Col. Washington's Corps of Lighthorse, and served therein, the time he does not recollect. That he has heard him relate many things of that service connected with his campaigns in the South, he has heard him speak of many things that occurred whilst in that service – and, that the said Teas was believed by his acquaintances to have served as he uniformly stated. That from his knowledge of the character of the said Teas for veracity he always had the highest respect. Given under my hand this 5th day of October 1832. Rich'd Phillips

Corporation of Lynchburg, to wit.

This day personally appeared before me, a Justice of the peace for the Corporation aforesaid, Joseph Royall, and made oath that he is a soldier of the war of the Revolution, that he is now seventy two years of years of age. That during the war aforesaid he was attached to the 5th Regiment of the Maryland line commanded by Col. [John Eager] Howard, and served with his said Regiment in the South under the command of General Nathaniel Green, and that during his services there, he became acquainted with a certain William Teas, who was attached to, and was a Cornet in the Corps of Cavalry, commanded by Colonel William Washington of Virginia, that he saw the said William Teas doing duty in the said corps, as a Cornet, at the battle of the Cowpens, and at the battle of the Eutaw Springs – and that he the said Joseph Royall, is now in the half yearly receipt of a pension [application not found] from the government

of the United States for his services as aforesaid. Given under my hand this 19th day of October 1832. S. J. Wiatt

Nelson County, to wit:

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, John Stewart, and made oath, that he was intimately acquainted with the late William Teas of the said County, that his acquaintance began more than thirty years ago, and that during his intercourse with him, he has often heard him, the said Teas, declare, that he had joined the corps of Cavalry, commanded by Col. William Washington, during the revolutionary war, and had served therein, from the period of his joining, until the close of the war, and that he bore the commission of Cornet, in the said corps, at the close of his service aforesaid. That he has often heard him say that he received in the said service or some battles to the South, several wounds, one of which was on his bridle, or sword hand, and appeared to be a Sabre, or cutlass, scar, another in his leg, which the said Teas alledged was a musket shot wound. That the said Teas brought with him, and retained for many years a Cavalry sword, which he always alledged was used by him in the said service. That at the time the said Teas was first known to him, the said Stewart, there were many persons in the County of Amherst who had served in the Southern Campaign under General Green and who could have contradicted his statements had they been untrue, but that it was never questioned by any, who knew him, or heard his statements, or knew the man, but that he had served as he uniformly stated. That he has often heard the said Teas urged to assert his claim for his said services, which he always declined, declaring that he had done nothing but his duty, and that he now enjoyed protection and liberty, that he asked no more. Given under my hand this 22nd day of October 1832. Ro. J. Kincaid

Copies, Teste, Sp. Garland, Ck.

NOTES:

On 6 May 1839 Eleanor Perrow applied for bounty land before Seaton H. Loving, a magistrate of Nelson County.

On 25 Sep 1848 Sarah Teas applied for a pension stating that she was married by Rev. Crawford in Amherst County VA on 21 July 1798 to William Teas, who died in 1824. Her statement was certified by William Loving, 72, and Lunsford Loving, 69. The file includes a copy of a bond signed in Amherst County on 21 July 1798 by William Teas and William Vaughan for the marriage of Teas and Sarah Loving.

On an application for bounty land dated 21 March 1855 Sarah Teas was said to be aged 90. Her claim was certified by Charles Perrow and Albert G. Loving.