Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Ludowick Farmer W19244 Elizabeth Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Elizabeth Farmer V

VA

State of Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

On this 8th day of September, 1838, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid, Elizabeth Farmer, aged about 74 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows." That she is the widow of Ludowick Farmer, late of Lunenburg County, who was a soldier and Captain in the Militia of Virginia, in the War of the Revolution. That she knows very little, if any thing at all, respecting the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary war, as coming within her personal knowledge; but she has reason to believe that he was in the Militia service of Virginia, as a soldier and officer, something like Eight or nine months during the years 1780, and 1781, in the Revolutionary war. That she has understood from old soldiers, that he served a Tour of three months in the State of North Carolina, and was engaged in the battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]; that subsequently, as a Captain, he marched to Point of Fork [at the confluence of James and Rivanna Rivers], being drafted for the term of three months, and there was taken a prisoner of war by the enemy [6 Jun 1781], and detained as such, some considerable time. That previous to that time, he was engaged in other service, the particulars of which, she is unable to give. She refers to the Public Records, and accompanying certificates, in support of her claim for a pension.

She further declares that she was married to the said Ludowick Farmer, on the 12th day of December, 1787; that her husband, the aforesaid Ludowick Farmer, died on the 15th day of September, 1816; that she was not married to him, prior to his leiving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, seventeen hundred and ninty four, that is to say, on the day and year above written. [signed] Elizabeth Farmer

At a court held for Lunenburg County the 8th day of February 1770.

Lodowick Farmer produced a commission appointing him a Captain of the Militia, which being read as usual, the said Farmer took the oath to his Majestys person and Government, and repeated and subscribed the test.

A Copy/ Test Wm. H. Taylor Ck

At a court held for Lunenburg County the 10th day of April 1777.

Lodowick Farmer, Gentlemen is recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a fit person to serve as Ensign in the Militia for this county. a Copy Teste Wm H Taylor

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

I John Fram [pension application S41526] do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Ludowick Farmer, late of Lunenburg County, and know that he was a Captain of Militia in the Revolutionary war, in the year 1781; and was taken prisioner at the Point of Fork on James River. He was drafted in the Militia for three months [see endnote], but how long, he remained a prisioner, I am unable to say, at this time. Given under my hand this 7th day of September, 1838.

John Jinam

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Ludowick Farmer, late of Lunenburg County, in the Revolutionary war, and know that said Farmer served a Tour of three months in the early part of 1781, in North Carolina, and was at the battle of Guilford. He marched, on that occasion from Lunenburg, and held the commission of Lieutenant, or Captain, in the Virginia Militia. I was afterwards, with him at the point of Fork on James River, and recollect that he was a Captain of Militia, and taken Prisioner at that place by the enemy, and detained as a prisioner untill after the seige of Yorktown [19] Oct 1781]. He was drafted for three months and taken prisioner just before the expiration of his term of service [see endnote]. I have understood, and believe the same to be true, that in 1780, the said Farmer was a good deal in service, but this service, does not come within my personal knowledge. I have no doubt, that as soldier and officer, he was in the service eight months altogether. Given under my hand this 13th day of September, 1838. James Mullings

James Mullings [S10251]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit: [11 Dec 1839]

I do hereby certify again in addition to former certificate, that in 1781, I was at the Point of Fork on James River, at the time the Public Stores were destroyed by the British. I belonged to Capt Jamerson's [probably William Jameson's] company of Charlotte, and recollect that about the 16th of April, 1781, whilst on our march to the Point of Fork, of meeting with a company at Prince Edward Ct. House from the County of Lunenburg, all destined for the same place. As well as my memory serves one Lodowick Farmer of Lunenburg was along – and acted as Lieutenant or Captain. I am positive, it was one or the other – and was taken prisoner at Point of Fork, and kept untill surrender of Corwallis [sic: Cornwallis]. He was drafted for 3 months. – He also, marched to Guilford. James Mullings James Mullings

January 17th 1851

Sir When I got home I found that you had sent my mother Elizabeth Farmer, a letter about hur pension. She is ded and I am hur lawfel are and the onley childe. I got what she was sed to be intitle to after hur deth if she is intitle to aney mo I am willing to give you half to get it. Send the papers fixed for me to have them sined and I will have them fixed and send them to you. my farther was Lodowick Farmer Theare is a nother case I want you to take. my grand Farther was John Knight he was a captain in the same war for years and none of his clames as a soulger has yet bin got I am prepared to prove that I am his grand childe and he was in the revelutionary war for years. he was from nottoway or Lunenburg Cty let me heare from you and if theare can aney thing be got I wante you to get it and I will reward you. [signed] J. W. Farmer Yours &.

NOTES:

Commissioned officers were not drafted for tours. They remained in active or inactive service for as long as they were commissioned.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed on 11 Oct 1787 by Ludowick Farmer and William Taylor for the marriage of Farmer to Betsey Knight. A Treasury-Department document states that the children of Elizabeth Farmer received the final pension payment up to the date of her death, 13 April 1839.