Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Demaree W7004 Jane Demaree VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 Aug 2021.

On this 9th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the State of Kentucky } Justices of the county court of Mercer John Demaree a resident on Brush creek Mercer County Viz } in the s'd county of Mercer and State aforesaid now in the 71st year of his age, 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 the 7th June 1832.

I John Demaree do solemnly on my oath declare That I was Born in the city of New York and at the age of twelve years I removed to the state of Virginia and county of Berkley [sic: Berkeley] where I resided during the revolutionary war until the spring of the year (9th April) 1780 I landed at Louisville Kentucky where I have resided ever since. In the month of September 1778 on the 15th day I rendevouz'd as a soldier at Martinsburgh [sic: Martinsburg] (Virginia) in Capt Karneys company of Col Gibsons [John Gibson S41578] Regiment to which we were attached from the state of Virginia for a tour of three months but I continued six months before I was discharged, after I joined my company at Martinsburgh we marched to the Ohio River below Pittsburgh where we were put under the command of Gen'l [Lachlan] McIntosh and I aided and laboured hard in building Fort McIntosh on the North Bank of the Ohio [begun September 1778 at present Beaver PA] about 30 miles below Fort Pitt after we had finished Fort McIntosh we marched to the Tuskarawas creek [sic: Tuscarawas River] where we built another stockcade Fort [Fort Laurens, completed Jan 1779] where we continued about one months and then returned to Fort McIntosh where and partly at Tuskarawas we were stationed the greater part of the winter, when we were discharged and returned home – having served six months before we march'd home, Col [William] Crawford also commanded a portion of the troops – I was in the Militia service of Virginia. Again after I removed to Kentucky I volunteered in the Militia service of the State of Virginia in the month of July 1780 in Capt Hardy Hills company under Gen'l George R Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark VAS269] for three months and we marched across the Ohio at the mouth of Licking where Cincinnati now stands and march'd against old Chilicothe [sic: Old Chillicothe] on the little Miami where we burnt two Indians Towns and destroy'd their corn and at the expiration of our time I was honorably discharged and again while attatched to Capt Hardy Hills company in the Low-Dutch Fort about 7 miles from Louisville as an Indian Spy on the 6th day of February 1781. I was taken prisoner near Boones Station on Brashears creek [south of Shelbyville], by the Ottawa Indians and I was taken to their Towns on the Auglaize river now in the state of Ohio and in the month of May I was taken to Detroit where I was sold to the British and was put in Jail and in the month of August I was taken down Lake Erie and Ontario to Montreal where I was again put in jail where I continued until late in October when I was taken up St Johns River [Richelieu River past St.-Jean-sur-Richelieu] to Lake Champlain and at the south end of Lake Champlain at East Bay I made my escape with two others, Mr Harman Greathouse & my father, Peter Demaree who was taken prisoner at the same time I was when taken by the Indians, they fired upon me and broke my left Arm, after we made our escape we went to Gen'l Washingtons camp [illegible]choharie [see endnote] where we were treated kindly and discharged to return home having suffered much and been in Captivity twelve months. I farther declare that in answer to the interrogatories put by the court; I believe I have already answered all the question in stating my birth & residence I received discharges at the expiration of the time as stated but have long since lost them. I farther state that I am well acquainted with Mark Mcgohan who was with me at Fort McIntosh, also the Reverend Jessee Head and Caleb Sims who will Testify as to my veracity and general character – I farther state that I hereby relinquish all claim I may have to any other pension or annuity which I may have a claim to except the present and I am not a pensioner of the U States or of any state John Demare

Witness my hand this 9th August 1832 –

NOTES:

The partially illegible word may be "Schoharie," but Schoharie NY is far from the most likely route down the Hudson River from the south end of Lake Champlain to Washington's headquarters at New Windsor NY.

On 30 March 1853 and on 4 July 1853 Jane Demaree, 66, applied for a pension stating that as Jane Cornish she was married by Mr. Lancaster, a Methodist minister, on or about 18 Jan 1833 to John Demaree, who died on or about 14 May 1839. On an application for bounty land dated 5 April 1855 Jane Demaree, said to be 68, stated that she was married on 20 Jan 1833 by J. P. Lancaster and that her husband died in Washington County KY. This application was certified by D. G. B. Demaree and William G. Demaree, both of Mercer County. The file contains a copy of a bond signed on 18 Jan 1833 by John Demaree, Jr. and John Demaree, Sr. for the marriage of John Demaree, Sr. to Jane Cornish, Sr. On this copy John Demaree, Sr. is shown as signing with his mark, while John Demaree, Jr. signed his name.