

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse Byrd R1574

fn20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/20/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Roane County: SS

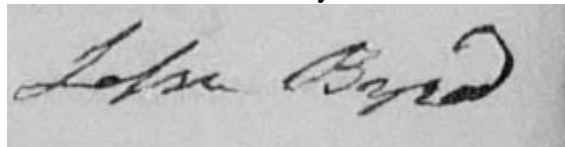
On this 28th day of October 1834 personally appeared before the justices of the court of pleas & quarter sessions for Rowan County, it (being a court of record), Jesse Byrd aged seventy years (having a record of his age) who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he volunteered in the Army of the United States in the beginning of the year 1782 under Captain William Daugherty in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier in what is now Washington County Tennessee (at that time a part of North Carolina), was mustered into service in the beginning of said year marched a considerable way in the Cherokee Country to a Creek called Lick Creek where we encamped some considerable time being detained in consequence of and uncommon snow that fell and the extreme cold weather, being so detained our provisions became short, the Army consisting of four or five hundred men & poorly provided with equipage it was determined by the commanding officers to abandon the expedition for the present it being deemed impracticable to penetrate further in the Indian Country at this time, whereupon we were discharged after serving two months but was too hold ourselves in readiness whenever called upon. This campaign was called the Snow Campaign. Applicant believes he did not receive a written discharge at the time returned home. In the summer of the same year applicant again volunteered under Captain Cornelius Maguire in the Regiment commanded by Colonel John Sevier against the Hostile Indians we passed the Tennessee River at or near old Chota called by the Indians the beloved town from thence crossed Hiwassee River about eight miles below what is now called Calhoun from thence to a town called Vans Town which we burnt – from thence to Bulls Town on Chickamauga Creek where we took some prisoners & Burke said town from thence our course was towards the junction of the Coosa & Hightower rivers on our way to the last mentioned place at an Indian village our advanced guard surprised & took a white man prisoner by the name of Hemins or Clemins but he attempting to make his escape was shot by one of our company (Isaac Thomas) and died immediately – from an examination of his papers he appeared to have been a Sergeant in the British service, from the last mentioned place we proceeded to destroying the Indian Towns & villages on the Coosa River and as we believe burnt & destroyed every town & village on said River & killed a number of Indians & penetrated further into the Indian country that ever an

Army had before having gone up as far as in the neighborhood of what is now called the Talking Rock marched from there by way of Conasauga [sic, Conasauga, usually referred to as a creek] burned some villages at and on that River came back by way of Hiwassee Tennessee & returned home after having to the best of his recollection at least six months, believes he received a written [discharge] but if he did has lost it long since, he has no documentary evidence nor does he know any living witness by whom he can prove the two months tower [tour] above mentioned. The services he performed last he can prove by John White who was in the same Regiment and whose affidavit is here with annexed, but states the names of the following persons who live in his neighborhood & who have known him for a great many years & who can testify as to his veracity, to which, the Rev., R. Richards, Major Thomas Brown, General John Brown, William Crow, William S M. Ewen & Henry Liggitt, Esquire. That he moved with his father from Washington County to Greene County from thence to Roane County Tennessee where he has resided for the last 34 years & where he yet resides. He was born in what is now Franklin County Virginia in 1764. He has a record of his age in his possession, he has stated where he lived when called into service & where he has lived since the Revolutionary War &c & he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & he declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court 28th of October 1834

S/ H. S. Purvis, DC

S/ Jesse Byrd

A black and white photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Jesse Byrd". The signature is written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

I John White,¹ aged 74 years & a resident of Roane County do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with the above applicant Jesse Byrd in the year 1782 that I knew him when in said campaign the account he has given is correct he believes that said applicant served at least six months affiant & him both having entered the service at the same time & discharged about the same time.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court 28th of October 1834

S/ John White, X his mark

[Richard Richards, a clergyman, and George Stewart gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[There is a letter in the file which indicates that the War Department head determined that the campaign against the Cherokee Indians in the summer of 1782 did not last longer than two or three months and required the applicant to file a supplementary affidavit establishing service for a period of at least six months. There is no evidence that the veteran filed a supplementary affidavit.]

¹ [John White R11425](#)