

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Minter VAS700

vsl 4VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/15/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. 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. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

The Deposition of Isaac Smith aged 78 years who being first duly sworn saith that he was well and intimately acquainted with James Minter of Gloucester County Virginia Kingston Parish, now Mathews County, and knew he enlisted in the State Navy in 1776 under Captain Robert Tompkins as a Seaman on board the *Henry Galley* and served three years and upwards for I saw [??] him in service till late in 1779 and I believe he served till the end of the War in the said Navy as a Seaman.

Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of January 1839

S/ Isaac Smith

[Attested in Mathews County Virginia]

[Note the file contains another document dated January 14th, 1839 signed by John P. Minter and Thomas Minter but the image of the document is so poor that it cannot be transcribed to any meaningful degree. The signatures of the 2 affiants however are clear and are shown below:

The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive. The top signature is 'Thomas Minter' and the bottom signature is 'John P. Minter'. Both are written in dark ink on a light background.

Their relationship, if any, to the veteran is not clear.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 7-page file

Report on the claim of the heirs of James Minter Senior deceased late a Seaman in the State Navy for bounty land for his services –

To the Governor

Sir,

Two witnesses have proved that James Minter was a Seaman on board the *Henry Galley*, in the war of the Revolution one of them proves that the said Minter enlisted in the year 1776 or 1777 for three years, and served the full term of his enlistment – that after his said term of service had expired, he the said Minter left home to go to see again, and no certain intelligence was ever after received of or from him. The other witness states, that before the end of the war, he the said Minter went out in the Chesapeake Bay & has not been since heard of, (see the affidavits of James Minter & Josiah Pugh)

It appears from the papers of the *Henry*¹ Galley (volume one of Navy Papers) that James Minter was a Seaman on board the vessel.

His representative received (by William Reynolds) a certificate for £40 – the balance of his full pay &c July 19, 1787 – See Army Register of the state line).

It does not appear that bounty land has been heretofore allowed for the services of James Minter, a Seaman in the State Navy –

Respectfully submitted
John H Smith Commissioner &c
August 24, 1835

[Note: unfortunately a lengthy affidavit given by Josiah Minter is illegible as posted. His signature, however, is legible as follows

Josiah Minter. The same is true of what I assume to be the affidavit given by the other witness referred to in the Commissioners report to the Governor.]

¹ *Henry*.
Coggins:102, VANavy:157, M:389, ND5:938, ND7:1061, ND8:446, ND9:869, ND10:628, ND11:1159, 1166,
galley in VA Navy, 1776-79, Capts Robert Tompkins, Joshua Singleton, and Wright Westcott, dismantled in
1779. C64. <http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20H-I.html>