

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

CAPT JOHN ROBERTS CONTINENTAL COMPANY OF CONVENTION ARMY GUARDS,  
ALBEMARLE BARRACKS VA, 1 JULY 1779

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[The "Convention Army" refers to 2400 British and 2200 Hessian soldiers surrendered by Gen. John Burgoyne to Gen. Horatio Gates at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777. By a "convention" arranged by the two generals, the British prisoners were to be sent home. Instead all the prisoners were kept in the area of Boston for more than a year, then marched to Albemarle County, Virginia. To guard them, Congress authorized the formation of the 600-man Convention Army Guard Regiment, one company of which was commanded by Capt. John Roberts (pension application W2347). The state of Virginia authorized the raising of an additional 100 guards each from the militias of the counties of Albemarle, Amherst, Buckingham, Culpeper, Goochland, Louisa, and Orange. By 13 Jan 1779 the Convention Army (except for those who had not escaped) arrived at the still-unfinished Albemarle Barracks 4 mi NNE of Charlottesville. In Feb 178 the 1200 still there were moved to Winchester to keep them out of the hands of the invading army of Cornwallis. From Virginia John Roberts, having been promoted to Major, marched the Convention Army to East Windsor CT, where they arrived in the fall.

The following document bears date 1 July 1779, but it may have been compiled earlier. In his pension application John Roberts stated that he had been promoted from Captain to Major in March 1779. Lt. James Purvis then succeeded Roberts as Captain, John Slaughter became Lieutenant, and William Slaughter became Ensign.

The following list appears to be a record of shoes obtained from Hudson Martin, bought from one Moulton, or obtained from "Madason," as well as of blankets obtained from an unspecified source. Hudson Martin (pension application W7394) was Paymaster at Albemarle Barracks. (See also <http://revwarapps.org/b84.pdf> and <http://revwarapps.org/b106.pdf>.) Moulton and Madason (Madison?) are unidentified. Names and numbers in brackets are alternative spellings and pension file numbers.]

Capt. John Roberts Company

Date	Names	Shoes			Blankets
		Hudson Martin	bought of Moulton	Madason	
1779					
July 1 <sup>st</sup>	James Purvis John Slaughter Ens'n [Ensign]	1 1	1 1		
	Wm Slaughter Serj't [William Slaughter]	1	1		1
	Henry Menefee D'o [W18504]	1	1		1
	John Golden D'o [John Goulding]	1	1		1
	John Scott Corp'l	1	1		1
	Thos Lilliard D'o [Thomas Lilliard]	1	1		1
	John Bradley [S1792]	1			1
	Rowland Gaines	1	1		1
	Thomas Coleman [W3002]	1		1	1
	Rob't Blackwell [Robert Blackwell]	1			
	Peter Edwards [S8398]	1		1	1
	Dudley Shackelford [S6084]	1	1		1

William Wall [S17179]	1	1		1
Robert Covington [W2067]	1	1		1
Benjamin Washburn [S11696]	1	1		1
John Read	1	1		1
Charles Avery	1		1	1
John Hill	1		1	1
William Shingleton [S38371]	1	1		1
Samuel Eason	1		1	1
Gabriel Murphy	1	1		1
Thomas Thornhill	1		1	1
Samuel Read	1			
Fredrick Hisle [Frederick Hisel S41641]	1		1	1
Samuel Boyle	1	1		1
Benj'a Hisel [Benjamin Hisle S38025]	1		1	1
Thomas Davis	1	1		1
Buttler Murphy	1	1		1
George Browning	1	1		1
Samuel Day	1	1		1
Joel Hickman [S13391]	1	1		1
John Carder	1		1	1
George Muzingo [George Mazingo S5783]	1	1		1
David Darnold	1	1		1
John Huffman [John Hoffman S8735]	1	1		1
John Grimsley	1		1	1
George Riffie [W18813]	1	1		1
John Little	1		1	1
John Washburn	1		1	1
William Abner	1		1	1
Jeremiah Collins [R2175]	1		1	1
John Bowan [John Bowen W5851]	1		1	1
Thomas Rand [Thomas Tand?]	1	1		1
Layton Cooper [Leighton Cooper S35867]	1	1		1
William Mathiews	1	1		1
Jeremiah Preest [Jeremiah Priest S8980]	1	1		1
John Wheelar [John Wheeler]	1	1	1	1
Joseph Brown	1		1	1
Wm Preest [William Priest S40292]	1			1