

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Bounty Land Claim for John Patten BLWt1725-400

DE

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 18 Dec 2020.

[cover page]

Del. Patten, John B.L.Wt.1725-400—Maj. [Major]

Issued May 30, 1789

No papers

[Note by Will Graves: This file contains the standard notification letter in response to an inquiry regarding this veteran indicating that the records relating to the claim were lost when the war office burned in 1800.]

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

[see the endnotes for information about the following]

Letter from Capt'n Kirkwood August 1780

[to] His Excellency Caesar Rodney President of Delaware State

[undeciphered abbreviation] by Colo. Malmedy

Yadkin River August 27th 1780

Sir The Command of the Regiment, (by the unfortunate Defeat of the Southern Army) devolving on me, I should esteem myself remiss in Duty were I not to give your Excellency, a full Representation of the Regiment.

Time won't admit my going into [undeciphered] Detail of the Transactions, in this Quarter, Let it suffice to say, that on the Night of the 15th Inst't the Army was put in motion from Rudgey's Mill 12 Miles from Camden – that about one oClock, our advanced & Flanking Parties were attacked, & drove by the Enemy, but by a Reinforcement of the first M. Brigade, being sent, were obliged to retire in turn. Gen'l. Gates not thinkin it prudent to push after them, [illegible word] finding them in full force, made his Position where we remained till day light, when the Enemy attacked us, & in our weakest Part, the Militia, wh[ic]h immediately gave way & retreating in the greatest Disorder & Confusion, left us to sustain the Shock, this we did, until being surrounded, a Retreat became necessary, This was effects, although by the Loss of near ½ our Division. This unlucky stroke has divested us, of our military stores, & all our Baggage. Not one [bottom of page cut off] Loss of the Reg't as near as can be ascertained at present

Lt. Colo. Vaughan }

Major Patten }

Capt. Learmonth }

“ Rhodes }

Lt. Purvis }

“ Duff }

“ Skillington }

“ Roche }


“ McWilliam }

& about 80 Non Comm[issione]d Officers & Soldiers.

All the rest are well & hearty & join with me in respects to you

I am, Sir/ your Ob't Serv't

R. Kirkwood



NB. Our Retreat has been 120 Miles, Generals Gates & Caswell have not stopt yet, General Smallwood, is collecting the Army, & intends marching us to Hillsborough

Deed/ Tho. M. Thompson & wife, to The heirs of John Patten, dece'd for 320 acres of Land
To all to Whom these presents shall come Tho. M. Thompson of the town of Steubenville, in the county of Jefferson & State of Ohio and Allella W, his wife Send Greeting; Whereas, in pursuance of the act of Congress passed on the first day of June 1796 entitled "An act regulating the grants of land appropriated for military services, and for the society of the United brethren for propagating the gospel among the heathen;" and of the several acts supplementary thereto, passed on the second da of March 1799 and on the eleventh day of February and first of March 1800, there was granted by Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States, on the twenty ninth day of April, eighteen hundred & two unto the said Tho. M. Thompson, a certain tract of land estimated to contain Five thousand & forty acres, being the third quarter of the third township in the thirteenth Range of the tract appropriated for satisfying warrants for military service: To Hold the said tract of land & appurtenances unto the said Tho. M. Thompson, his heirs & assigns forever, subject to the conditions, restrictions & provisions contained in the said recited acts. Now Know Ye that, in consideration of a military land warrant issued for the services of John Patten deceased, delivered unto the said Tho. M. Thompson for location, and of the sum of One dollar, in hand paid, by George Monro, of the county of New Castle, on Delaware, guardian to Ann Patten & Joseph Patten, the children & heirs of the said John Patten deceased, unto the said Tho. M. Thompson, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said Tho. M. Thompson & Allella W, his wife, Have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, released & confirmed, and by these presents Do grant, bargain, sell, alien, release & confirm unto the said George Monro & his heirs, in trust for the afs'd Ann Patten & Joseph Patten, minor children & heirs of said John Patten deceased, and their heirs, a certain part of the above mentioned quarter township of land, bounded as follows, Towit; Beginning at the north east corner of the lot conveyed to Peter Jacquettt [Peter Jaquett S46500]... [the rest not transcribed] [23 July 1811]

The affidavit of David Kirkpatrick [S36033] of the City of Wilmington and State of Delaware, aged over 84. Affiant states that he was an officer in the service in the revolutionary war and was well acquainted at that time with Major John Patten of the state of Delaware. Affiant states that said Patten entered the service in the Delaware regiment early in the revolution as a subaltern officer and was promoted to a majority. The Delaware regiment was marched to the south & was there transfered to the Virginia line. Affiant states that said Patten continued in service to the close of the war. Major Patten died many years ago in this state leaving only two children to my knowledge viz Joseph M Patten & Anne his sister now the wife of John Wales. D. Kirkpatrick
[27 Aug 1838]



To His Excellency John Floyd/ Governor of the State of Virginia [4 Mar 1830 - 31 Mar 1834]

The petition of the undersigned respectfully sheweth:

That Major John Patten was commissioned a Captain in the Delaware Regiment, November 30th 1776, and promoted to the rank of a Major, December 14th 1779; that he was in service to the end of the Revolutionary war, and was engaged in all the battles which were fought by the regiment to which he belonged down to the battle of Cambden [sic: Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780], when he was taken prisoner and his regiment became incorporated with the Virginia line [sic: see endnote]:

That Major Patten died in the year 1800, leaving to survive him two minor children, Ann and Joseph M. Patten, one of the petitioners, and that the said Ann, having intermarried with John Wales, the other petitioner, is now deceased.

That your petitioners, being informed, and believing that Major Patten was entitled to certain bounties in land from the State of Virginia, and that Captains Kirkwood, Jacquettt and Bennett [Caleb P.

Bennett S35779], of the Delaware Regiment, have been rewarded with such bounties, humbly present this their petition for such a grant of land as may be deemed just and proper to the heirs of Major Patten, And as in duty bound they will ever pray &c [signed] J Wales [another signature cut off at bottom] [not dated]

The transfer spoken of by Cap Kirkpatrick could have been nothing more than attaching the two companies of the Delaware Reg. to a regiment of the Va line. This would not authorise the allowing bounty land The claim must be rejected DC [Gov. David Campbell] 1837 Mar 27 Rejected

To the Honorable David Campbell Governor of the State of Virginia. The petition of John Wales and Anne his wife and Joseph M Patten all of the town of Wilmington and state of Delaware, respectfully states.

That said Anne Wales and Joseph Patten are the children & only heirs at at law of the late John Patten of this state who was an officer in the continental army in the revolutionary war. Memorialists state that according to what they have heard, and the papers of the said Patten, he entered the service early in the revolution, in the capacity of a Lutenant, and was promoted to a majority on the 14th december 1779, and that he went with his regiment to the south and was transfered with it to the Virginia Line. Your memorialists are informed that several officers of this regiment have received land bounty from the state of Virginia as a part of the Virginia line. They further state that their said ancestor was as they have understood captured whilst in service at the south, and kept as a prisoner of war by the enemy till near the close of the war. They ask consideration of their claim, & such allowance of bounty land as may be deemed lawful & right. state that said officer died on the 26th december 1789 [see endnote] intestate. They respectfully ask a [signed] John Wales Ann Wales [part missing from bottom of page] [28 Aug 1838]

15th March 1850. Advice. It appears that he was an officer of the Delaware Regiment, and at the battle of Camden was taken prisoner. It does not appear that he was either a citizen of Virginia, or belonged to any Virginia regiment. Advised to be rejected. Approved J. B. Floyd [Gov. John B. Floyd]/ 1850 Sept'r 18 Rejected

NOTES:

As a result of severe losses at the Battle of Camden on 16 August 1780, the Delaware Regiment was reduced to a single company commanded by Capt. Robert Kirkwood [BLWt1102-300], which was attached to the Maryland Continental regiment commanded by Lt. Col. John Eager Howard. Kirkwood's company generally provided infantry support to Lt. Col. William Washington's Third Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons, which was part of the Virginia quota of troops. This may account for the belief that the Delaware Regiment had been transferred to Virginia. Captains Kirkwood, Peter Jaquett, and Caleb P. Bennett were nonetheless granted bounty land by Virginia, probably in error.

The following notes pertain to Kirkwood's letter to President Rodney:

Colo. Malmedy: François Lellorquis, Marquis de Malmedy

Defeat of the Southern Army: Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780

Rudgely's Mill: Rugeley's Mill, owned by Loyalist Col. Henry Rugeley

first M. Brigade: First Maryland Brigade under Gen. William Smallwood

Gen'l. Gates: Horatio Gates

left us to sustain the Shock: Delaware, Maryland, and a small number of North Carolina Continentals

Lt. Colo. Vaughan: Joseph Vaughan BLWt2268-450]

Capt. Learmonth: John Learmonth BLWt1289-30

“ Rhodes: John Rhodes

Lt. Purvis: George Purvis BLWt1726-300

- “ Duff: Henry Duff BLWt581-300
- “ Skillington: Elijah Skillington BLWt2038-200
- “ Roche: Edward Roche S36257
- “ McWilliam: Stephen McWilliam BLWt1473-200

Caswell: Richard Caswell of North Carolina

The rejected Virginia bounty-land file also contains a “muster Roll of the Field Commitioned and Staff Officer of The Late Delaware Regement now the first company in the Second Battalion of Col. [Otho Holland] Williams Regement of Infantry Serving in the Southern Armeý of the United States October 1780,” which is transcribed separately at <http://revwarapps.org/b403.pdf>. The file also contains a “muster and Inspection of the Late Delaware Regiment” for October 1780, which is not transcribed because part of the online image is missing.

Also in this file is a “List of the Commissioned Officers of the ‘Delaware Regiment’ in service during the Revolutionary War,” which shows Captain John Patton promoted to major on 30 Nov 1776.

The Wikipedia entry on John Patten states that he died on 26 Dec 1800.