

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land information of James Harper <sup>1</sup>BLWt2148-200 Ann Harper  
and James Harper R14859

f58VA

f29VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

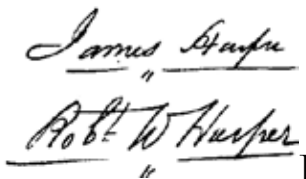
2/20/14 supp'd 4/17/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: Cover sheet]

Soldier died 1799 leaving widow Ann and brother John whose children were Elizabeth, Beal, James and Robert W to whom bounty land was allowed. See James Harper R14859 based on this service, that family data different.

[p 2: Power of attorney dated November 11, 1833 executed in Prince George's County Maryland by James Harper and Robert W Harper of said County appointing Thomas K Beale as their attorney to pursue the claim for the services of their uncle Lieutenant James Harper

  
James Harper  
Robert W Harper

[p 6: copy of the last will and testament dated May 20, 1799 of James Harper of Norfolk [Virginia] in which he names his beloved wife Ann Harper to receive a life estate; his brother, John Harper of Alexandria, or his heirs to receive the rest and residue of his estate; his wife Ann was named as executrix of the estate along with his friend James Williamson to act as executor.]

[p 29]

Prince Georges County State of Maryland to wit

Personally appeared before me one of the Justices of the peace of the above named County Robert W Harper and made oath in due form of law that he is the nephew and one of the Legal heirs and representatives of Lieutenant James Harper an officer in the Virginia State line and who was under the command of Colonel George Gibson and that Elizabeth Beale, wife of Thomas K Beale of Alexandria District of Columbia – who was Miss Elizabeth Harper – and James Harper of Anne Arundel County and State of Maryland and himself are the only heirs: they being brother and sister of the deponent.

Sworn before me this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 1835

S/ Richard D Burroughs, JP

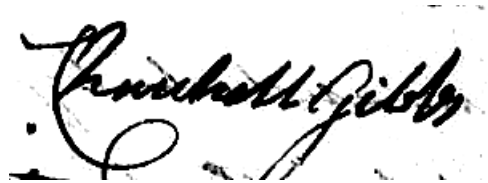
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<sup>1</sup> Rejected Va. Half Pay

[p 37]

I Churchill Gibbs<sup>2</sup> of the County of Madison and State of Virginia one of the surviving officers of the Revolutionary Army in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson do hereby certify that James Harper who was born and raised in the Town of Alexandria Virginia was in inoculated for the smallpox at the time that I myself was in the town of Alexandria in the spring of 1777, we were both at that time orderly Sergeant's. In the year 1778 we were both commissioned Lieutenants on the same day in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson, we both continued in service together until the year 1780, at which time he was sent to Norfolk Virginia and I recollect of hearing that he had the title of Colonel but how he obtained the title, is what I am inclined to think I never knew – I recollect it was understood in Petersburg in the year 1780 that his appointment at Norfolk was connected with the Navy – Given under my hand and seal this 9<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832

S/ Churchill Gibbs

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Churchill Gibbs". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first letter 'C' is large and loops around the rest of the name.

[p 34]

Norfolk Borough to wit

This day William B Lamb personally appeared before me Wright Southgate an alderman of said Borough and made oath that he was well acquainted with Colonel James Harper of Norfolk, He is executor of his widow An Lindsay [Ann Lindsay] formally an Harper [Ann Harper] & has purchased of our W Harper heirs of John Harper a house & lot in Norfolk authorized in said Colonel Harper's will. He has not seen any of Mrs. Lindsay's papers any note or memorandum of the period of Colonel Harper's death but it must have happened between February 1799 when the will was executed & the 20<sup>th</sup> of May 1799 when it was admitted to record. The said James Harper was always understood & reputed to have been an officer in the revolutionary war and this affiant has no doubt of that fact.

Given under my hand this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August 1833

S/ Wright Southgate

[p 45: Copy of the will of William A Harper dated August 26, 1821 in which he refers to his wife Sarah and his 3 children, George Gayther Harper, William A Harper and Catharine Ann Harper.]

[p 51]

Case of Lieutenant James Harper

The name of James Harper is on the Original List of Officers of the Virginia Line received from the Auditor of Virginia as a Lieutenant in service in the first State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson at £48 Virginia Currency, per annum half pay – on which list it appears that he was paid £1043.6.3 Principal & Interest of Commutation in May 1791.

His Identity appears to be satisfactorily proven, that he died between the 27<sup>th</sup> February 1799 (the date of his Will) and the 20 May 1799 (the day on which it was ordered to be recorded) – by said Will he left his property to his wife during her natural life and at her decease to his Brother John

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<sup>2</sup> [Churchill Gibbs S46002](#)

Harper of Alexandria and by deposition of Lawrence Hoof Senr. That Robert W Harper, James Harper, & Elizabeth Harper now Elizabeth Beal wife of James K Beal are the only surviving Children of said John Harper – deceased.

Thomas K Beal as husband of Elizabeth Beal formerly Elizabeth Harper, and an attorney of James Harper & Robert W Harper claims the half pay now due the estate of Lieutenant James Harper deceased after deducting there from the £1000 43.6.3 heretofore paid as commutation.

Auditor's Office  
November 27, 1833  
S/ William Parker

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File R14859

[cover sheet]

This claim is based on service of James Harper bounty land Wt 2148 – 200 but all statements as to family are different viz. died 1811 or 1812, never married, & children of brother John were John, Nancy, Marshall & Elizabeth Gammell

[p 2]

At a County Court held for Elizabeth City County, December 25, 1851

On the motion of John Gammel who made oath according to law and together with Joseph Segar his surety entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of \$10,000 conditioned according to law, certificate is granted him for obtaining letters of administration of the estate of James Harper deceased in due form and this administration is granted with the consent of James Massenburg Junior and Nathaniel Gammel, heirs and distributees of said James Harper deceased, residing in Elizabeth City County, and to enable the said administrator to receive the half pay due the said James Harper as a Lieutenant and quartermaster in the Virginia State line in the war of the Revolution under the act of Congress of July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1832

A Copy  
Test

S/ SS Howard, Clerk

[p 7: affidavit given in Elizabeth City County Virginia December 18, 1851 by Ann Payne who testifies that she was well acquainted with James Harper a Lieutenant in the State line of Virginia during the revolution; that Lieutenant Harper died about 30 years after said war ended; said Harper died in the County of Elizabeth City where he has lived; that he was survived by no children having never been married; that said Lieutenant James Harper had only one brother whose name was John Harper; John Harper died sometime after his brother leaving children Elizabeth, John and Nancy; that said Elizabeth married James Gammel and that John Campbell, Nathaniel Gammel and Virginia the wife of James Massenburg are now living heirs and children of Elizabeth wife of James Gammel; that John Harper the only son of John brother of James Harper left Elizabeth City County sometime after the last war [war of 1812] and that she understood he has died without issue; that Nancy daughter of John brother of James married George Marshall; that Elizabeth Ann, wife of William Reid, is the only surviving issue of Nancy Marshall.]

[p 10: On February 3, 1852 in Elizabeth City County Virginia, Ann Payne gave another affidavit in which she states that Lieutenant James Harper was to her knowledge a native of the Town of Alexandria in Virginia; that said Harper removed after the revolution to Hampton; that said Harper died in the house now occupied by Mr. John B. Cary; that James Harper died without issue having never been married and that the children and grandchildren of John Harper James Harper's brother are his only heirs at law.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Governor & Council of Virginia

The petition of the Heirs of James Harper respectfully represent that said Harper served to the end of the revolutionary war as Lieutenant and Quarter [sic Quartermaster] and has received Commutation for service to the end of that war. See Auditor's Certificate

But your petitioners allege that the said Harper has not received his land bounty as Quarter Master; and they therefore asked the usual allowance of land bounty made to a brigade Quarter Master

S/ Mary Gammel  
& others, heirs of James Harper

A list of sundry payments made by the Auditor of Public Accounts to officers of the Revolution, or their Representatives, on account of their Commutation of five years full pay, from April 9, 1791 to July 1, 1796

Date of payment	Officers' Names	Commutation		Interest	Rank
1791 April 9	William Slaughter	£480.00.00	Judgment Dist. Court	£221.0.8	Lieutenant
	William Coleman	714.00.00		329.6.3	Lieutenant and Adjutant
" 20	Robert Bouch	360.0.0		166.10.4	Ensign
" 21	Charles Dabney	1350.0.0		622.16.0	Lieutenant Colonel Commandant
" 23	Abner Crump	720.0.0		322.03.0	Captain
" May 3	Nathaniel Rice	600.00		276.16.0	Lieutenant
" 13	Windsor Brown	1260.0.0		581.01.04	Captain and [text too faint to discern]
" 25	James Harper	714.0.0		319.06.13	Lieutenant Quarter Master

First Auditor's Office, March 29, 1851

The foregoing is truly extracted from Barbour's printed Report on file in this Office

S/ Ro. Johnson, First Auditor

The Honble. Speaker & Members of General Assembly

The Petition of the Officers of the Virginia State Line now residing in the County of Norfolk

We your Petitioners having served with the Officers belonging to the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment in the Army of the United States during the War, with Great Britain. And as State Officers during that time ware deprived of our Rank, according to the dates of our several Commissions, Which of itself was sufficient to have disgusted us with the Service, had not the Glorious cause excited us to have continued. And shall your Gentleman add to this great mortification, by depriving us of those Emoluments that have been granted to the Officers of the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment Notwithstanding we ware promised every Emolument, that they received, That is the five years full pay, or the half pay during Life.

S/ William Hoffler, Capt. 1<sup>st</sup> V. S. Regt.

[too faint to discern], Lieut.

S/ Thos. Armistead Do Do Do [Thomas Armistead]

S/ James Harper Lt. Do Do

S/ Jno. Quarles Capt. Lt. State Artily [John Quarles, Artillery]

S/ John Hudson Capt. 2<sup>nd</sup> V. S. Regt.

S/ Chs S. Boush [too faint to discern, but he was a Lt.] State Navy [Charles S Boush]

The reverse side of the document features handwritten signatures and names in cursive ink. From top to bottom, the text reads: "Year 1789" (partially obscured), "William Hoffler. Cap. 1<sup>st</sup> V. S. Regt.", "Thos. Armistead Do Do Do", "James Harper Lt. Do Do", "Jno. Quarles Capt. Lt. State Artily", "John Hudson Capt. 2<sup>nd</sup> V. S. Regt.", and "Chs S. Boush Lt. State Navy". To the right of these signatures, there is a large, dark, illegible scribble, possibly a signature or stamp, and the word "Lieut." is written in the upper right corner.

[Reverse]

Officers of State line

16<sup>th</sup> of November 1789

Referred to Props [propositions]

(rejected)