

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Harper MDS1 MD
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[On the file jacket the place for a number is inscribed simply "S—." The number MDS1 is for this transcription only.]

State of Maryland }
Baltimore County S.S. } On this thirtieth day of November eighteen hundred and thirty nine, personally appeared before me, the Subscriber one of the Associate Justices of the Orphans Court of Baltimore County, Joseph Harper, a resident of said County, aged ninety seven years; 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 enlisted as a private in the army of the United states, in the fourth Maryland Regiment, in the month of August 1781; and continued in the service until November 1783; That he was, during much of that period, employed as Waggoner or Teamster, in, and with the regular army: That, at his present advanced age of 97 years, his memory fails him as to the particular officers under whom he served; but he remembers perfectly, that he was at the surrender of Cornwallis and his army, in Virginia [19 Oct 1781].

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of any Agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid Joseph hisXmark Harper

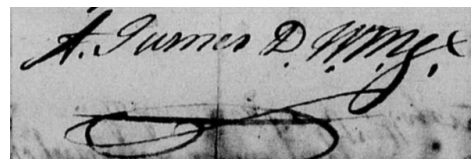
State of Maryland }
Baltimore County } SS

On this Twenty first day of december eighteen hundred and thirty nine Before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared, Joseph Harper a resident of said county aged 97 years who being duly sworn according to law, deposed and saith: That he has lived in great obscurity, and almost friendless during many years past: That he did not know, until very lately, any thing about the act of 18 March 1818; which provided Pensions for Revolutionary Soldiers, and not being informed thereof he did not apply: That as to the act of June 7th 1832, he heard something about it, four or five years ago, but had no friend who offered to aid him in making application; until about 15 or 18 months ago a benevolent lady; Miss Ford, having heard of his case, called on him, and made a statement thereof to Mr Alex'r Yearley, of Baltimore who with one of the Judges of the orphans Court of Baltimore County, lately called on him, at his residence, in said County, about 22 miles from Baltimore City; he being unable to goto Baltimore, and appear in open Court
Joseph hisXmark Harper

Berkeley County Virginia

I do hereby Certify, that Joseph Harper hath taken and subscribed the Oath of allegiance and fidelity as directed by an act of General assembly intituled an act to oblige the free male inhabitants of this state above a certain age, to give assurance of allegiance to the same, and for other purposes, given under my hand and seal, this 18th day of March 1778
Godwin Swift

I do hereby discharge the Bairer Joseph Harper Waggoner in the park of artillary from the service his time Being out that he was Enlisted Aprile 15th 1779
A. Turner D.W.M.G'1 [Deputy Wagon Master General?]
[Andrew Turner, pension application R10750]

A handwritten signature in dark ink on aged paper. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "A. Turner D.W.M.G'1". Below the signature is a large, decorative flourish or scribble.

York 7th Ap'1 1781 Served with three Days provision at this post
John Brooks T. Major

Land Office, Annapolis, / November, 7th 1839;

I hereby Certify, that it appears by the Muster rolls of the Revolution, remaining in this office, That Joseph Harper, enlisted as a private, in the 4th Reg't. for the term of three years, on the 26th day of August 1781, and By a pay roll kept by John Hamilton, Agent for the Maryland line, he appears to have received pay up to the 15th of November, 1783; George G. Brewer/ Reg'r Land Off. W. S. Md.

NOTE: Written on the file jacket is the following: "This man's widow Eleanor was pensioned as the former widow of James Ryan, Md. W11205."