

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Vawter (Vawler, Vawters)¹ R10921

f51VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/1/11 rev'd3/29/14 & 4/27/15 & 7/15/21

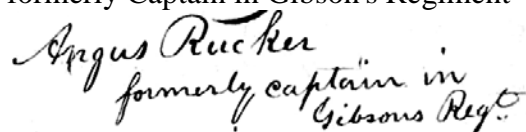
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 24]

This is to certify that I Angus Rucker² enlisted William Vawter of the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia as a private soldier in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson in the early part of the year 1777 and that I marched the said Vawter to Williamsburg and there joined Gibson's Regiment which Regiment as soon as completed was ordered to the North to join the main Continental Army commanded by General George Washington; that the said William Vawter whilst at the North in 1778 was promoted to the command of Ensign and that he was afterwards appointed Lieutenant and marched to Virginia in 1780, and that he still continued Lieutenant in Gibson's Regiment until an arrangement for want of soldiers to command, at which time the said William Vawter was arranged a supernumerary officer and so continued until the end of the war; and moreover that the said William Vawter whilst supernumerary officer continued in the neighborhood of the troops and was at all times apparently ready to take command if called upon.

Given under my hand and seal this first day of December 1829.

S/ Angus Rucker,
formerly Captain in Gibson's Regiment



*Angus Rucker
formerly captain in
Gibson's Regt.*

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I Churchill Gibbs³ of the County of Madison and State of Virginia do hereby certify that the late Colonel William Vawter of the State of Kentucky Enlisted as a soldier for three years in the early part of the year 1777 and was attached to the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson and marched to the North and joined the Continental Army then in the state of Pennsylvania, the second day after the battle of Germantown, and was appointed an Ensign but believe that he returned to Virginia he was promoted to a Lieutenant. He returned to Virginia in 1780 and that I have no recollection of seeing him in service after that date and I have reason to think he was considered a supernumerary officer to the end of the Revolutionary war,

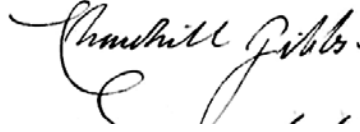
¹ Va. Half Pay BLWt1699-200 N. A. Acc. No. 874 See 050 181 Half Pay William Vawter or Vawters

² [Angus Rucker S19068](#)

³ [Churchill Gibbs S46002](#)

given under my hand this 14th day of December 1829.

S/ Churchill Gibbs



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State of Kentucky Shelby County Sct.

Elliott Rucker⁴ this day personally appeared before me George P. Miller a Justice of the Peace for said County and made oath that he was well acquainted with William Vawter and that he knows that the said Vawter served in the first Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson and was in the company commanded by this affiant who was first Lieutenant, Said Vawter was at the time a Lieutenant in said company and Regiment and served during the war of the Revolution and that he is now dead and left the following children (to wit Edmund F Vawter, Virginia Vawter, William Vawter, Thomas L Vawter, and George M Vawter) which children are now all living in the County of Boone and State of Kentucky.

Given under my hand as a Justice of the Peace in and for said County this 22nd day of October 1829

S/ Geo. P. Miller, JP

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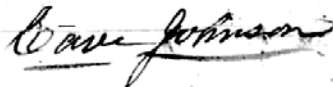
I John Gerrel⁵ of the County of Madison and State of Virginia do certify that Colonel William Vawter late of the State of Kentucky enlisted under Captain Angus Rucker in 1777 in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gipson [sic] and marched to the North and there we both were messmates together and while there he took rise to orderly Sergeant and afterwards was promoted to ensign and I was discharged in the year 1780 after I returned home. I understood he took rise to Lieutenant. Given under my hand this 6th day of February 1830

S/ John Jarrell, X his mark

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Cave Johnson⁶ of Boone County & State of Kentucky states that in the year 1778 he was well acquainted with the late William Vawter now deceased and that he saw him in said year in the United States Army at the White Plains and at West Point in the state of New York and that the said Vawter was then an orderly Sergeant to Captain Brown's Company in Colonel Gibson's Regiment & in General Putnam's Brigade, and that the said Vawter was afterwards promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, this Affiant was well acquainted with him from that time until the time of his Death which took place sometime in the fall of the year 1823 and that Edmund S Vawter, Virginia Vawter, William Vawter, & George M Vawter are his surviving and only surviving heirs, all of whom are now well known to this affiant.

S/ Cave Johnson



⁴ [Elliott \(Elliott, Eliot\) Rucker S46408](#)

⁵ Sic, [John Garrell \(Jarrell\) W7874](#)

⁶ [Cave Johnson S8767](#)

[p 50: John Tomlinson⁷ of Boone County Kentucky also testified that he was intimately acquainted with William Vawter during the revolutionary war and that said Vawter served as a Lieutenant but he does not remember in which Regiment.



[p 6: printed page from the *Congressional Record*]

William Vawters
March 19, 1830

Mr. Brown, from the Committee on Revolutionary Claims, made the following
Report:

The Committee on revolutionary Claims, to whom was referred the petition of the heirs of William Vawters, (late of the State of Kentucky, deceased,) make the following report:

That the said William Vawters enlisted as a soldier, in the year 1777, in the 1st Virginia Regiment, commanded by Colonel George Gibson; said Regiment being on State establishment; and continued in the service of the State until the battle of Germantown [October 4, 1777]; at which battle, the 9th of Virginia Regiment, on Continental establishment, was captured by the enemy; in consequence of which, the State of Virginia, by an act of her Legislature, passed in December, 1779, transferred the aforesaid Regiment from the State to the Continental establishment, in lieu of the 9th Regiment, which had been captured, as aforesaid.

It also appears, from the documents and evidence before your committee, that the said Vawters, while in the service, was promoted first to an Ensign, and subsequently to Lieutenant, which office he held when deranged out of the service, and made a supernumerary, by an arrangement of the Army, pursuant to two resolutions of Congress, passed on the 3rd and 21st of October, 1780; and continued a supernumerary, subject at all times to the call of his country, to the close of the war; and considering this case to come within the provisions of the resolution of October 21st, 1780, which allows to all officers deranged by that arrangement half pay for life, do here with report a bill.

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Pension Office January 26, 1850

I certify that I have examined the claim of the legal representatives of William Vawter, deceased, who was a Lieutenant in the 1st Virginia State Regiment, and I find that he was reported as a supernumerary officer in 1782. It also appears that he died on the 27th of November 1823. Under the decision of the Secretary of the Interior and in accordance with the opinion of the Attorney General in the case of Churchill Gibbs, he is entitled to half-pay under the act of July 5, 1832, notwithstanding he has received the commutation. It is my opinion that the claim should be allowed at the rate of \$160 per annum from the 6th of February 1782 until the 27th of November 1823, deducting the sum of \$4,821.45, received as commutation after the act of Congress of the 25th May 1832. The amount is payable to ~~Stephen F Trube, of Kentucky,~~ attorney of F. J. Frabue, of Kentucky, attorney of Edmund F. Vawter administrator of William

⁷ [John Tomlinson S16555](#)

Vawter, deceased.

S/ J. L. Edwards
Commissioner of Pensions

Approved
Secretary of the Interior

[p 7: contents of a letter dated January 26, 1939 summarizing the veteran's service]

My dear Senator Truman:

The data furnished herein concerning William Vawter were obtained from claims for pension and bounty land, filed under R. 10921, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War.

The date and place of birth of William Vawter were not stated, nor were the names of his parents given.

William Vawter of Culpeper County, Virginia, enlisted in the year 1777, served as private in Captain Angus Rucker's company in Colonel George Gibson's First Virginia State Regiment; he was promoted to orderly Sergeant in Captain Brown's company, was promoted to ensign sometime in 1776 [sic], and later promoted to Lieutenant, continued to serve in Colonel George Gibson's Regiment, until the rearrangement of the Army, when he became a supernumerary officer, and continued as such until the close of the war.

William Vawter died November 27, 1823, at his residence near New Burlington, Boone County, Kentucky.

The name of his wife is not shown, there are no data as to their marriage, and no data in regard to her death.

The following children survived their father, William Vawter, all of whom were living in Boone County, Kentucky, in 1829:

Edmund F. Vawter, Virginia Vawter, William Vawter, Thomas L Vawter, and George M. Vawter.

Warrant No. 1699 for two hundred acres of bounty land was issued December 20, 1832, on account of the service of the above noted Lieutenant William Vawter. A claim for Virginia Half Pay, from February 6, 1782 until November 27, 1823 was allowed Edmund F. Vawter, administrator of the estate of the said William Vawter.

A. D. Hiller

Executive Assistant to the Administrator

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

To the Executive of the State of Virginia

The Memorial of Edward F Vawter the Administrator of the estate and heir at law of William Vawter deceased late of Boone County Kentucky who was formally a Lieutenant in the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson in the Army of the Revolution.

Your Memorialist well respectfully represent that while he has not personally a knowledge of the service of said Officer he is advised and believes that he entered the service in the first Virginia state Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson at the time it was raised and continued in actual service until the same was disbanded, He then retiring as a supernumerary officer – And that his name is returned to the Executive by the Board of Field Officers which sat in Richmond in February and April 1782, as one being entitled to Half pay.

Your Memorialist is advised that by the laws of Virginia and Officer of her lines for a term of Service of six years duration became entitled to an original Bounty in land and for every year service over six years to one sixth of the Original Bounty, in which event your Memorialist conceives there to be due said Officer land Bounty for one and a half years services above six years [several words too faint to discern] the raising of said Regiment until the close of the Revolutionary War – to be of seven and a half years duration. Your Memorialist will suggest that 2666 2/3 acres of Bounty Land has been allowed by the Commonwealth of Virginia in consideration of the Services of said Officer – as his original Bounty.

Your memorialist believing it to be his right and duty to apply for that which was so honorably earned by said Officer respectfully ask that an allowance may be granted for the additional Bounty in Land due and this they will ever pray.

Most Respectfully Your
Obedient Servant
S/ E. F. Vawter
Administrator of the Estate of William Vawter

[Attested in Boone County Kentucky January 15, 1845]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Culpeper County Legislative Petitions

To the Legislature of Virginia

The petition and Memorial of Edward F Vawter, Virginia Vawter, William Vawter, Thomas L Vawter and George W Vawter, most respectfully represent to your honorable body that their Father William Vawter enlisted in the year 1777 in the Army of the Revolution, in the 1st Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. George Gibson – that the said William Vawter was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant; that he served faithfully until the close of the war; That he the said William Vawter was promised half pay for life, at the time he became a supernumerary officer under the law of 1779. Your petitioner's big leave further to represent that the said William Vawter in his lifetime never did receive from the Government the promised reward for his military services, That he departed this life in the year 1825 intestate, leaving your petitioners his only legal heirs and representative; they therefore appeal with perfect confidence to the Justice, liberality and magnanimity of the Legislature to award to them that commutation pay to which they are deceased Father was Justly entitled and which has uniformly been granted to others similarly situated. Your petitioners most respectfully refer your honorable body to the evidence and accompanying documents here with presented and which establish conclusively the Justice and propriety of granting the prayer of your Petitioners, and they as in duty bound will ever pray &c

S/ Edward F Vawter
S/ Virginia Vawter
S/ William Vawter
S/ Thomas L Vawter

S/ George M Balter

[Reverse]

The petition of the Heirs of William Vawter deceased for commutation pay.

Get the Auditors certificate under the rule of the House

December 21st 1829

Referred to Revolutionary Claims

Rejected 4th January 1830

Th: W. Gilmer, Chairman