

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Calvit (Calvert) R12980

VA Half Pay

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 November 2023.

Pension Office/ November 29, 1844

I hereby certify that I have examined the claim of the administrator of the late Lieutenant Joseph Calvitt, who was an officer of the Virginia State Troops, and I find that his legal representatives obtained the benefits of the act of the 5th of July 1832, entitled "an act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia;" but that the payment did not commence at so early a date as the law directs. He left the service in April 1782, and from the 30th of that month up to the 3^d September 1783, from which last date payment has already been made, they are entitled to half-pay at the rate of One Hundred and Sixty Dollars per annum; and I further certify that the amount is payable to Francis A. Dickins, administrator of said Calvitt, deceased.

Approved/ secretary of War.

Commissioner of Pensions

Washington 26 April 1849.

Sir [James L Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions], I believe that under the decision made in the case of J. N. Gault, a claimant, under the act of the 5th July 1832 has a right to receive the difference between half pay for life and commutation with interest. It consequently becomes my duty, as the administrator on the estate of Lieut. Joseph Calvet dec'd. of the Illinois Regiment to apply to you for that difference in his case. For evidence of the claim, the identity of the party and my authority to act I respectfully refer you to the papers on which you allowed a balance on his claim in Nov'r 1844.

Yours very respectfully/ Francis A Dickins adm'r. of Joseph Calvet dec'd.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) with copies in [Virginia Half-Pay pension records on fold3.com.](#)]

Illinois Regiment

The Commonwealth of Virginia to Joseph Calvit Gentleman, greeting: Know you that from the special Trust and Confidence which is reposed in your Fidelity, Courage, Activity, and good Conduct, our Governour, with the advise of the Council of State, doth hereby constitute and appoint you the said Joseph Calvert a Lieutenant of a Company of Infantry in the Forces of this commonwealth. In testimony whereof these our Letters are made patent. Witness Thomas Jefferson, Esquire, our said Governour at Williamsburg on the first day of June in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and eighty.

Signed/ Th Jefferson

Joseph Calvit } Received to be recorded 6th Oct 1814
 To: }
Samuel Calvit et al }

This Indenture made this the fifth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fourteen Between Joseph Calvit of Jefferson County Mississippi Territory of the United States of the one part and Samuel Calvit, James Cowdon & David Kerr of the County and Territory of the other part, Witnesseth. that whereas the above named Joseph Calvit, wishing to settle and make provision for his children John Calvit, James Calvit and Patsey Clarke & make some provision for the education and maintenance of an illegitimate child (of him the said Joseph Calvit begotten on the body of Mrs Sisson a widow) named Mariah Louisa, born on the twenty eighth day of July 1814. Now this Indenture witnesseth that the said Joseph Calvit for and in consideration of the sum of five Dollars, money of the United States to him in hand paid by Samuel Calvit James Dowden & David Kerr their heirs Executors and administrators are forever acquitted exonerated and discharged there from by virtue of these

presents had given granted bargained sold aliened released and confirmed and by these presents do give grant bargain sell alien release and confirm unto the said Samuel Calvit, James Cowdon & David Kerr the tract of Land whereon and now live situate about two miles below the petit Gulph [Petit Gulf] containing Five hundred acres be the same more or less, together with all the negroes and personal property, towit. Negro man Isham, negro woman Phillis, negro girl Susan and child, negro man Solomon, negro man Draper, negro woman Dinah & children, negro man Sam, negro woman Beck and negro man Jack, the stock of horses, mules, Horned Cattle, hogs, sheep, Goats, Household and Kitchen furniture & plantation utensils To have and to hold the said tract of Land with the appurtenances thereunto belonging with the negroes Slaves and other personal property with their increase herein bargains sold and conveyed unto the said Samuel Calvit James Cowden and David Ker their heirs Executors, and administrators in trust for the following purposes to wit

First, in trust for me the said Joseph Calvit for and during my natural life and at my death in trust for the uses following to wit that having advanced already to my son John Calvit and his Children property to the amount of five thousand dollars to my daughter Patsey Clarke property to the amount of twenty two hundred dollars & to my son James Calvit property to the amount of six hundred dollars and my intention being to make an equal division and equalize their portions taken into view the advances already made to them respectively) that my said Trustees Samuel Calvit James Cowden and David Kerr their heirs Executors administrators or the survivor of them shall if in their opinion it should be advisable make sale of my negroes and personal property on a credit of twelve months and my real estate on a credit of one two and three years with a mortgage on said land giving either my said Children a preference to become the purchasers of the tract of land at a fair valuation to be estimated by themselves or the survivors of them, and the monies arising from the sales of the said estate to be intrust as follows to wit: that my said trustees or the survivor of them pay unto my illegitimate child Mariah Louisa thirty dollars per annum until she arrives at the age of ten years and that they or the survivors of them pay her the sum of one hundred dollars per annum for the next four years following and if she should arrive to the age of twenty one years or should marry before that time to pay her five hundred dollars; this being a provision dictated by a sense of a duty for the innocent offspring of my indiscretion in my old age and conformable to the wishes of my other children That the balance after retaining the above to be divided among my son John Calvits Children my daughter Patsey Clarke and my son James Calvit in the following proportions to wit to pay my son James Calvit the sum of four thousand five hundred dollars to my daughter Patsey Clarke her children in the sum of two thousand and eight hundred dollars, and the surplus if any after paying the aboe to be divided into three equal shares; one share thereof to be paid to my son James Calvit, one other share thereof to be paid to my daughter Patsey Clarke and her children, and the other share thereof to the children of my son John Calvit In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal Joseph Calvit

State of Mississippi }

Adams County } [25 Sep 1830]

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a notary Public in and for the County of Adams and State aforesaid, Margaret Williams, who being duly sworn upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, deposeth and sweareth to the following particulars and facts, (viz)

1. That she personally knew and was well acquainted with Lieutenant Joseph Calvit both before the close of the Revolutionary war and for a long time afterwards.
2. That said Joseph Calvit was for some time previous to the close of the Revolutionary war and up to its close, a commissioned Lieutenant or acting as such in the Illinois Cavalry of the Virginia Line under the command of General George Rogers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark VAS269]; which said Cavalry, were stationed for a time at Kaskaskia in or at the Fort; and that said Lieut Joseph Calvit served as an officer as aforesaid until the war was over and peace declared.
- 3^d. That the said Lieut Joseph Calvit was lawfully married at the Iron Banks on the Mississippi [a short distance below Wickliffe KY] at the house of this deponent; this deponent being present and witnessing the ceremony

4. That said Lieut Joseph Calvit removed with his family some time after the close of the revolutionary war to the now state of Mississippi and that this deponent knew him up to the time of his death.
5. That this deponent was the wife & now is the widow of Capt John Williams [W6511] who also served in the Virginia Line under the command of Gen'l. George Rogers Clarke, and that she & her husband also at an early period moved to the now state of Mississippi; and that she now is in or about seventy eight years old and that therefore she hath opportunity of personally knowing these facts, and doth know them of her own knowledge
6. That said Lieut Joseph Calvit had issue born to him by the marriage aforesaid a daughter Martha and a son John who are still living and others who this deponent is informed are dead.
7. That said Martha daughter as aforesaid of Lieut Joseph Calvit was married to Joshua G. Clarke, afterwards the Hon'bl. the Chancellor of the state of Mississippi; and that said Martha is now the widow and relict of said chancellor Clarke.
8. That said Lieut. Joseph Calvit remained after his removal to the now state of mississippi until the time of his death

Margaret herXmark Williams

I Anne Tabor the affiant in this case do declare affirm and make oath that at some time between the years seventeen hundred and seventy nine and seventeen hundred and eighty three I the said affiant knew Joseph Calvit the father of John Calvit and Martha Clarke to be a Captain Lieutenant among the Virginia Troops which were commanded by Gen'l George Rogers Clarke and of this fact I am fully convinced because I resided in my fathers family for several months at a military post where the said Joseph Calvit was stationed among the troops of the Virginia line wherefore I Anne Tabor the affiant in this case do again make oath declare affirm & swear that Joseph Calvit (the father of Jno Calvit & Martha Clarke) was a Captain Lieutenant among the troops under the command of Gen'l George Rogers Clarke at some time between the years seventeen hundred and seventy nine and seventeen hundred and eighty three. And I Anne Tabor do also declare affirm and make oath that the said Joseph Calvit descended the Mississippi & settled near Natchez while this country was in possession of the Spaniards some time about the year seventeen hundred and eighty five and has to the best of my knowledge remained here ever since till his death which occurred in August eighteen hundred and nineteen

[6 Oct 1830]

Anne herXmark Tabor

Mississippi State }
 Claiborne County }

Personally appeared before Colney Stamp Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Claiborne and State of Mississippi Thomas Coe who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and sweareth to the following facts and particulars. 1st That He the said Thomas Coe was well acquainted with Joseph Calvit (the father of John Calvit & Martha Clarke & a Captain Lieutenant in the Virginia State Line during the Revolutionary War) for several years before his death. 2nd That the said Thomas Coe was present at the death and burial of the said Joseph Calvit and is certain that the said Joseph Calvit died on some day between the twentieth and twenty fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen 3^d That the said Joseph Calvit left at his death a widow Mrs Rundell who is now living and four children John Calvit, Martha Clark, James Calvit, and Thomas Calvit of whom the two last viz. James Calvit and Thomas Calvit have died without issue or children of their bodies who might represent their deceased parents. 4th That That Sidney Rundell John Calvit and Martha Clarke are the only surviving legal heirs and Representatives of Joseph Calvit a Lieutenant in the Virginia state Line during the Revolutionary War.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th of November 1830

NOTE: The federal file contains a letter dated 27 May 1850 referring to "the claim of Mrs Martha Clark to commutation in right of the military service of Lieut Joseph Calvert." The file also contains a long letter dated 13 Dec 1938 with further information about Joseph Calvert or Calvit.