

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Quarles R17254

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Jan 2021.

Virginia towit:

Pleas at the Capitol in the City of Richmond on thursday the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety one, Before the Judges duly allotted to the District court directed by law to be holden for the District composed of the counties of Henrico, Hanover, Chesterfield, Goochland and Powhatan.

Be it remembered that at this same term towit: On saturday the tenth day of December in the year aforesaid James Quarles late a major in the Virginia State line by his attorney present to the said Court his petition and appeal from a decision of the Auditor of Public accounts in the words following towit:

To the honorable the Judges of the District Court the petition of James Quarles humbly sheweth: That your petitioner entered into the service in the Virginia State line when the first State troops were raised and continued in service in the field untill October 1779 when he was ordered by the board of war to review and receive recruits for the army after the passage of the act concerning officers soldiers sailors and marines he with many other officers retired as supernumerary. He was at that time a major. He conceives himself to be entitled to half pay for life or to five years full pay in lieu thereof. Yet the Auditor has rejected his claim. Your petitioner conceives himself to be injured by this decision and prays that his claim be considered and established by this honorable court and that the auditor be directed to issue certificates or warrants to the amount thereof and your Petitioner will ever pray &c.

[In the rest of this document the Attorney General of Virginia agreed with the petitioner and ordered the Auditor to issue the certificates. A similar petition by the attorney for William Graves, which is transcribed with his pension application (R14570), was entered as evidence. There follows presentation of evidence that officers dismissed as supernumerary (not having enough soldiers for a command) were to be considered to have served to the end of the war, taken as 19 Apr 1783. The ruling favorable to Quarles's was reversed on 2 May 1792 by the Court of Appeals.]

[On 14 July 1843 James B. Owens and Magdaline Mildred P. Owens (née Tensley) assigned power of attorney to pursue any claims as heirs of Maj. James Quarles.]

Auditors Office Richmond Aug. 22 1843

It appears by the Army Register of the State line in this office that James Quarles settled his depreciation account on the 29 Jan'y 1783 as a Captain of infantry and received a certificate for £110.10.8 and that on the same day he settled his depreciation account as a Major of infantry and received a certificate for £496.1.10. These settlements embraced the services of said Quarles, for some period prior to the 1st January 1782 – but there is no evidence in this office that I can find shewing at what time such services commenced, or at what time they terminated. Major Quarles's name does not appear upon the Rolls of Col Brents regiment [Lt. Col. William Brent VAS2639, 2nd Regiment Virginia State Line] nor upon the rolls of any other regiment, and if he became supernumerary it is impossible to say at what time he became so from what appears in this office. Jas. E. Heath Aud. Pub. Accts

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#). The file also contains a copy of the above Auditor's certificate.]

Council Chamber December 31st 1782.

I do certify that Captain James Quarles is entitled to such proportion of land as is allowed a Captain of the State line for Military service from April 1776, to November 1780.

Benjamin Harrison

Thomas Meriwether

Warrant for 4000 acres issued to James Quarles December 31st 1782. No. 84.

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, That it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of the said Officers and Soldiers from the 1st January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 13th day of December 1785 in the name of James Quarles as Pay Master and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him for £8.12.10 delivered to himself but as the original settlements or copies thereof are not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 12th day of December 1851.

Ro Johnson/ First Auditor

To the Executive of Va.

The petition of the heirs of James Quarles respectfully sheweth that the said Quarles was Captain & Paymaster of the Va. Line in the war of the revolution & served as such a sufficient length of time to entitle him to land bounty. Your petitioner farther represents that the said Quarles has rec'd land as Captain, but not as Paymaster, and they now ask the usual allowance for service in the latter grade. They file the Auditor's certificates of service in both capacities, in addition to which they further state that the Rep. of the said Quarles has rec'd his half pay as Paymaster. J. Segar, for heirs of James Quarles

NOTE: None of the other numerous documents in the federal pension file adds any detail regarding Quarles's service. James Quarles appears on many muster rolls of the 2nd Virginia State Regiment, together with the names of Samuel and Thomas Quarles (pension application R17251).