

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Frederick Woodson¹ R19214

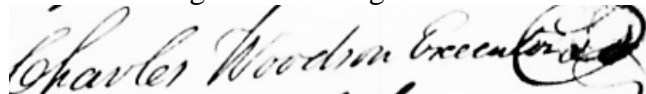
f32VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves 10/13/11 rev'd /14/15 & 5/8/15 & 7/31/23

[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.]

[Note: pp 3-4: contains a printed copy of the actual act entitled "An Act to provide for liquidating and paying certain claims of the State of Virginia." Passed July 5, 1832]

[p 5: power of attorney dated March 20, 1834 granted by Charles Woodson of Prince Edward County Virginia and Executor of the estate of Frederick Woodson, deceased "who was an Officer of the first Virginia State Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson."



[p 8]

Pension Office March 7, 1846

The claim of the Executor of Frederick Woodson, deceased, was allowed at the Treasury Department in 1833, under the act of July 5, 1832, at the rate of \$160 per annum from February 3, 1783 to the 25th of June 1817 for the service of said Woodson as a Lieutenant instead of for service as a Captain, and from the 3rd of February 1783 instead of from the 8th of that month. The Executor having removed from the State of Virginia where said Woodson died, Robert K Dabney has been appointed administrator of Woodson's estate, and now claims the amount which should have been paid in 1833. The claim should in my opinion be allowed. I therefore certify that there is now due you on account of said Woodson's service as Captain half pay at the rate of \$240 per annum from the 8th of February 1783 to the 25th of June 1817, deducting the amount which was paid to the Executor and 1833 at the Treasury Department. The amount now to be paid must be sent to the administrator at Scottsville, Powhatan County Virginia

Approved
Secretary of War

Commissioner of Pensions

[p. 19: is an extract of the records on file in the Superior Court of law & equity for Richmond showing Frederick Woodson as Captain Deranged 8 February 1783. The certificate also covers Charles Dabney Lieutenant Colonel Commandant services ending April 23rd 1783.]

[p. 24: copy of record reading as follows:

¹ Va. Half Pay N. A. Acc. No. 874 See 050 196 Half Pay Frederick Woodson

Richmond April 29, 1783

I do certify that Captain Frederick Woodson has been in the service of this State upwards of three years.

S/ Chas. Dabney, Lieutenant Colonel

Certified as a true copy March 22, 1834.]

[p. 26: copy]

Orange 30th of April 1819

Dear Sir,

Your letter of the 26th of August last has just come to hand, though I have no doubt it has lain in the Post Office at the Court House several weeks. Barboursville P. O. is very near and their letters will readily find me. You inquire of me whether or not my late deceased friend & brother officer of the revolution, Major Frederick Woodson was not in my opinion is entitled to the same half pay or commutation (Interlude) as the officer of the Continental Army. I answer he was, as no doubt he received his appointment & raised his recruits for the Continental service as well as Ab Crump deceased & John Nicholas who were Captains but by the Executive of Virginia in spring 1777 five companies who were raised for Continental service were forced into the state service & five companies of Volunteers (militia) who had been stationed at Point Pleasant after Governor Dunmore's campaign against the Indians, on their petition to be taken on Continental establishment previous to the other company being all raised they were received the others placed in the 1st & 2nd State Regiments as they joined the rendezvous & at the May session of General Assembly we who received such Continental appointments remonstrated to the Legislature who passed a resolve that the 1st State Regiment then organized & complete might be taken by Congress into the US service but it never was though it marched immediately, joined & served with the Continental Army until the soldiers enlistments generally expired – thus far I have given from my best recollection is a true statement – In my application I directed two letters which I had formally received from Major Woodson to be laid before the committee of claims, one or perhaps both were answers to an inquiry whether he would join me in a petition – he refused, & rather I think discouraged me. Colonel John Nicholas & myself are I believe the only surviving officers now who received such Continental appointments & as he returned I doubt whether or not he will obtain his commutation. I lately received a letter from Colonel Charles Dabney he does not know as much as I expected of the five companies that was appointed in Continental & forced into the state service & the officers remonstrance against it as the Regiment to which Colonel Dabney did belong was not raised when the 1st State Regiment marched to join the Continental Army I believe very few are now living who have any recollection of what I have stated. My petition is still filed with Mr. Wm Munford the clerk of the House of Delegates – my health has been delicate for 3 or four years that I very seldom am able to leave home, I have lately gotten rather better from milk diet chiefly – the complaint is in my stomach called by some physicians the gout or rheumatism but I think it the bilious cholick [bilious colic] – I am too unwell to copy & correct this scroll – I am Dear Sir very respectfully

Your Obedient Humble Service

S/ Wm Campbell²

Wm Pope, Esqr.

P. S. a weekly mail stage runs from Richmond by my house, that after the meeting of the Legislature can make your communications to me if necessary.

W. C.

² [William Campbell W4149](#)

[p 29: copy]

Hanover September 30th 1819

I do certify that Frederick Woodson was an officer of infantry in the first Virginia State Regiment. This Regiment was raised for the defense of Virginia but in consequence of the pressing demands for troops by General Washington in the year 1777, the officers and men volunteered their services joined the northern Army, and remained with it until the time expired for which the men were enlisted – after which he had the command of a company of infantry in the Legionary Corps which I commanded and retired as a supernumerary officer in the winter of the year 1782 – I recollect hearing during the Revolutionary War, that a part of the officers of the above mentioned Regiment received their first appointment as Continental officers in the Virginia line, after which they were annexed to the above mentioned Regiment.

S/ Chas. Dabney,³ Lt. Col. of
the Virginia State Legion

[p. 29]

I do hereby certify, that the late Frederick Woodson of Powhatan County was appointed a Lieutenant in 1776 in the six additional Continental regiments & having raised only an Ensign's quota of men, settled for & returned the residue of his recruiting money; being one of the officers of the five companies transferred from the said Continental to the State service against our consents, we remonstrated with the Legislature, & received the pledge stated by Colonel Campbell & myself and all the other testimony in support of our late applications to the General Assembly & he the said Woodson with the rest of us received commissions agreeable to our rank in the first Virginia State Regiment & marched & joined the Continental Army to the North till the close of the Campaign of 1779 about the time the enlistments of our men (which were for three years) began to expire when I was sent to Virginia by the Commander-in-chief on the recruiting service, leaving the remains of the Regiment & the rest of my brother officers (the said Woodson of that number) still with the general's northern Army – on the close of the Southern Campaign in 1780 I met some of the said Regiment in North Carolina on their way to join General Greene, but do not recollect all the particular officers – whether that he said Woodson was one or not: But in January 1781, when I was requested by Governor Jefferson to take the command of such men as he could furnish me to meet & face Arnold [Benedict Arnold] who was then in Richmond with about one thousand chosen veterans of infantry & Sympcoes [sic, Simcoe's] celebrated Legion of Horse, the said Woodson (then a Captain) was sent by the Baron Steuben from the South side of James River, with a company of well-trained & disciplined old regulars to the North side of the River above Richmond, who joined & marched with me immediately for Richmond, drove in Arnold's out picket about a mile above town, & quickly learning the town was evacuated, immediately marched in & took possession, pursued down to the neighborhood of the British shipping; Woodson, I distinctly remember, was one who rendered essential service in the action at Shirly, as stated in my Memorial to the Assembly, & have little doubt he was equally engaged and of valuable service in the taking of the vessel at Sandy Point as also stated in said Memorial, he continued with me till the end of the Siege at York, when the militias & volunteers being generally discharged, there remained no commands for officers of the higher ranks, & that you regulars of course became scattered & attached to different Corps – that of Woodson's Company as far as my memory now serves me, went into Colonel Charles Dabney's Legion, where I have always understood & have as little doubt they

³ [Charles Dabney R13624](#)

remained until the expiration of the 2nd 3 years enlistment expired, at the end of 1782 –

I cannot close this certificate, without doing the justice to my much esteemed brother officer Captain Woodson by stating on my whole & intimate personal knowledge & acquaintance with him, that a more gallant, vigilant & valuable officer of his rank, did not belong to the Revolutionary Army – having often seen & known of his being in situations of trial, after which officers of inferior merit could not have continued with any degree of ease, much less credit, so long in the service.

Richmond October 1st 1823

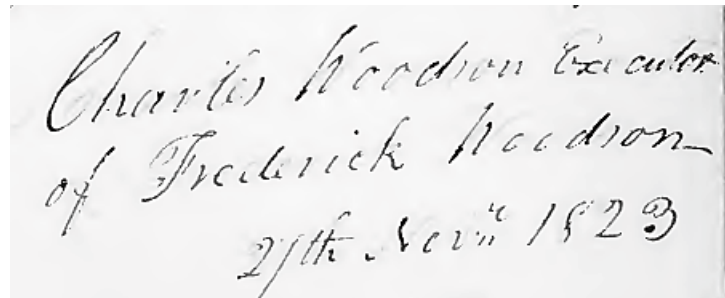
John Nicholas,⁴ Captain &
Lt. Col. in Revolty Army

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Powhatan County Legislative Papers

To the Legislature of Virginia the petition of Charles Woodson Executor of Frederick Woodson deceased.

Your petitioner respectfully represents, that his Testator Frederick Woodson died as an officer in the Virginia service, during the War of the Revolution, in one of the State regiments, commanded as your petitioner has been informed by a Col. Dabney. Your petitioner has also been informed and believes, that, there are arrearages of pay and emoluments still due to his Testator's Estate. Your petitioner asks, that the Legislature will institute an inquiry into that subject, and grant your petitioner as Executor of Frederick Woodson, such relief, as is right upon the production of the testimony.

Charles Woodson Executor of Frederick Woodson
27th of November 1823



Charles Woodson Executor
of Frederick Woodson
27th Nov 1823

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Virginia

Your petitioner Frederick Woodson humbly represents to your Honorable House, that sometime in October 1776 he was appointed by the County of Henrico under an Act of the Assembly of Virginia a Lieutenant of the Continental Troop then to be raised – that after [paper damaged and several words rendered illegible] agreeably to his appointment, another act of Assembly passed in ___ advised your petitioner with some other Officers of the same description and their quotas of men to be first State Regiment that was then raising at the same time taking some of the state Troops that had been before raised to Garrison a Frontier Station and added them to one of the Continental [paper damaged and an entire line of text rendered illegible]

⁴ [John Nicholas S46397](#)

transportation, your petitioner although [paper damaged and one or more words missing] in service to the end of the War is deprived of the advantages which the Continental Troops received under the Act by which he was raised; and experienced every difficulty in obtaining that right, which the State Troops claimed under several Subsequent Acts notwithstanding several Offices of his description have received the [paper damaged and one or more words missing].

Your petitioner therefore prays for the same allowance of Commutation as has been allowed others of his rank in the same situation and your petitioner will ever pray &c

[Reverse]

Petition Fred Woodson

5 October 1792

Claims

Reasonable

Special

Reported 2nd November

Bentley

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

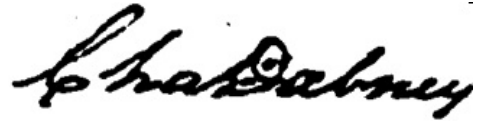
Addendum to Frederick Woodson R19214

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 31 July 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Woodson, Fred.]

Richm'd. April 29th 1783

I do Certify that Capt Frederick Woodson has been in the service of this state upwards of three years.
Chas Dabney Lt. Col. [Charles Dabney R13624]



[A 71-page file in the Virginia Half-Pay records comprises mainly administrative correspondence. Only the following document includes unique information about Woodson's service. See the endnote for information about Woodson's family.]

Pension Office/ May 8, 1831.

I certify that I have examined the claim of the administrator of Frederick Woodson, who was a Captain & Adjutant in the 1st Virginia State Regiment under Col. Gibson [George Gibson BLWt1985-500], for half pay as adjutant of said Regiment under the act of July 5th 1832 (his half pay as Captain having been heretofore adjusted) and find that there was due him the sum of six dollars & fifty cents per month, or seventy Eight dollars per annum from the 3^d day of February 1783 when he became a supernumerary, to the 25th June 1817 when he died, which sum is to be paid to Vespasion Ellis attorney of Robert K. Dabney administrator of said Frederick Woodson. From the above allowance is to be deducted the sum of six hundred dollars which it appears was paid by the state of Virginia to the former Representative of said Woodson on account of his claim as adjutant, aforesaid. J E Heath Commissioner
Approved Alex'r H. H. Stewart

NOTE: The Virginia Half-Pay file includes a copy of the will of Frederick Woodson signed on 1 May 1816 and proved in Powhatan County on 16 July 1817, which includes the following provisions:

“It is my will that my slave Betty and her children John and Caroline Matilda be freed from slavery and that my executors give them separate deeds for that purpose. It is my will that the above named John shall take the name of John Woodson, and be supported out of my estate and educated till he be of proper age to be put apprentice to some trade, for which purpose I leave in trust with my executors one thousand dollars, and hereby appoint them his guardians, but of the whole if the whole of the money be not applied as directed in this clause, then I give the remainder to the said John forever. It is my will that the above named Betty and Caroline Matilda be supported out of my estate for one year after my death. It is my will that all my slaves be sold, except Betty, John and Caroline Matilda, who are emancipated by this will.”

Frederick Woodson's will also bequeathed his sword to his nephew, Charles Clark. The will further provided that money from the sale of his estate be divided into three equal parts, with one of the three parts to be equally divided among Charles Clark, nephew George Clark, and niece Sarah Woodward; one part to Frederick Woodson's sister, Caroline Matilda Bates; and one part to his niece Ann Pope. Charles Vanderveer Woodson and Charles Friend Woodson were appointed executors.