

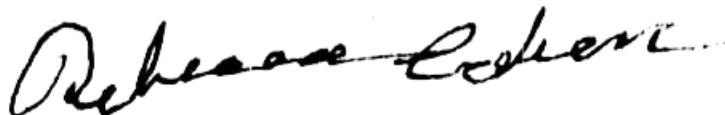
Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gershom (Gershon) Cohen R2108 Rebecca fn27SC
Transcribed by Will Graves 5/29/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of New York City & County of New York: On this 15th day of November 1838 personally appeared before the undersigned Mrs. Rebecca Cohen, a resident of the said City of New York aged seventy-six years, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to be entitled to the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows: that she is the widow of Gershom Cohen late of Charleston deceased who was a private volunteer soldier during the war of the revolution, and served in the same two years, as Deponent has reason to believe in the following manner, to wit – He at the commencement of the War took up arms against the British and served twelve months and more before the surrender of Charleston in Me 1780 – during this time he served at the expedition to drive the British out of Savannah in October 1779 – the name of the Corps in which, nor the officers under whom he served, Deponent cannot now recall to her recollection, Said Gershom Cohen also served at the siege of Charleston, and when the Town surrendered he was made a prisoner while under arms, and retained so a prisoner twelve months – Deponent further declares she was married to the said Gershom Cohen on the 17th of August 1779 in the City of Charleston South Carolina and that her husband the aforesaid Gershom Cohen died in said city on 29th December 1802, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period – as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

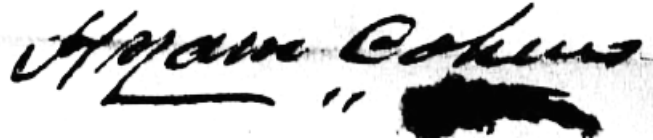
S/ Rebecca Cohen



[fn p. 7: transcription of a marriage contract made in Charleston, SC., in 1779¹ between Gershon Cohen, son of Philip Cohen, and Rebecca, daughter of Abraham Sarzedas.]

[fn p. 6: on December 3, 1838 in Charleston South Carolina, Hiram Cohen, 50, certified that the transcription of the original marriage contract between his mother and father in the year 1779 is authentic.

¹ On the "fourth day of the week and the Sixth of the month of Ellul [sic, Elul] anno Mundi 5539"

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gershon Cohen". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal line.

[fn p. 16: In New York on October 23, 1838 , Philip Cohen, son of Gershon & Rebecca Cohen gave testimony that he had "frequently heard my father Greshon Cohen speak of the battles he was engaged in during the Revolutionary War, when he took up arms in defense of liberty & the losses he had sustained, that he was at the siege of Savannah when Pulaski was killed, also in service at Charleston South Carolina when he was taken prisoner of War I think he said his commander or the officer that commanded the Regiment or Battalion he was attached to was Colonel Lushington. He died in the City of Charleston on King Street on the 24th day of December 1802...."]

[fn p. 19]

State of South Carolina City of Charleston

Personally appeared before me Doctor David Sarzedas² aged 78 years a resident of Charleston, who being duly sworn, deposeth that he was in Charleston, when the French fleet under the command of Count d'Estaing appeared in the month of August or September 1779 on our coast around for Savannah, for the purpose of sending [?] with the American forces then under the command of General Lincoln, to make a joint attack on the British Army then fortified in Savannah.

The circumstances excited the Georgians late residence of Savannah who were in Charleston, to unite in volunteering their services in joining the southern Army.

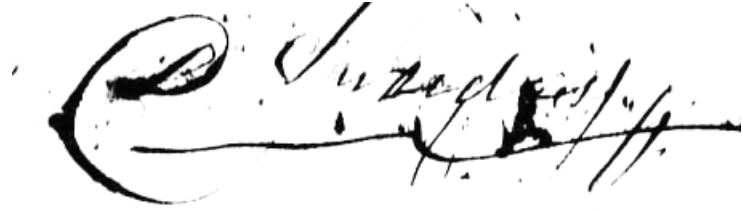
A meeting took place amongst the old residence of Savannah, that had taken refuge here, and as well as I can remember many of them agreed to go to Georgia and if they were successful in the enterprise to get an early possession of the property they were obliged to abandon. On this occasion a division took place, some went on by land, and others with whom I joined in going on board the French fleet & continued on board the Admiral's Ship (*Languedoc* of ninety Guns) until the landing was made at Beardy's [?] in Georgia, when the line of March was taken up for Savannah and myself & companions joined in the advance Infantry and soon encamped before the fortified city of Savannah, on my arrival at that place, I recognize several of my friends & acquaintances from Charleston, who had volunteered their services, amongst them was my Brother-in-law Mr. Gershon Cohen, who was in the action in storming the British lines in which we failed of success. Soon after the Americans were dismissed and returned to their homes.

Mr. Cohen as well as myself returned to Charleston where we rested peacefully until Lord Cornwallis laid siege to the city of Charleston, when all the citizens were stationed during the time of fortifying and doing duty in defense of the place, until the surrender, when the town fell into the hands of the British Army – And deponent further saith that the said Gershon Cohen was made a prisoner by the British, at the time of the surrender of Charleston in May 1780 and remained so a prisoner like the rest of the militia – who were taken under arms at the same time and deponent saith that he has reason to believe that Mrs. Rebecca Cohen, the widow of Gershon Cohen was married to said Gershon Cohen in the year 1779 or 1780 and that said Gershon died in the year 1802 and that said Mrs. Rebecca Cohen's statements are entitled to full faith and confidence.

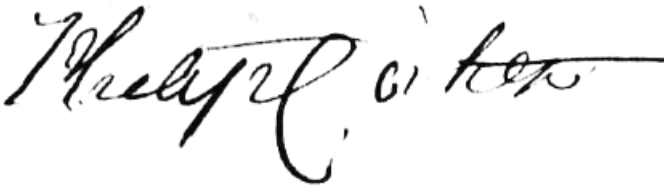
² [David Sarzedas S39061](#)

Sworn to and subscribed before made this 27th of September 1838 and I also certify the
credibility of the affiant
S/ P. Cantwell, Notary Public

S/ D. Sarzedas

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'D. Sarzedas', with a large, decorative initial 'D'.

[fn p. 5: Philip Cohen of Charleston South Carolina, son of Rebecca Cohen executed a power of attorney dated November 10, 1852.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Philip Cohen', with a large, decorative initial 'P'.

]

[Sarah Cardosa³ and Judith Abraham⁴ gave supporting affidavits reciting almost word for word the statements made by the widow.]

³ She was the widow of [David N. Cardozo \(Cardoza\) R20830](#)

⁴ She was the widow of Moses Cohen FPA W21599