

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of George Doherty R3000 Mary Doherty NC
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Oct 2014.

United States of America
State of Tennessee Maury County

Be it known that before me Reden H. Simmons a Justice of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, personally appeared Frances W. Porter, wife of Rev'd. James B. Porter & First daughter of Mrs. Mary Doherty & Maj'r. George Doherty Fifty-Nine years of sound mind and memory and highly respected & beloved by all who know her for her many virtues and made oath in due form of Law that she was about six years of age at the death of her Father Maj'r. George Doherty of Hillsborough North Carolina, who died as she is informed and believes on the 23^d of April 1792 leaving only two children herself & sister Helen M. who married David Yarborough & who are the only heirs of the said Maj'r. George Doherty – that her mother Mary Doherty departed this life in the County of Williamson & State aforesaid on the 23^d March 1836 having remained a widow since the death of her Father. that she has always understood from her mother and from many other aged persons that her Father was a Maj'r. in the Revolutionary War and belonged to the North Carolina line of Troops & that he was distinguished for his bravery in defence of his Country – that she frequently heard her mother say that her father was entitled to a Pension from the United States and she spoke sometimes of applying for it – but never did apply and died without receiving anything from the government in the way of pension or otherwise. The said Frances W. further states that at the death of her mother all the papers belonging to her Father and the estate was delivered over to her for safe keeping, she being at the time of her death with her & living only one mile from her – released the papers in her possession where they have remained ever since. that except such as has been applied for by James Houze who married the daughter of her sister the said Helen M. and now residing in Perry County Alabama, the said Frances W. further states that she has recently made a careful search for the old Commission which was given to her Father Maj'r. George Doherty which she thinks she has seen among his papers but not finding it. She believes it is now in the possession of said Houze and further states that in searching for said Commission she has found the following old papers in an old trunk where the papers of her Father was kept, which may throw some light on the subject of his services as a Maj'r. in the North Carolina line. (towit) The old Grant or Patent No 3 – dated the 14th March 1786 for 4800 acres of land situate in the said County of Maury on which the said Frances W. now resides and is the owner of a portion thereof which she inherited from her Father the said Maj'r. George Doherty to whom said Patent issued “in Consideration of the signal bravery and persevering zeal of George Doherty a Maj'r in the Continental line of North Carolina” as will be seen by reference to said Grant or Patent accompanying this deposition. The said Frances W. further states that she also found in said Trunk the following old papers which go still further to shew the services of her Father in the revolutionary war (towit) the papers marked A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. J. K. L. M. N. O. Nos. 1. 2. 5. 6. 7. 8 & 9. consisting of a Resolution by the Legislature of North Carolina in favour of the said Maj'r. George Doherty, letters addressed to him &c &c as will be seen by reference to said papers marked as above, and accompanying this deposition. The said Frances W. further states, that in the old family Bible which belonged to her mother where the ages of her two daughters are registered the following entry is made in said Bible under the head of “Family Record – Marriages” in the proper hand writing of her said Mother Mary Doherty as the following (towit) Twenty-fifth day of April in 1785 married to Major George Doherty M. D.” which family Bible is still in the possession of the said Frances W. where it has been ever since the death of her said Mother Mary Doherty. Given under my hand this 16th August 1845

[signed] Frances W Porter

[Parts of the following commission are missing at the places marked *.]

IN CONGRESS.

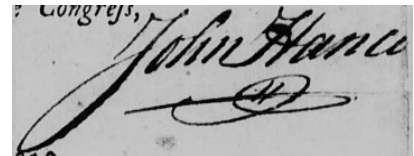
THE DELEGATES of the UNITED STATES of New Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, the Counties of New-Castle, Kent and Sussex on Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina and Georgia, TO George Doherty Gentlemen Greeting

WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presen[ts * Ca]ptain of a Company in the Sixth North Car[olina *] in the Army of the United States, rai[*]rty, and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of Captain by doing and performing all Manner of Things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as Captain And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States, or Committee of Congress, for that Purpose appointed, or Comm[ander in Chief] for the Time being [*] or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline [*] Trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in Force until revoke[*]

Dated at Halifax the 28th Day of October Anno [* 1776]

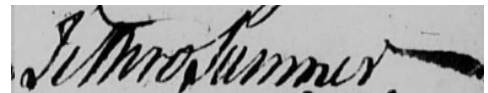
By Orders of Congress, [signed John Hancock]

Chas Thomson Secy

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "John Hancock". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

Camp Stono [near Stono Ferry SC] June 12th 1779

This is to certify that Captain George Doherty of the 5th North Carolina Regiment is appointed Brigade Major to the Continental Brigade under my Command
Jethro Sumner/ Brig. Gen'l

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Jethro Sumner". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

North Carolina, In Senate May 18th 1782

Whereas a supply of Clothing for the Continental Officers & Soldiers of the line of this State ought to be procured and forwarded to Camp as soon as possible

Resolved that his Excellency the Governor with the advice of the Council be authorized and empowered to dispose of so much of the Specific Tax as may be necessary to procure a sufficient quantity of Clothing for the Continental Officers and Soldiers of the line of this State

Resolved that Captain George Doherty chosen by the Officers to superintend this business in their behalf or any other person that the Governor may appoint, recieve the said Clothing and forward [page torn] to Camp in the most expeditious manner he can and that he be allowed all necessary expenses incurred in carrying the above resolve into effect

Resolved that any person who will deliver to Captain George Doherty or the person appointed by the Governor to recieve & forward the Clothing above mentioned to Camp good Country made Linnen fit for the above purpose shall on producing a receipt for the same specifying its quality be allowed the amount thereof by the receivers of the Specie Tax for this year in discharge of such part of his Taxes as is receivable in the specific articles therein enumerated

[Richard Caswell]

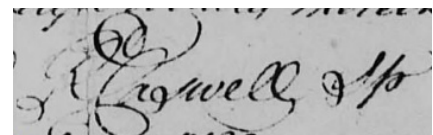
In the House of Commons 18th May 1782

Concurred with

Thos. Benbury S.C

By order J Hunt C.H.C.

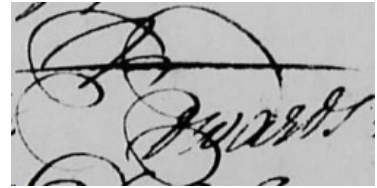
A Copy attest Jno Haywood CS

A close-up photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Richard Caswell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored paper.

Extract from Gener'l. orders 17th Octob'r 1782

Captain Doherty of the North Carolina line is promoted to the rank of Major – Major [John] Armstrong promoted 17th July 1782
2nd Septem'r. 1783

Certify'd/ E Edwards Major
D A Gener'l [Deputy Adjutant General]



To Major George Doherty of the North Carolina Continental Line.

Sir As I am informed by Colonel [Archibald] Lytle a number of waggons and Teams furnished the Continental army by this State in consequence of a requisition of General [Nathanael] Green are in Camp unreceived by the Quarter Master General, as was intended by a late act of our General Assembly.

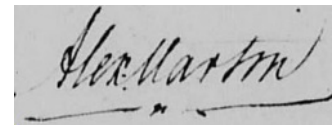
Reposing confidence in your Integrity I Do by these presents appoint you Agent for the State in this business. That you urge to General Greene and Colonel Carrington [Edward Carrington, Deputy Quartermaster General] the propriety and Justice of the retaining those already received by the Continental Officers appointed by General Sumner agreeably to the Law to be the judges of the waggons and Teams so received, and which have actually in consequence thereof gone to Camp with the late Levies. That the State will be greatly injured in selling Teams especially at this time of year, when through neglect of Waggoners, or difficulty of procuring forage the Horses may have greatly suffered, and will bring little or nothing. That the officers receiving improper Teams ought to be called upon and made chargeable with the default, who were authorised to reject such, which were unfit for service; and to call for two men, or another Team that he should approve of

These matters you will urge to the General. To whose Justice and superintending care over the property of every State in his possession I would readily submit this business.

I had agreed with Colonel Carrington to appoint an agent to adjust the above, but those waggons and Teams which are received as foresaid and gone on to Camp, I think we have done [one or two illegible words] only a receipt from the Continental Quarter Master is wanting. – Those in this State, Judged unfit for service, I have ordered to be sold. However if General Greene will not direct, or, that the Quarter Master General will not give receipts for those in Camp, you will sell the said Waggons and Teams for Specie at public sale, first advertising the same ten or fifteen Days previous thereto; giving six Months credit, taking bond and security in necessary payable to the Governor of this State and his Successors; and make return thereof to him on them as soon as may be.

You will conform to such further Instructions you will receive from Colonel Lytle on this Subject. Given under my Hand in Guilford County the sixth Day of December in the year 1782.

[Alexander Martin, acting Governor]



Georgetown So. Ca. June 9th 1785

Dear Major [George Doherty] – A few Days ago somebody passing thro this Place told me you were married and lived neat Wilmington [NC]. I embrace this first opportunity of offering you my correspondance and requesting yours –

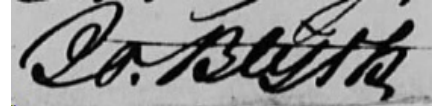
Pray let your first Letters inform me what is to be done over the mountains, whether you know where my [bounty] Land is situated and whether you think it valuable or not –

Inform me what my final Settlement Certifycates are worth, as I would sell them if could purchase Property to carry over the mountains with me for them, that is if you advise me to go there Pray inform me in whose Hands they are and how I can receive them – If you are married give my best Respects to Mrs. Dougherty, give me Leave to congratulate you and her and to pope and pray that Health and

Prosperity may accompany you thro the flowery Paths of Matrimony Pray my dear Friend write to me often, as it is the greatest Pleasure that I can enjoy (situated as I am among a damned Set, Tory Rascals) to hear of or receive a line from an old Friend – Pray give my best respects to all my old Companions – If you see Major [Reading] Blount beg him to get my Diploma from the [Society of the] Cincinnati –

If Mrs. Dougherty does not engross your whole time recollect our happy Hours in Camp and believe me to be Dear Major Yrs.

[Dr. Joseph Blyth BLWt290-400]

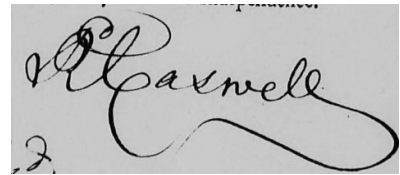


THE STATE OF NORTH-CAROLINA

To George Doherty Esquire Greeting:

OUT of the assurance we have of your fidelity, integrity, and abilities, WE DO, by these Presents nominate, constitute, and appoint you the said George Doherty Clothier & paymaster to the Troops raising for the protection of Davidson County, under the Command of Major Thomas Evans To have, hold, use, exercise and enjoy the said office of Clothier & Paymaster together with all powers, and authorities, fees, privileges and emoluments which to the said office of Clothier & Paymaster doth or may of right belong or appertain. you conforming to the Act of Assembly respecting the raising of said Troops.

WITNESS RICHARD CASWELL, Esquire, our Governor, Captain-General, and Commander in Chief, under his Hand, and Seal of the State, which he hath cause to be hereunto affixed, at Kinston the Eighth Day of February Anno Dom. 1787 and in the 11 year of Independence.



By His Excelly's Com'd.
Winston Caswell Sec'y

[The commission was accompanied by a personal letter from Gov. Caswell to Doherty.]

Richmond June 29th 1787.

Dear Sir [Major George Doherty] I have the pleasure to inform you of the rec't. of yours of the 11th of may pr Mr. Clarke, but I am sorry that it is not in my power to make my returns to you or his Excellency agreeable to your Request, Occationed from the Resignation of almost all my Officers, I haveing new ones to appoint, who have not yet made me any returns, I expect to leave this place in about Two weeks, for the place of Gen'l. Rendezvous. I have collected the minds of what men are here, respecting your furnishing them with coats, and Cloth Breeches, or Overalls in Lieu of Buckskin Breeches, and they are clearly of the same opinion with us, and when I have collected as many as I can shall send you a Return for the difrent kinds of Cloathing, signed by the whole of them.

I have also taken particular notice of that part of your Letter respecting Mr. Clarke, but have not as yet Comply'd fully with your request, owing in a great measure to the request of His Excellency, to grant the commissions to such persons as will enlist men, however I wish Mr. Clarke to come up as soon as possible, and he may depend upon me as far as the receiveing a Commission on his Joining me, and every other Friendship & Indulgence that is in my power to grant him Consistent with my duty. this matter I wish you to keep to yourself, and Mr. Clarke, we have no news of consequence from the Westward. every thing seems to be tolerably feasible[?]

Mr. Nelson & Mr. Weekly arived here about ten days ago and inform me of an expedition going against the Chicamoga Indians [sic: Chickamauga band of Cherokees] as soon as Harvest is over, from Kentucky to be Commanded by Col. Isaac Shelby, and they are to be Joined by one Hundred & fifty men from Cumberland, but who is to command them they could not inform me, both these Gentlemen

have Joined me, and now out a Recruiting, and I am in hopes they will be of great service to me in that business.

I am Dear Major your much Esteem'd friend & very Humble Servant.
P.S. please to present my Compliments to your Lady & the little misses



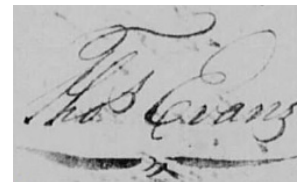
Moccason [Moccasin] Gap Sept'r. 10th 1787

Dear Sir [Major George Doherty]

I arived here the 29th of last month where I have remained ever since prepareing for my march to Nash Ville [sic: Nashville], which will be by the way of Kentuckey, upon the men being Ordered to prepare to march, the whole came to me in a Body and declared they would not March any farther let the Consequence be what it would unless they ware, first provided with some articles of Cloathing, as they ware then almost Naked, upon which I undertook to purchase Twenty five Blankets, fifty Shirts & fifty pr Overalls & three pr yarn Stockings, for which Capt. Hadly, Col. Armstrong, Major Donolson & myself have Given our Bond for payment to Mr. David Ross of Virginia, this Circumstance I hope you will Consider in your purchases and include those Articles in Order to relieve us as you must be sensible that we did it with no other view than to endeavour to relieve a Country all in Our power from its present distress, shall when the Cloathing is issued send you the Commanding Officers Receipts anexed to those of their men who have Rec'd the difrent Articles,

have seen several persons from Cumb'd. [Cumberland] who Contradicts former reports, & says they are not so distressed as we ware inform'd but that the whole Country are Forting themselves in, – Should I be so happy as to get there safe shall inform you of the particulars. pray send us some paper, with the Cloathing.

I am Dr. Sir with evey Sentiment of Respect and esteem your most Obd't. & Very Hamble Servant.
[Thomas Evans]



[page torn]lina

In house of Commons 4th Jan'y [year not stated]

On Reading the Report of the Committee in the memorial of Geo. Doherty late Major in the Continental line of this State Concurd with by the Senate a Resolution of that body in pursuance thereof

Resolved that this house do not Concur therewith but that the following Resolution be Adapted in Lieu of the same towit Resolved that George Doherty Late a Major in the Continental line of this State be Allow'd the Sum of Eighty pounds for a horse lost in the Continental Service Also that the Comptroller be directed to Issue a Certificate to him for thirty Eight pounds being one fourth of a Sum due for His Defficiency in forrage while in the Continental Army & that he be All'd the Hundred & Eighty pounds in full for that Sum due him for Services & Expenditures while on duty in the Survices of the Continental by orders of the late Gover Martin [Gov. Alexander Martin] All which Sums the Treasurer is her[page torn] pay him in money

Resolved that the Comptroll[page torn] to the said Geo Doherty a Certificate for one Hundred & fifteen pounds thirteen Shillings being the Three forths of the defficiency of forrage as afforesaid which Shall be on the footing of Specie Certificates

NOTES:

The pension application of William Saunders (R20211) contains a pension application supposedly signed by George Doherty 37 years after he died in 1792.

The file includes a largely illegible land warrant to "George Daugherty" for 4800 acres in Davidson County NC on both sides of Walnut Creek. It also includes the following letter:

Marion Perry Co'y. Ala. July 12 1846
Commissioner of Pensions

Sir. Two gentlemen, one by the name James Breedlove & the other, John C. McLemore, of New Orleans are acting as the agents of Mrs Helen M. Yarbrough of this place and Mrs Frances W. Porter for the purpose of establishing their pension claim in right of their mother Mrs. Mary Doherty deceased who survived her husband Maj. George Doherty.

Miss Mary W. Burke is also the daughter of Mrs Mary Doherty by her first husband Gov. Thomas Burke of N. C. and believes that she is intitled to a share of whatever amount may be due in right of her mother.

Mr. Breedlove is very confident in the establishment of the claim founded on Maj. Doherty's military services during the revolutionary war, but protests against the right of Miss Burke. Miss Burke is opposed to any portion of the funds that she may be entitled to going into the hands of the gentlemen mentioned & trusts that you will not permit it, and asks you to advise her what proof she should make to enable her to receive from the department the funds she shall be entitled to if the claim of her mother shall be established, and to give her any advise, or information that may be servisable in the premises.

Respectfully &c./ L. A. Weissinger

In a similar letter with the same date Weissinger identified himself as the husband of a niece of Mary W. Burke.

On 15 Aug 1845 William C. Anderson, 75, stated the following: "that he lived one year as an overseer for Mrs Child the Sister of Mrs. Doherty who resided in Hillsborough where Mrs. Doherty also resided – that the said Mrs. Doherty had at that time say about the year 1793 two Daughters one named Francess W. who married Mr. Bond & now the wife of the Rev'd James B. Porter the neighbour of said Anderson – the other named Hellen married David Yarborough now dece'd. and as said Anderson is informed resides in the Marion, Perry County Alabama."

A typed summary states that William Bond was 59 years old in 1845.

The pension claim was rejected because Mary Doherty died in March 1836, before the first pension act covering widows was passed on 4 July 1836,.