

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Christopher Garland R3915 Mary Garland VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia } Ss
County of Gloucester }

On this 27th day of April one thousand eight hundred and fifty three personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Mary Garland, a resident of Virginia in the County of Gloucester, aged 83 years, who first being duly sworn according to law, doth, on her Oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed on the 3^d of February 1853, Granting pensions to widows of persons who served during the Revolutionary war. That she is the widow of Christopher Garland who was a Leutenant in the State line of Virginia troop & perhaps served also in the Continental service. That her husband resided at the time in the County of Gloucester Virginia, where he no doubt entered the service, but at what time or under what Officers she has no means of knowing & begs to refer to the rolls and records in the War department and the accompanying testimony, and in addition thereto would state that she has often heard her deceased husband say that he served in the Virginia troop of Horse more than two years and marched from Virginia to the North as far as New Jersey & perhaps further and believes he was at the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] but have never seen any written discharge or Commission in his papers. She further declares that she was married to the said Christopher Garland in Mathews County Va. on the 13th day of October 1804 eighteen hundred and four That her husband the said Christopher Garland died in Gloucester County Virginia on the 20th day of January eighteen hundred & twelve That she was not married to him prior to the period of January eighteen hundred, but at the time above stated. She further declares that she is now a widow

[signed] Mary Garland

State of Virginia, County of Gloucester, towit

On this 9th day of June A.D. 1853 before me Warner G. Roane a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid, duly authorized by law, to administer oaths, personally appeared Mary Garland, a resident of the said County of Gloucester, aged eighty five years, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of Christopher Garland, deceased, who was first a private of Cavalry in the Virginia Continental line, in the Army of the Revolution, and served about two years or more; Then a Lieutenant (as she has reason to believe, from information derived from her said husband, and also from others, in a Company of [blank] Commanded by Capt Ballard, in the first Virginia Regiment in the year 1776. She does not know when her said husband entered or left the service, but has reason to believe that he continued in service in said War of the Revolution until the close thereof & was honorably discharged.

She further declares that she was married to the said Christopher Garland, in the County of Mathews on or about the [blank] day of October A.D. 1804, by one Parson Smith a Babtist Minister, that her name before her said marriage was Mary Jarvis; That her said husband died in the County of Gloucester on or about the [blank] day of January AD 1812 and that she is now a widow.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining the Bounty Land to which she may be entitled under the act of Congress, approved on the 3rd day of March, 1855, she never having heretofore, received, or applied for a Land Warrant, under this or any other act of Congress.

She hereby appoints R Saunders her agent and attorney to prosecute her claim and receive the Warrant

[signed] Mary Garland

Ordered that a warrant issue to Capt'n. Robert Ballard of the first Regiment [see endnote] for eighteen pounds being for a tent for himself and one for each of his subalterns viz: Lieutenants Garland and Clayton and Ensign Lawson also for the use of James Scott for five pounds, five shillings for

waggonage for Capt'n. Charles Fleming's Company.

Executive Department/ Richmond Nov'r. 1st 1855

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an order entered in the Journal of the Council of the State of Virginia for "Monday July 29th 1776.

George W. Munford Sec'y. of the Com[monweal]th

State of Virginia, County of Gloucester

On this 19th day of July in the year A.D. 1856 before me a Justice of the peace within and for the above named County of Gloucester personally appeared Mary Garland, a resident of said County, and declares upon her oath that she is the identical Mary Garland who has heretofore made application for a Pension under the act of February 3^d 1853, as the widow of Christopher Garland deceased. That she now makes this additional declaration in support of her said former application for said Pension. She again declares that her husband, the said Christopher Garland, served in the War of the Revolution, as she was informed by himself and others, who were in the service with him, both as a private, and as a Lieutenant. That the sword which her husband used when in service was in his possession when he died, and that she after his death retained it and prized it as a sacred relic of his services in the cause of his Countries independance. That she intended never to part from it, while she lived, but unfortunately some five years ago, she had a parcel of workmen repairing her house, and she has never seen the sword (which she again avers was then in her possession) since; and consequently has been induced to believe, that that it was taken away by some one of those workmen, or, by some other person, she does not know who. She further declares that she frequently, during her husbands life time heard him speak of his services, the hardships he had endured and the Battles he had been engaged in, and recollects distinctly of his saying he was in the Battle of Bunkers Hill [see endnote], and Brandywine; and she would here state a circumstance, which came under her own observation but a very short time before her husbands death: It was this: She saw some one approaching their house who seemed to be walking on his knees, and calling her husband to the door, he recognized him immediately and told her it was an old Negroe man, who belonged to Maj'r Plummer of the County of Mathews, who was in service with him (her husband) and who had gotten his legs shot off, either at the Battle of Bunkers Hill, German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777] or Brandywine she does not now recollect which, but it was at one or the other of those places. This Negroe had traveled from Matthews County to see her husband, for whom the old fellow professed great regard. Having been together in the service so long he had obtained permission from his master to visit her husband who, he said had rendered him great attention in his afflictions.

Mary herXmark Garland

NOTES:

Captain Robert Ballard of the First Virginia Regiment of Foot was from Mecklenburg County VA.

Virginia troops were not engaged in the Battle of Bunker Hill, 17 June 1775.

According to an article in the *Virginia Gazette* of 21 Oct 1775, the Committee of Safety of Gloucester County on 13 Sep 1775 nominated Christopher Garland to be an Ensign in the Militia. John H. Gwathmey's *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* lists a Christopher Garland as Sergeant in the 1st Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons.

The file includes a certificate from the Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts showing that a cavalry soldier named Christopher Garland settled his account on 1 April 1784.

The file includes a copy of the certificate of the marriage of Christopher Garland of Gloucester and Mary W. Jarvis in Mathews County on 13 Oct 1804, officiated by "Armis'd Smith RKL."

In October 1832 Almon Dunston (pension application W731) stated that the children who survived Christopher Garland were as follows: Robert C. Garland; Permilia Clopton; Mary O'Neil of Kentucky; Mildred Kidd of Kentucky; Christopher Garland, Jr.; Sarah Chowning; Elizabeth Glenn; and Judith Brooking – the last four having since died.

On 19 May 1853 Jane Coats, 89, stated that she remembered seeing Christopher Garland returning with the troops when she was 8 or 9 at her father's house on the road from the Town of Gloucester. On 5 Sep 1855 she stated that she was 92 or 93, and that Christopher Garland was a Lieutenant on the Gloucester side of York River during the "Battle of Yorktown" – presumably the siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781 – and that afterward there was "great joy in his Fathers family when he returned home." She also stated that "after the war he got to be Major or Col." She also stated that "my Father, Belsey Horsley, Almond Dunston, & Thomas Dunston were in service at the same time, and were in the same Company I think with Mr Garland." In his own pension declaration, however, Almon Dunston described different service.

On 19 July 1856 Jane Coats stated that she had seen Christopher Garland's sword, which was "such an one, as was worn by Lieutenants and Ensigns – it being shorter than those worn by Captains & Cols."