

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Josiah Porter R8351

Rachel

fn24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/25//09

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Indiana Vigo County: On this 28th day of July 1841 personally appeared before the undersigned, Jacob Jones, an associate Judge of the Circuit Court of said County, Mrs. Rachel Porter a resident of Otter Creek Township, in the County of Vigo and State of Indiana aforesaid, aged eighty-five years, who, being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision, made by the act of Congress, passed July 4th, 1836. That she is the widow of Josiah Porter who was a private soldier in the Army of the Revolution. That according to the best of her knowledge and recollection the said Josiah Porter entered the service (first period after his marriage with this affiant) as a drafted militia man, about the first of April 1779, and that he was out during that period of service until the last of August of the same year at the time of entering the service as aforesaid he was a resident of Craven County, now Chester District in South Carolina. Said Josiah was in the Army in the same capacity, the greater part of the time until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, but I am unable to state the commencement or termination of the several periods of service. I am unable to remember the several field and company officers under whom he served, during the several periods of service but he was at different times under the command of Generals Lincoln and Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter], and Captain Alexander Campbell, and Alexander Pagon. That when drafted as above stated he marched from the place of his residence to Orangeburg. He was in the service at the siege of Charleston. He was also at the Battle of Rocky Mountain, and in that which resulted in Sumter's defeat, and in the other engagements, particularly that of "Stoneaugh" or "Stono" that this affiant has no documentary evidence in support of her claim for a pension. That said Josiah was honorably discharged at the close of the first 5 months tour spoken of and that his discharge was in the possession of this affiant, until about 5 years since, when, it being left him and exposed place, upon removing from one house to another, it was destroyed by mice. She further declares that she was married to the said Josiah Porter, on the 17th day of December 1778, that her husband the said Josiah Porter died on the 17th day of December 1814, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

S/ Rachel Porter, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me

S/ Jacob Jones, Associate Judge VCC

[Nancy White and Mary Bailey gave testimony in Vigo County Indiana that they are both the orders of Josiah Porter and his wife Rachel; that their father died in Davidson County Tennessee on the 17th day of December 1814 of dropsy supervening upon a pulmonary affliction of several

years standing; that they were both present at his death; that he left at the time of his death 2 children under 16 years of age, Thomas Porter born February 17th 1800 who now lives in the State of Missouri and Josiah Porter, born April 10th 1802 he now lives in Waynesville Illinois; that their mother has remained a widow since the death of their father. Their affidavit is dated July 28, 1841. Both signed their own name.]

[fn p. 6: Robert Gill¹ of Gibson County Indiana gave a supporting affidavit stating that he was present at the marriage of Josiah Porter to Rachel his widow; that the marriage took place in Chester District South Carolina in the latter part of the year 1778; that they were married by a Presbyterian clergyman. "This affiant was well acquainted with said Josiah Porter, and knows that after said marriage and during the revolutionary war, said Josiah Porter was in the service of the United States as a Private Soldier in the Army of the Revolution, and was under the command of General Lincoln, during the siege of Charleston, and this deponent thinks he was under the command of Captain Alexander Campbell, in that service, and the tour of service was for 3 or 6 months. He was also in a tour of service of 4 or 6 months under General Sumter, and under the immediate command, as this affiant believes of Captain Alexander Pagon, during which service he was in the battle at Rocky Mount. He was also in the battle which resulted in Sumter's defeat." The foregoing periods of service all occurred after the marriage of said Josiah and Rachel Porter; that Josiah Porter removed from South Carolina to Virginia and subsequently to Tennessee where he died in 1814.]

[fn p. 9]

State of South Carolina Chester District: Personally came George Gill² before me the Subscribing Magistrate who upon being duly sworn saith upon oath that Rachel Porter of the State of Indiana who has made application for a Revolutionary pension of the United States on account of the revolutionary Services of her deceased husband Josiah Porter is the sister of this deponent. This deponent saith upon oath that his sister Rachel Porter was married to the said Josiah Porter sometime about the year 1773 and this deponent further saith that he was in Service with the said Josiah Porter in the early War of the Revolution and was in an engagement with the said Josiah Porter at a placed called Rocky Mount in the State of South Carolina where the British & Tories had taken shelter in a house and the said Josiah Porter rushed up with a Brare [sic, ? Brace or Broad?] of fire to set the house on fire & further said he understood said Josiah Porter had been in an engagement in the State of Virginia & this deponent further saith said Josiah Porter & his wife Rachel & family moved to the Western country in the year 1814.

Sworn to & subscribed this 20th day of April 1841

S/ Geo Gill

S/ Peter Wylie, Magistrate

[fn p. 18]

State of Alabama Greene County: This is to certify that I James Gill³ of the County & State aforesaid was acquainted with Josiah Porter & knows that he served in the war of the Revolution the first service he performed was in the "Snowy Camps" previous to the declaration of the Independence of the United States of America 1776. The next service I was with him it was that at the time that Charleston SC was besieged by the British Army & that Colonel Huger was

¹ [Robert Gill R4024](#)

² [George Gill S21229](#)

³ [James Gill R4023A](#)

killed this being a 6 months campaign or thereabouts. The next service I was also with him, under General Sumter at the Battle of "Rocky Mount" a continuation of the same service he was in the Battle of "hanging Rock" I was also with him in that battle, the next was in the defeat of "Sumter," neither was I with him there Josiah Porter after the above occurrences removed his family to the State of Virginia from the State of South Carolina, after which as I have understood he was drafted into the Militia service, of the State of Virginia and was under the Command of General Anthony Wayne. Josiah Porter was married to Rachel Gill some time previous to his removal to the State of Virginia which removal took place about the year 1780. Josiah Porter died in the State of Tennessee Davidson County about the year 1813 or '14 & left his wife Rachel Porter a widow who yet lives as I am informed in the State of Indiana.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 18th day of August 1840

S/ JB McAllister, JP

S/ James Gill