

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

Pension Application of Job Martin S18496

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia Kanawha Cty }
to wit }

On this 10th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the justices of the County Court of said County of Kanawha in court sitting, the same being a court of record, Job Martin a resident of said County of Kanawha and State of Virginia, aged seventy nine years, who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1776 with Captain Henry Terrill & served in the fifth regiment of the the Virginia continental line under the following named officers. Major Josiah Parker commanded the regiment during the whole period of the applicant's service; Col [William] Peachey was entitled to command at the formation of the regiment but never appeared; [Charles] Scott was next appointed Col. of the regiment, as this affiant was informed, but did not appear in consequence of having been appointed a general to some other troops and the affiant believes he was the same general Scott who was afterwards Govenor of Kentucky. This affiant was informed that Mason was next appointed to the Command of the regiment, but is certain that he never appeared so that the said Josiah Parker commanded the regiment during the whole period of affiants service. Affiant believes a person by the name of [Lt. Col. George] Johnston acted as adjutant. The officers of Captain Henry Terrell's Company were first Lieutenant John Goggins, Second Lieutenant Thomas McConnells – Ensign Robert Watkins – Capt Gross Scruggs commanded another company in the regiment, and had the following named officers. first Lieutenant J'than Tolbert [Jonathan Tolbert] second Lieutenant Joseph Yearly [sic: Joseph Early], and Ensign Barny Arthur [Barnabus Arthur]. Thomas Gaskins commanded another company of the regiment. the other officers of his company not recollected. Joel Stubblefield [sic: George Stubblefield] commanded another company of the regiment, his officers not recollected. Falkner [sic: Ralph Faulkner] commanded another company, but the names of his officers not recollected. Russel [sic: Andrew Russell] commanded another company but his officers not recollected. Capt. Barnett [probably Richard Bernard] had the command of another company, but his officers not recollected. Captain [Burgess] Ball commanded another company his officers not recollected. The officers & soldiers of the companies of Scruggs & Terrill were of Bedford County Virginia where affiant enlisted and resided at the time of his enlistment – that the above named officers are all the affiant can recollect except Capt. [John] Anderson whom he thinks commanded a company in the regiment. This affiant enlisted for two years, and served out his time & was regularly discharged in March 1778, which discharge was placed in the hands of Samuel Martin, who removed to the State of Tennessee and died eighteen or twenty years since. This affiant marched from Bedford the place of his enlistment to Hobb's hole [on Rappahannock River in Essex County], thence to Williamsburg, thence to Suffolk, thence to Kemps landing [8 mi E of Norfolk], thence to Norfolk, thence to Williamsburg again, thence took shipping and landed at the head of Elk in Pennsylvania [sic: Maryland, now Elkton], thence to Wilmington in Delaware State, thence by land to Virginia to Williamsburg again where affiant remained until he received his discharge as afores'd.

The affiant further states that afterwards in the year 1781 he went from his residence in Bedford County afores'd. to the army then lying at Cobham [Cobham Wharf] and again enlisted in the same regiment in the Company of Captain William Lovely [William Lewis Lovely] for the term of eighteen months. The before mentioned Capt. Thomas Gaskins commanded the regiment at the time of the last enlistment. John Willis was Major. The commandants of companies so far recollected, were Captains Kilpatrick & the said William Lovely & Anderson, no other officers recollected. The affiant marched the

following rout; from Cobham, crossed the river to Jamestown, thence to Springfield Camp, thence to near York [Yorktown], where affiant continued and fought until the capture of Cornwallis [19 Oct]. About a month after the Siege of York and before the expiration of the term of his enlistment the affiant was regularly discharged under the hand of Col. Thomas Gaskins, which affiant lost in the spring of 1782 and never after reclaimed.

I Job Martin do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of any Agency in any state. [signed] Job Martin [Brothers Samuel Shrewsbury and John Shrewsbury deposed that Martin enlisted in Bedford County and returned sick after about two years.]

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see my transcript of the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111). Singleton wrote "Fraud" on the cover of his report on Martin.]

Job Martin – draws \$80 – pr annum.

I the undersigned Job Martin in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War, give the following narrative of my Revolutionary services & age, to wit – I was born on the 11th of April 1753 – am a native of Pennsylvania, but removed to Bedford County Va. in my 17th year of age. – In March 1776 I Enlisted in Bedford County under Capt. Henry Terrell for two years. Capt Terrell Enlisted a company of 68 men in Bedford County. John Goggins was first Lieut. Thomas McCounel 2^d Lieut. & Robert Wadkins Ensign in said company – my company with Capt. Gross Scruggs' company marched from Bedford County to Hobbes Hole, thence to Williamsburg, joined Gen'l. Lee's command at Williamsburg. I was attached to the 5th Reg't. which had no colonel in command whilst I was in service. Colonels Peachy & L Colo & Mason were successively appointed Colo. of the 5th Regt. neither of which joined the Reg't. – the Regt. for the 2 yrs that I served in it was under the immediate command of Major Josiah Parker. my company got to Williamsburg some time in April – remained there a while when it with the 4th Virg'a. Regt. were marched to Suffolk through the dismal swamps and to Norfolk. got to the latter place on the 16th June. remained there until the succeeding 16th October, and then returned to Williamsburg, and from there the army went by water (Chartered Sail) to Elk and from thence by land to Willmington halted there for about two months, after which we took up the line of march to Chester & Philadelphia. remained at the latter place for a short time & returned to Williamsburg in the spring of the year 1777 where I remained until my Enlistment for two years expired. got my discharge & returned home. my discharge was in the possession of my Brother Samuel when he removed to Tennessee many years ago. he is dead and I suppose my discharge is lost – when I Enlisted for the forgoing service I received a bounty of only Twenty Shillings –

In June 1781 I Enlisted again for eighteen months at a place called Cobhams, opposite Williamsburg, under Capt William Lovely. I went from home in Bedford County to Cobhams for the special purpose of Enlisting. for this Enlistment I got \$10. bounty – my old Regt. the 5th under the command of Col. Thomas Gaskins lay at Cobham at the time of my re-Enlistment. – We remained at Cobham until the first of October then went over to Jamestown & while there the french Troops under Genl. Lafayette Landed from their vessels [see endnote]. I saw the Soldiers & Genl Lafayette disembark from the vessels. We then marched from James town to Williamsburg, thence to the Spring fields 3 miles below Williamsburg remained there a week or two, and then went on to Yorktown. got there the day the Siege commenced – this was early in October [actually 28 Sep]. Some three or four days after the Siege I exchanged places with Jno. Bralcher, who was in the State Service. (I was in the continental) and was marched to Pourtsmouth [sic: Portsmouth]. Staid there until Febr'u'y. 1782 when I got my discharge & returned home. I proved my services by Mr. Shrewsbury. he had no knowledge of my Enlistments, but knew I was in Service. Benjamin Smith wrote my Declaration. I told him the same I now tell – I never did desert during my services.

In witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name Jany. 8, 1835.

Job Martin

A true copy.

W. G Singleton

Henry Cobbs, aged 67 yrs. says he has known Job Martin for 48 yrs. – that Martin came from Bedford County. – that there is a cave in that county called “Job Cave” the same having been the abiding place of Job Martin, during the war of the Revolution – and hence its name – that it is a matter of oral History – that Martin was deserter or tory at that [illegible word] – Mr. Brusman aged 60 yrs. gives the same account of Job Martin – and indeed many individuals with whom I conversed expressed great astonishment of Martins success in procuring a pension. this astonishment is predicated exclusively upon the Traditional History of his desertion & evidence in the case, which is a matter of general talk & belief. – I would respectfully suggest that in the absence of direct proof of Enlistment, Service, or of his name being found on the roll he be stricken from the Pension Roll. Martin is a man of bad character. W. G Singleton

Jan 8, 1835

Since making the forgoing report, I examined John Jones a Pensioner [application W7920] – aged 80 yrs – he says he has known Job Martin for the last thirty years – has lived a neighbour to him all that time – the traditional history of Jones [sic: presumably “Martin” intended] is that he was a tory and deserter during the war of the Revolution – has heard Jones [sic: Martins’?] near relatives state these facts to his Jones face, repeatedly – the General opinion of all who know and have heard any thing of Jones [sic] is that he is an impostur. W. G Singleton

Kanawha Court House Feby 13th 1835

Sir In answer to yours of 6th inst this day received I inform you that some six weeks since, Mr Laidley the Attorney for Job Martin placed in my hands the sum of \$75. which he received from his partner Mr Smith then and at present in Richmond, which he had drawn for him as pension money – the money was placed in my hands, Mr Laidley informed me at the particular request of Martin; Martin living near a relative of mine, and supposing opportunities would offer to have it transmitted to him – Mr. Singleton U. S. Atty being here at the time I casually mentioned the circumstance to him, and at his request I withheld the money a short time; but Martin having heard of its receipt by me sent an order for it, and after consultation with Mr Laidley (who deemed I had no right to detain it) I paid the money (excepting only about \$2. of fees that Martin owed me) to the bearer of the order, whose receipt for the same I have in my possession duly attested

I am hardly well enough acquainted with the pecuniary circumstances of M. to know whether the money can be recovered by suit against him, I however will enclose to him your letter

J. L. Edwards Esq. [Commissioner of Pensions]
Washington

respectfully yours &c
A W Quarrier

NOTE: Gen. Marquis de Lafayette commanded American troops and had been in Virginia since 14 Mar 1781. The French troops under Gen. Comte de Rochambeau arrived at Williamsburg on 14 Sep.