

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Lovell S18949

Continental MA [VA]

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act, entitled "an act for the relief of certain surviving officers & soldiers of the army of the Revolution," approved May 15th 1828, I James Lovell, now resident in Boston, County of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, was an officer in the army of the Revolution Continental Line, & served as such to the close of the War; at which period, I was a Lieutenant of Dragoons, in 2<sup>d</sup> partisan Legion under command of Lt. Col. Henry Lee. I also declare that afterward I recieved certificates, commonly called commutation certificates, for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay, which sum was offered by a resolve of congress of March 22<sup>d</sup> 1783, instead of the half pay for Life, to which I was entitled by a resolve of October 21<sup>st</sup> 1786

Witness my hand this 27th day of June a.d. 1828

[signed] James Lovell

The Hnble Sec'y of the Treasury

Sir On the receipt of your answer, (dated 5<sup>th</sup> Aug't last) to my statement of Claims against the United States for my services during the great Revolutionary Struggle, I found that I was considered as a Cornet of Dragoons instead of Lieut't. as represented by me – and to be settled with agreeable to that Rank. I immediately wrote to Dr [Joseph] Lovell the Surg Gen'l to apply to the Tr'y. Department and request that a Draft should not be sent to me at Boston for the Am't as Cornet, as there must be an error somewhere respecting my Rank, which I hoped to rectify by personal application. I have obtain'd at Richmond a Copy of a Certificate from the War Office in 95 which I presented to the Land Office at Richmond, and received my Land Warrant as Lieut't. of Dragoons in the Virginia Line, having served as such in Colo Lee's Legion from the fall of '80 when we left the Northern Army, to join Gen'l [Nathanael] Greene in the Southern untill disbanded – from 77 to the fall of 80 I had held the Commission of Ensign, Lieut in Col H'y Jacksons Reg't of Infantry [Col. Henry Jackson's Additional Massachusetts Continental Regiment] – was then transferred to the Leg[ion] by the request of Barron De Steuben [sic: Gen. Baron Von Steuben] – and two other Lts from [illegible word] Corp to complete the Legion, which had be increased in number

I presume Sir that the mistake has been made in the transfer from one Choir [corps] to the other – and I find since my arrival – that two Gentlemen of the Legion, who joined us as Volunteers after we arrived at the Southern Army – one after the Battle of Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781], the other in So Carolina have been settled with as Lieut'ts of the Legion at £40 while am considered a Cornet, who was six years in Commis[sio]n I hope Sir that this statement will be sufficient to prove that my Claim on the Government is correct, and that I shall be settled with as a Lieu[tenant] of Colo Lees Legion.

I am Sir very respectfully/ Your [illegible abbreviation]/ James Lovell

Washington 30<sup>th</sup> Oct'r 1828

Washington [illegible] 31<sup>st</sup> 1828.

Sir. I have the honour to enclose a statement of my relative Majer James Lovell as to his rank in the Revolutionary Army, with a certified copy of his having rec'd. a land warrant from the War Office in 1795, as Lt. of Dragoons, the correctness of which is shewn by the endorsement of Mr Taylor, the present chief clerk in the office of Bounty Lands, I also find that in the Military Journal of Dr. [James] Thatcher, who was the Surgeon of Jacksons Regiment knew my uncle well, he states that on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Apr 1782 he met Mr James Lovell, "formerly Lt. Adj't. of our Regiment, but now Lt. in that line Reg't. of Light Horse, commanded by Col Lee." It also appears from his statement that two others, (Garden – Johnston) who joined the Corps towards the close of the War, have been settled with as Lts; it is highly improbable that he who joined it in 1780, who was in active service with it until the close of the war, and selected as its

Adjutant, should not only have lower rank, but have been without promotion during the whole of this period, while others were appoin[ted] or promoted over him in his on Corps. It appears scarcely possible that any officer of that Army much less a Staff Officer of that distinguished corps could have remained in service under such circumstances. Very respectfully/ Your Obt Serv't/ Jos Lovell

State of South Carolina }  
Charleston District }

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of December 1846 personally appeared before me W. H. Lee Notary Public and Magistrate Ex Officio James Lovell a resident of Orangeburg District in the State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to the Law doth on his oath declare that he is now in the receipt of a pension under the Act of May 15, 1828 at the rate of Four Hundred Dollars per annum on account of his revolutionary services to the end of the war as a Lieutenant of Lee's Legion

Now the object of the declaration being made is in order to relinquish my pension under the Act of 15 May 1828 and claim an increase under Act 7 June 1832 commencing 4 March 1831 on account of my service in Col Henry Jackson's Massachusetts Regiment as a Lieutenant and Adjutant from the summer of 1778 to the fall of 1780 was then transferred by the Inspector General Baron De Steuben to Lieutenant Col Lees Legion to go to the Southern Army under General Green and served as Lieutenant & Adjutant in said Legion until the end of the war

I make this application through my duly constituted agent or Attorney Mr Alexander Ray of Washington [signed] James Lovell

[The following is in the [Revolutionary bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#):]

This is to certify that James Lovell received at this office, on the Eighteenth day of May last a Warrant for Two Hundred Acres of Continental Bounty lands, as a Lieutenant of dragoons during the late war; and that his name is registered by Joseph Howell the late Commissioner of Army Accounts as of the Virginia line.

Given at the War-Office, this Eighth day of June 1795  
Jno Stagg Jun'r/ Ch'f Clk

NOTE: The following is in the federal pension file:

James Lovel, died 11 July 1850, left no widow nor children. The arrears due at the time of his death were paid to Dr. Thomas J. Goodwyn, of Charleston District, S.C. executor of the deceased pensioner. Papers claiming the arrears executed before John C. Cochran, N. P. of Charleston, S.C. R. Burt/ Auditor