

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Taliaferro S19483

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/4/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia King William County SS

On this 25th day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of King William County court now sitting John Taliaferro a resident of St. David's parish in the County of King William in State of Virginia aged sixty-seven the 23rd day of March 1831 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated, namely that Colonel Holt Richison [Holt Richeson] commanded the Regiment to which he belonged the number of which he does not recollect that Captain Mordecai C. Booth commanded the Company to which he belonged, that he entered the service in the fall of the year preceding the year of the capture of Lord Cornwallis at Little York in Virginia and in the whole believes he served rather over six months, that he was called out on three different terms of service the first he was in the infantry the second and third he was in the Cavalry and in the third term he served not on his own account but as a substitute for his uncle John Anderson Captain Davenport commanded the troop to which he belonged on this second term, on his third term of service he acted principally as a [indecipherable word¹] in carrying letters and as a [indecipherable word²]. He was for about two weeks in the family of Marquis Fayette [Marquis de Lafayette] breakfasting and dining with them, he remembers the officers of his family, Major William Langburn, a young man by the name of George Washington, a French officer Colonel Lemph & Major Constable, have accompanied this latter officer as the bearer of a flag of truce from General Lafayette head quarters at the brooke bridge in Henrico to the British Army at Bottoms bridge where Mr. Whitlock kept a Tavern, a Mr. Morris acting as a staff officer directed or commanded the [indecipherable word, plural of the word in footnote 1 below, I think], the principal places at which this applicant was, were Holts forge, Williamsburg, Sandy point, Malvern Hills while at Sandy Point a British vessel was captured by boats in James River the troops at Sandy Point were commanded by Major George S Turberville he was with the troop commanded by General Lafayette while retreating before Lord Cornwallis and was present when General Whyne [Anthony Wayne] with his troops joined the Marquis near Stevensburg in

¹ *vedet* [possibly intended for the word "vedette" (also spelled vidette) meaning a mounted sentry in advance of the outposts of an army]

² *Pionner*

Culpeper [County], he was in Charlottesville on one occasion this applicant was the bearer of dispatches from General Lafayette from Williamsburg, the nature, importance and object of this dispatches [sic] he was informed of, it was apprehended that General Washington might attempt to reach Virginia by water and he was informed that the dispatches which he bore were to inform General Washington of the arrival of the British ships in the Chesapeake Bay, he left Williamsburg about 9 o'clock and arrived at the white chimneys in Caroline County a little after bedtime, roused up a [indecipherable word, same word as appears in footnote 1 above] there named Rollins gave him the same instructions and information which had been given to him and sent him home with the dispatches. This applicant has received no pay for his services, his On all furnished him with money to pay his expenses when he served as his substitute, he has no documentary evidence to prove his services but expects he can prove by living witnesses part of his service, he left the service about the time General Washington joined General Lafayette at Williamsburg. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. He further states that he resided in King William County at the time he entered the service. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Taliaferro



[Dudley Atkinson, a clergyman, and David Valentine gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Virginia King William County SS

On this 8th day of February 1834, personally appeared before me Stephen Sutton a justice of the peace for the County of King William and State aforesaid John Taliaferro aged seventy years on the 23rd day of March 1834, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. He the said John Taliaferro of the State and County aforesaid, was drafted into the militia service of the United States on or about the 15th day of October 1780 under Captain Mordecai Booth, and met at King William Court House and marched from thence to Chamberlayes Mill in New Kent County, from thence to holts forge [Holt's forge], from thence to Bacons ordinary, from thence to Williamsburg, from thence to Sandy point on James River, where a British flag vessel was forced to let down her sails and ancor [anchor] and there remained until discharged having served a tour of duty of two months – He was again ordered out under a draft into the militia service under Captain Davenport and met at Richmond town on or about the 10th of April 1781, and marched from thence up the boundary to Stevensburg, and there remained until discharged, after having served a tour of two months – He was again ordered into the militia service under Captain Booth by draft, and met at King William Court house, on or about the 15th day of August 1781, and marched from thence to Williamsburg and after being there a short time was detached from the main body of the Army and made a [one or more indecipherable words³], in which character he acted until discharged after he had served a tour of two months making in the whole a service of six months for which

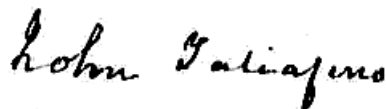
³ *aided of,*

he claims a pension. He recollects the following named officers – The Marquis Lafayette, General Thomas Nelson, Colonel Holt Richeson, Colonel William Nelson, and many others which he does not think it worthwhile to name – He was born in the County of King William and State of Virginia where he now and has always lived – He has no record of his age nor has he any documentary evidence to prove his time of service, Captain James Jones, John Butler and Edmund Beadles, Doer Sutton & Thomas C Nelson of the aforesaid County & State know the said John Taliaferro, and will testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name [is not] on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me.

S/ Stephen Sutton, JP

S/ John Taliaferro



[Dudley Atkinson, a clergyman, and John Butler gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories Question the first where and in were year were you born?

Answer I was born in the County of King William –

Question the 2nd. Have you any record of your age and where is it?

Answer – I have no record of my age in my possession –

Question the 3rd. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since and where do you now live?

Answer – I was living in the County of King William when I was called into service and I now live in the County of King William.

Question the 4th. How were you called into service? Were you drafted? Did you volunteer? Or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Answer. He was drafted into the militia service the 2 first tours and the 3rd he served as a substitute for John Henderson.

Question the 5th. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service –

Answer I have already done that in the body of my declaration –

Question 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Answer – I did receive written discharges but have either lost or mislaid them –

Question 7th. State the names of persons in your neighborhood to whom you are known and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution – John Roane Senior, John Roane Junior, Abner H Taylor, George Taylor, Colonel Philips Hylett, & John C Pollard

S/ John Taliaferro

I James Whitlock⁴ of the County of King William and state of Virginia aged 71 years (and a little upwards) do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with John Taliaferro of the aforesaid County and State during the revolutionary war and ever since and that I well knew that he served

⁴ [James Whitlock S11742](#)

as a militia man two tours with me of two months each under Captain William Terry of the aforesaid County in the eighty seventh Regiment which was commanded by Colonel John Taylor and Major Campbell and that we were together on the Gloucester side in the year eighty-one when the above mentioned two tours of service was rendered for which service in part I have an annual pension at this time. Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of February 1834.

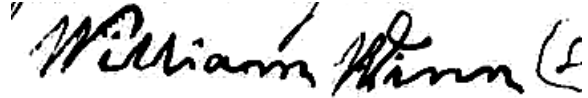
S/ James Whitlock

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Whitlock".

State of Virginia King William County SS

I William Winn⁵ of the State and County aforesaid aged 75 years of age do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with John Taliaferro of the aforesaid County and state and that he the said John Taliaferro served as militia man in the revolutionary war with me under the same officers and in the same company and thus he served two tours of two months each with me. Given under my hand and seal this 24th day of February 1834

S/ William Winn

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Winn".

John Butler⁶ of the County of King William and State of Virginia aged seventy years on the 19th day of January 1834 do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with John Taliaferro during the revolutionary war and that I was with him in the service at Holts forge, Sandy Point, and Williamsburg and that I have every reason to believe that he served as a militia man several tours of duty besides the one I was with him.

S/ John Butler

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Butler".

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]

⁵ [William Winn S11699](#)

⁶ FPA S8115