

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

Pension Application of James Trenor S30170

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia At a Court held at the Court house for the County of Botetourt on Monday the 11th day of November 1833 – On this 11th day of November 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Botetourt County now Sitting the same being a court of record James Trenor a resident of Botetourt County in the State of Virginia aged Seventy Six years the 24th day of March last 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 7th 1833 [sic: 1832]. That he was born in the vicinity of Dublin in the Kingdom of Ireland on the 24th of March in the year 1757 that he took shipping at Dublin in the month of April 1775 and arrived at Baltimore in the state of Maryland in the month of June 1775 as appears from the receipt of the owner of the vessel in which he sailed and the Certificate of the Captain of the same which he has preserved ever since and now holds. That he entered the service as a Volunteer in what was called the Cherokee Expedition in the month of May in the year 1776 which was commanded by Colonel William Christian that at the time he volunteered he resided in the County of Bedford that part of it which is now Campbell in the State of Virginia that while in that service he obtained the appointment of assistant Commissary at Fort Lee from General Shelby Commissary which warrant of appointment bears date the 4th of June 1777 signed by the said Shelby he has kept and exhibits the same marked A with this Declaration, he remained in said service until the Treaty made at the Long Island of Holston with the Cherokees (which he believes was in the month of December 1779 [Treaty of Long Island, 20 June 1777]) was ratified after which he came to the County of Montgomery and taught School for some time that he again entered the service of the united states on the 30th of June 1780 as appears from a memorandum found amongst his papers as a substitute for Samuel Pepper a soldier detailed for service from the County of Montgomery for Eighteen months on the 9th of September 1780 he received from Colo. William Preston of said County and State the appointment of Sergeant in the Company to which he belonged which appointment signed by said Wm Preston marked B is herewith exhibited, on the 7th of November 1780 he was appointed to act as assistant commissary of Issue to Colo Gibsons [George Gibson's] detachment of Light Infantry which last warrant of appointment was signed by John Robertson A. C. I. Gen'l. Muchlenbers [sic: Peter Muhlenberg's] Brigade and also by P. Muchlenberg B[rigadier] General which is marked C and herewith exhibited he was also appointed the 1st of May 1781 assistant Commissary of Issue to the Detachment of Eighteen Months Troops under the Command of Major John Poulson which warrant of appointment signed by J Robertson DCG of I and is herewith exhibited marked D and he exhibits also an order directed to the Commissary from M Gen'l. Baron Steuben dated the 11th of June 1781 marked E on the 5th of August 1781 Thomas Gaskins Lt. Colo. 3rd Virg'a Reg't gave to the said James Trenor a certificate of his good conduct as Commissary which is herewith exhibited marked F he has in his possession an order directed to him as assistant Commissary of Issue dated at Good [sic: Goode's] Bridge in the State of Virginia the 26th July 1781 signed by Brigadier General Anthony Wayne and is also exhibited marked G and on the 1st of January 1782 when he retired from the service he obtained from Gen'l. Peter Muchlingberg a discharge and certificate stating that the said James Trenor had served Eighteen Months in the Virginia line part of the time as Sergeant and the residue as issuing Commissary in both which stations he discharged his duties faithfully which last certificate marked H is herewith exhibited and it is wished and intended that all the said Exhibits A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. should accompany this Declaration to the War Department at Washington for the purpose of supporting the statements herein contained. The said James Trenor further states that although he acted as a soldier during the period above stated in the service of the United States in the Revolution that he was never in an action with the Enemy. From the year 1780 untill 1782 when he was discharged he was

stationed at different points in Virginia but within those two last mentioned periods was never marched out of that State. He moved to the County of Botetourt in the State of Virginia shortly after he was discharged from the Service, has lived in said County ever since and is now living on Sinking Creek in said County of Botetourt. He is not certain that he can now prove his service as a soldier by any witness living except so far as it is proved by the affidavit of David Hughs of Giles County bearing date the 30th of September 1833 which together with the Certificates thereto attached will accompany this Declaration as to his age it is recorded by himself in his own Bible from a statement received from his parents 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 and subscribed the 11th day of November 1833— [signed] J's. Trenor

Fort Patrick Henry [at Long Island on Holston River] June 4th 1777

Sir/ In Consequence of your former Appointment by Mr. C. Madison, I have thought proper to continue you as an Assistant Commissary at Fort Lee, Till farther orders you are to issue only one Ration to each individual (in the service there), that is one pound & quarter flour & one & half pounds Beef & the like Quantity of pork as of flour. The horses that goes over with you must Return as soon as possible to this place with their saddles & as many of the baggs as can be spared – Keep an exact account of the Number of days, that the pack Horsemen & Cow Herds are employed in the several services

I am Sir your Hon'ble. Serv't.

To Mr Treanor

Isaac Shelby Coms'y

Montgomery County in Virginia.

I do hereby Certifie that I have been acquainted with the Bearer Mr. James Trenor upwards of Three Years last past, during which Time he hath acted in several publick stations and in every department in which he has been employed he hath always behaved to the satisfaction of all concerned. His good Conduct as an honest man and a good Citizen of the Commonwealth has deservedly gained him the Esteem of his acquaintance, which I am in hopes his future Behaviour will still enlarge and continue. From my own knowledge of his worth I have appointed him a Serjeant in a Company of Recruits raised in the County for the Continental Army and would be glad I had it in my power to serve him in a higher degree to which his own Worth and family Connexions Justly entitle him. Sep'r. 9th 1780. Certified by Wm. Preston

Camp Cypress Mills Nov'r. 7th 1780

Mr James Trenor is hereby appointed to Act as Assistant Commissary of Issue to Colo. Gibsons Detachment of Light Infantry & to render proper Returns & Vouchers of his Receives & Issues to John Robertson A.C.I. to the Virg'a. line, agreeable to the Instructions he may Receive from him for that purpose. he is likewise to apply to the Commanding Officer of the detachment he serves, for all necessary instructions & pay proper attention to the Resolves of Congress, the Orders of the Commanding Officers & the Superior officer in the Department he is likewise to apply for paper, Ink powder, &c. to the Regimental Quarter Master of Q Master of the Detachment he serves . . .

Given under my hand day & place as above [signed] Jn'o Robertson A.C.I. Gen'l. Muhlenbergs B'de.
To Mr James Trenor [signed] P. Muhlenberg BG

Commissary's Office May 1st 1781

Sir By virtue of an appointment I have obtained from Major Gen'l. Baron de Steuben [sic: Baron von Steuben], and in Complying with the orders of the Board of War to appoint assistants where they were wanted... I do therefore by Virtue of the said authority and the power invested in me by a Resolve of Congress of the Ninth June 1777 do hereby nominate, Constitute, and appoint you Assistant Commissary

of Issue, to the detachment of Eighteen Months Troops, at present under the command of Major John Poulson (or to any other Brigade Detachment, or post within this state to which by the superior officers in the department you may be appointed) Reposing special trust, & confidence in the performance of your duty. The proper and necessary instructions relative to our department you may from time to time receive from the Board of War or any office. you will be very particular in making your Monthly Returns to me, of Receives & Issues, Forwards, deliveries, Condemn's, Losses and Stores on hand at the end of each Month; As I am obliged to make speedy returns to the Board of War, hopes you will be diligent in your duty. Take no Vouchers on dirty paper, neither wrote improper let a sufficient space of clean paper be at the foot of each Return to take a proper Receipt for the different species of provision so Issued, on the foot of each Return or on the back thereof, so as it may be properly filed with the date thereof & the number of the Voucher, persons Victualed, and different species of provisions Issued to the Number of Rations... This being agreeable to the Resolves of Congress would wish them to be exactly comply'd with, which Resolves you'l see, and have copies of them from my office. By order of Maj. Gen'l. Baron de Steuben, likewise the Board of War, Liquor is not to be Issued to no persons in Continental service but to Fatigue parties, on hard marches, or in Wet Weather, and those orders are to be sign'd by the Commanding Officer. All orders for Rations or Liquor must be sign'd by the Commanding Officer or Field Quartermaster, no Supernumary officers are to draw Rations, neither is any more than three or four days Rations to be Issued at a time to any troops at any post, Brigade or Magazine within this state unless it may be to officers that you are sure stays at a post for a full month and at the end of the month or any other time within the course of the said month they give a Return for their Rations mentioning the number &c as aforesaid. The Rations to be Issued to Officers and Soldiers in the state and the quantity of provision to each Ration I will send to you the first opportunity you will be very particular in obeying with the utmost exactness the orders of the Commanding officer and the superior in the department in hopes of your just performance.

Mr. James Trenor

I remain your very H'ble Servant

J'no. Roberston D.C.G.of I

The Commissary will Issue One pound & a quarter of Beef, one pound & a quarter of flour for a ration, to the troops untill further orders
June 11th 1781

By order M Gen'l Baron Steuben

[signed] S North[?] Aid de Camp

Camp Westham Aug't. 5th 1781

I hereby certify that Mr James Trenor has acted as Issuing commissary to the detachment of Virginia troops under my command for three month & has always paid particular attention to the duties of his office & given the greatest satisfaction to all the officers & soldiers

Tho Gaskins Lt Colo

3rd Virg'a Reg't

In Pursuance of an act of the Hon'ble Congress passed in Phil'a. the 18th May 1781 I hereby empower you to procure a quantity of Spirits for the use of the Virginia & Pennsy'a. troops under my Comm'd. giving the owner a Certificate for the same mentioning the quantity & quality, that the state may be Credited for that proportion of specific tax & the owners or owner be paid the real & full value therefor

Given at Camp near Goods Bridge this 26th July 1781

Mr James Trenor ACI

Ant. Wayne BG

Camp. January 1st 1782

I do hereby Certify that Mr. James Trenor, serv'd Eighteen months in the Virginia Line, part of the time as a Sergeant, & the other as Issuing Commissary, in both of which stations, his Conduct gained him the esteem of his Superiors, & the Friendship of his equals – as he is now retiring from the Service, for want of employment I can from my own knowledge venture to recommend him as a Man very capable of

Business, should any opportunity offer to employ him in the Staff Department of the Army

[signed] P. Muhlenberg BG

Giles County to Wit

I hereby Certify that David Hughs made Oath before me Thomas Kirk a Justice of the peace for said County that he knew one James Trenor in the Revolutionary service of Eighteen months Troops who was styled Seargeant Trenor That he marched with him from the County of Montgomery to Chesterfield CourtHouse Virginia was unable to state the year & from sircumstances which Trenor stated to him, Hughs (who is blind & very old) he believes him Trenor to be the same man that he never knew any other man of that name given under my hand this 30 day of September 1833 Th. Kirk J.P.

NOTES:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: James Trenor/ age 23/ height 5' 7"/ farmer/ born in Dublin Ireland/ residing in Montgomery County/ brown hair/ gray eyes/ fair complexion/ enlisted 11 Sep 1780 for 18 months.

That size roll also lists David Hughs/ age 34/ height 5' 7"/ carpenter/ born in Albemarle County VA/ residing in Montgomery County/ brown hair/ hazel eyes/ dark complexion/ enlisted 25 Dec 1778 for the duration of the war/ "Deserted from Stoners."

On 14 June 1847 Joseph Hannah, executor of the estate of James Trenor, who died on 3 July 1834, inquired about an increase in pension for children, James R. Trenor and Polly K. McIver. Another document states that Polly K. McIver was the wife of John McIver, and it lists George H. Trenor as a third surviving child.