

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

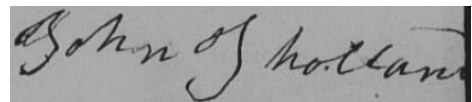
Pension Application of John T. Holland S34923

MD

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 9 Oct 2021.

State of Maryland, City of Baltimore SS.

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and nineteen, personally appeared before me the undersigned Chief Judge of Baltimore City Court John T. Holland, a resident of Baltimore County and State aforesaid, aged Fifty eight years and upwards an applicant for a pension under the late act of Congress entitled “An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & Naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war”, and then and there made the following declaration upon oath by me administered. “That he enlisted at Baltimore in said state some time in the spring of the year 1779, under Captain Segon [Jacques de Segon], was mustered in Captain Browns Troops of Horse, attached to Polaski’s Corps [sic: Gen. Kazimierz Pulaski’s Legion], marched shortly thereafter to Norfolk in Va., there dismounted and ordered to the Fort then under command of Commodore Matthews, which Fort was soon after evacuated, and taken possession of by the enemy. We were then remounted and marched to Long Bridge [sic: Great Bridge], from thence to Charleston South Carolina, where we joined the main Army commanded by General [William] Moultrie [8 May 1779]; shortly after were engaged in the battle of Charleston [skirmish at Old Race Track, Charleston SC, 11 May 1779] where we lost our Colonel Courworth [sic: Colonel-Commandant Michael de Kowatch], and drove the British Troops [see note below]. From thence was on various duties until we were ordered to Savanna, and was in the battle of that place when our General Polaski was mortally wounded [Battle of Savannah GA, 9 Oct 1779]. deponent was in the battle of Cambden [sic: Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] where Gen’l. [Horatio] Gates was defeated & his Captain Bracon wounded & taken prisoner when Lieutenant Verdear succeeded to the command of the Company – from that time had repeated skirmishes with Tarlton’s Light Horse [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton’s Legion] with various success, until attacked by the British Horse at “Monks Corner” [sic: Moncks Corner SC, 14 Apr 1780] where we lost our Major Verdeau [sic: Maj. Chevalier Pierre-François Vernier] who was cut to pieces fighting sword in hand. from thence was on various duties until they engaged a party of British Light Horse at Reneus Ferry [sic: skirmish at Leneud’s Ferry, 6 May 1780] on Santee River where deponent while acting under Colonels [William] Washington and [Anthony Walton] White the latter of whom he was Orderly Serg’t to, received four wounds and was taken prisoner, carried to GeorgeTown S. C. from thence sent into the country, and after the capture of Charleston [12 May 1780], was left by the enemy on parole, and as soon as able to march rejoined his former company, but his wounds breaking out again was discharged by the Marquis De La Fayette [sic: Lafayette] at Cabbin point [sic: Cabin Point in Surry County] in Virginia, some time before the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. That in consequence of a wound inflicted by a sword, while engaged with the enemy, his right hand has been in a great measure useless to him ever since, notwithstanding which his name hath never been inscribed on any pension roll. That he has no knowledge of any officer under whom or with whom he served now residing within the City or county of Baltimore except Colonel Paul Bentalou, now Marshall of Maryland, and whose certificate is hereunto annexed, and that in consequence of his reduced circumstances and helpless situation stands in need of his Country, assistance for his support and the said deponent further saith that he served as a private & non Commissier officer in said Legion during the revolutionary war on the Continental Establishment for more than nine months in Continuance.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John T. Holland". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

On this said 27<sup>th</sup> day of Aug't eighteen hundred and nineteen, personally appears before me the undersigned Mrs. Ruth Cavenaugh of lawful age, who being by me duly sworn deposes and saith, She is half sister to John T. Holland within named, that she perfectly recollects that her brother aforesaid was a regular enlisted soldier in the service of the United States, remembers that after an absence of two or three years, during the revolutionary war, that on coming home from school, she was asked whether or not she knew a person then in the house in soldiers uniform, at first she did not, he having been a long time absent, but afterward recognized him as her brother, who had been discharged from the army in consequence of wounds rec'd in the service.

Ruth herXmark Cavenah

State of Maryland, Baltimore County Ss:

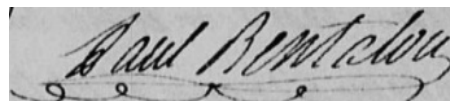
On this Twenty Eighth day of August Eighteen hundred and nineteen personally appears before me the undersigned justice of the peace in and for said county Caleb Arnett of Baltimore County of lawful age, and made oath in due form of law, that he hath been well and intimately acquainted with John T Holland, now present, who is an applicant for a pension under the late act of Congress, for upwards of Forty years, that they had been playmates when boys, knew him an apprentice to James Edwards and perfectly recollects his having enlisted into a company of Horse in Polaski's Legion, then stationed at Balt'e. or on their way to the Southward, frequently saw him at his rendezvous, as also exercising in Uniform with his company on the Commons of Balt'e. Saw him march from Balt'e with said Legion about the year 1780, and perfectly recollects said Holland having return from the army two or three years afterward, in Uniform, badly wounded in the hand, an ugly cut a cross the upper lip & many other severe wands [wounds] on his body which was represented to have been received in battle with the enemy, and which he is well assured was the fact. That he is positively sure said John T. Holland served fully two years in the service of the U. States on the Continental Establishment during the Revolutionary War. And that he is now in extreem reduced circumstances – dependent partly on manuel labour but principally on the assistance of his friends for support

[signed] Caleb Arnet

Dear Sir

you may easily conceive how very difficult, and indeed almost impossible that after, nearly, a half century I can have retained the least recollection of the petitioner Holland if even I ever had any personal knowledge of him, which is not likely, as he served in the infantry of the legion, and indeed had he even belonged to my troops, it can not be expected, from the same reason, that I can at this time recollect the persons and names of all the men under my command; but this however I can readily and conscientiously testify that in as much as the petitioner relates so many facts and so very correctly, which he never could have known had he not been personally present, I have no hesitation in declaring that said Holland must have been, as he says, a soldier in the continental legion under command of Brig. Gen'l. Count Pulaski during the revolutionary war: any certificate substantially drawn in conformity to that it will give me pleasure to sign as I sincerely wish to aid the distressed and particularly an old revolutionary soldier, and as to yourself accept the good wishes of

Your obed servant.



#### SCHEDULE

United States of America

State of Maryland, Baltimore County SS.

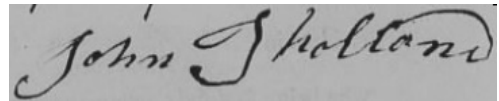
ON this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 1820, personally appeared in open court being a court of record, that is to say, the regular County Court in and for the said County of Baltimore in the Sixth Judicial District of Maryland John T. Holland aged Fifty nine years, resident in Baltimore County in said State who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, declare, that he served in the Revolutionary

War, as follows: That he enlisted at Baltimore in the State of Maryland some time in the Spring of the year 1779 in Cap. Browns Troop of Horse attach'd to Polaski's Cour in the service of the U. States, continued in said service on the Continental establishment until the summer of 1781 when in consequence of debility from various wounds and hardships while prisoner he was discharged by the Marquis De La Fayette at Cabbin Point in the State of Virginia, having served on the Continental establishment upwards of two years. That he made his original declaration before the Hon'le. Judge Brice at Baltimore in the State of Maryland on or about the 27 August 1819 and was placed on the Rev'y. Pension List roll of the M'd. Agency @ \$8. per month as will appear by his Certificate No. 15,711 and I do solemnly swear, that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th March, 1818; and that I have not, since that time, by gift, sale, or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an Act of Congress, entitled, "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States, in the Revolutionary War," passed on the 18th day of March, 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property, or securities, contracts, or debts, due to me; nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed, and by me subscribed.

Schedule Viz't.

Two tables, 8 chairs, one old desk, two pots, some buckets or Tubs – Andirons & some other trifling articles not worth enumerating. The who [sic] of which articles are not worth and would not sell for Twenty five dollars – \$25.00

That he was by trade a Tallow Chandler, but from his wounds and afflictions has been incapable of labor for many years past, and lives about among his friends without keeping a House for himself – has no family and in such reduced circumstances as to stand in need of the assistance of his Country for support.. And were it not for the pension he receives from Government would not be able to support himself, except from public or private charity.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "John Shelton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: At the skirmish at the Old Race Track it was Pulaski who was forced to retreat.

