

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Cotten (Cotton) S35845

fn18SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/3/11

[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.]

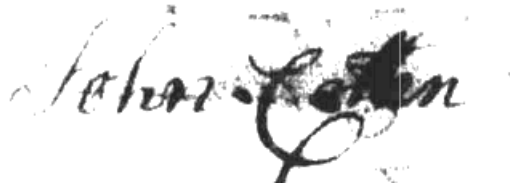
Illinois Territory to wit

Before me the undersigned presiding judge of the General court of said Territory personally appeared John Cotton who being sworn on the holy evangelist of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary war in North America, that he enlisted in the service at Camden in South Carolina under Captain William McClintick [William McClintock] in the fall after the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] in said State, that he continued in the American Army in the character of Sergeant during the said War, that Captain McClintick was killed by the Indians, that he (this deponent) was then placed under Captain Woods, that [text compromised and illegible, may read "soon thereafter"] the close of the War the said Captain Woods gave him an Honorable discharge, that the deponent never received any land for his services nor wages for the three months which he last served – that he lost his discharge by being washed off of his horse crossing a river – that after losing his discharge he applied to the Governor of Georgia for a certificate of his having been a Soldier in the aforesaid war, which he obtained and which will more fully appear reference being had to the printed certificate herein with sent; and that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his Country for support.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 13th of July A.D. 1818

S/ Jesse B Thomas

S/ John Cotton



Illinois Territory to it

I do certify that the above mentioned John Cotton is an old and helpless man (being a cripple) that he is a man of good character and he needs the assistance of his Cover month for support [balance of this certificate is illegible to me]

S/ Jesse B Thomas

District of Illinois: SS

On this 19th day of June 1819 before me Judge of the District Court of the United States for the District of Illinois personally appeared Thomas Isbell and Temperance Isbell, who being duly sworn depose and say that they were well acquainted with John Cotton before and since the Revolutionary War in the States of North & South Carolina and Georgia that they and the said Cotton lived in South Carolina at the time the Deponents suppose he enlisted. They did not see

him enlist, but they were neighbors and understood from him that he was in the service. That he was absent sometime and returned home occasionally to see his mother & friends and these Deponents understood he was on furlough. These Deponents heard the same facts from the mother of the said cotton and it was generally understood at the time that he was enlisted in the service. The deponents cannot at this time recollect how long said Cotton was in the service, but all very certain it was a long time more than a year indeed it might have been five years – the deponent Thomas Isbell states that he is sixty-five years old and the Deponent Temperance Isbell says that she is about fifty-eight years old. The Deponents say that Cotton about the same age of the Deponent Thomas Isbel. The Deponents always understood that the said Cotton had his shoulder broken in the service and when he returned to his friends they say that it had been done. The deponents always heard him complain that he was disabled by the injury and have no doubt that his arm was much weakened by it. The wound is still to be seen on his left shoulder. Sworn to before me.

S/ Nathaniel Pope, District Judge

State of Illinois St. Clair County Circuit Court: SS

On this 21st day of November 1820 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record for St. Clair County in the State of Illinois John Cotton aged about 65 and 67 years resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows, to wit, In Captain William McClintock's company in the Regiment commanded by Colonel or General Sumter [Thomas Sumter] in the line of the State of South Carolina on Continental Establishment, that I made my original declaration in order to a pension on the 19th day of June 1819 that by the Certificate of JC Calhoun Secretary of War bearing date the 6th day of September 1819 No. 14893 I was inscribed on the pension list roll of the Illinois Agency, And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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

A Schedule of the Real & Personal Estate of John Cotton

One small light wagon	\$75.00
One horse	20.00
two cows & calves	24.00
One Bureau	15.00
One Cupboard	15.00
One Shot Gun	5.00
Castings	8.00
17 steelyards [?]	1.50
Cupboard furniture	6.00
1 ax, 1 hoe, 1 plough, 1 wedge, 1 saw, 1 drawing knife	6.00
1 trunk & 2 barrels	5.50
one bag	.25

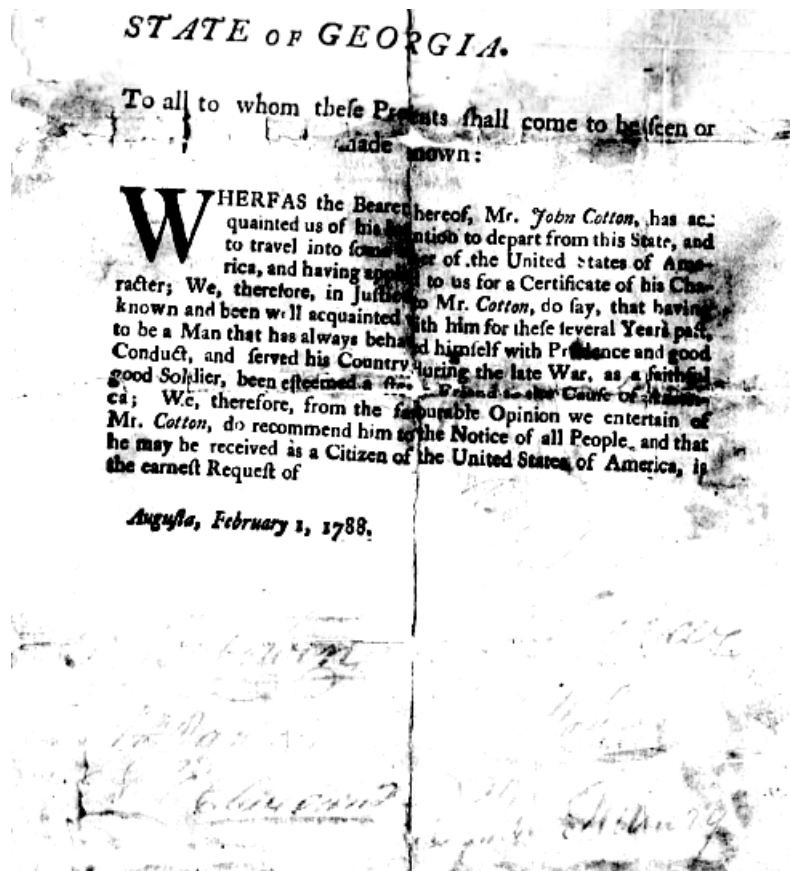
Corn	25.00
pair chairs	2.50
? & chairs	2.00
?	5.00
?	<u>1.50</u>
total \$218.25	\$218.25

My occupation is that of peddler of Cakes, Income \$30, but declining so fast that I cannot expect to make so much next year. My family consist of one wife aged 40 years, 4 children the first a boy of 10 years of age, the 2nd a girl of 8, the 3rd a girl of 6, and the 4th a boy of 3 1/2 years of age.

And I owe debts to various persons amounting in the whole to \$246

S/ John Cotton¹

Sworn to and declared on the 21st day of November 1820 before the Circuit Court



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 13, 1818 for service as a private in the South Carolina Continental line for one-year.]

¹ The veteran's "signature" appears to me to be in exactly the same handwriting as the application itself. Therefore, I think it is more likely the handwriting of the scribe and not a actual signature of the veteran.