

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

Pension Application of John Forrester S35948

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 18 Feb 2014.

United States of America

State of Kentucky, Barren County.

I John Forrester do state that I served as a private soldier in the continental army of the United States in the Revolutionary War with great Britain

I do state that in the year 1776 as well as I now recollect being now in the 78<sup>th</sup> year of my age, that I inlisted as a private soldier for three years under Capt John Ashby in the third Virginia Continental Reg't. commanded by Colo. [Hugh] Mercer – that I served out said time of three years and was honorably discharged, that I afterward enlisted under Capt Triplet [sic: Francis Triplett] in Colo. [Daniel] Morgan Rifle Regiment and continued in the service of the united states in s'd Regiment until the end of the s'd War. I enlisted in the s'd Rifle Regiment as well as I recollect in the year 1780. I further state, that I have lost my discharge but how or when I am unable to say.

I further state, that I have always been a Citizen of the United states of America, and that I am now a citizen of the said County of Barren & State af'd. and that I have never taken part against the said United States in any contest whatever. I do further state, that from my reduced circumstances, that I stand in need of the assistance of my Country. I do hereby release to the said United States all and any pension or provisions heretofore allowed or made me by any law of the s'd United States. Given under my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> June 1818

John hisXmark Forrester

State Kentucky Barren County Sct July Term 1820

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 1820 personally appeared in Open Court (being a Court of Record for the State and County aforesaid) John Forrester aged 81 years; resident in the County afs'd. a Farmer by occupation and able to work, has no famely except Mary Forester his Wife who is 84 years of age) who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his Oath declare that he served in the revolutionary War as follows that in the year 1776 he enlisted as a private Soldier for three years under Capt'n. John Ashby in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Continental regiment Commanded by Colo. Mercer. that he served out said time of three years and was honorably discharged, and that he afterwards enlisted under Captain Triplett in Colo. Morgans Rifle Regiment; as well as he now recollects, in the year 1780 and that he has lost his discharge; and that he never has Received a pension from the United States, and that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Navel service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property or securities contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed, Towit one Old Mare and Colt. a Milch Cow & Calf & a heifer

John hisXmark Forrester

NOTES:

Jacob Gibson (Gipson), pension application R3998, certified Forrester's service.

[Bounty-warrant records in the Library of Virginia](#) include a copy of the 1818 document above, apparently submitted as part of an application for bounty land. The online image of one document is illegible.

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Forrester John  
Transcription by FA Weyler

VA

S35948  
06Sep2013

[p2] Kentucky certificate 18.016  
John Forrester of Barren County  
Private under Col Mercer 3 years  
Issued 10Jan1820 @ \$8/mo

[p4] United States of America  
State of Kentucky, Barren County

I John Forrester do state that I served as a patriot soldier in the continental army of the United States in the Revolutionary Army of the United States in the Revolutionary war with Great Britain.

I do state that in the year 1776 as well as I now recollect being now in the 78<sup>th</sup> year of my age, that I enlisted as a private soldier for three years under Capt John Ashby in the third Virginia Continental Reg<sup>t</sup> commanded by Col<sup>o</sup> Mercer. That I served out said time of three years and was honorably discharged. That I afterwards enlisted under Capt Triplet in Col<sup>o</sup> Mercer's rifle regiment and continued in the service of the United States in sd regiment until the end of the sd war. I enlisted in the sd rifle regiment as well as I recollect in the year 1780. I further state that I have lost my discharges but how or when I am unable to say.

I further state that I have always been a citizen of the United States of America and that I am now a citizen of the said County of Barren of state afd and that I have not taken part against the said United States in any contest whatever. I do further state that from my reduced circumstances, that I stand in need of the assistance of my country. I do hereby release to the said United States \_\_\_ and any pension or pensions hereto

-fore

[p5] State of Kentucky  
General Circuit sct

I Benj Letcher, clerk of the court for the sd county and circuit do certify that W. L. Kelly is commissioned, sworn, and acting judge in and for the state aforesaid and sole judge of the sd General Circuit Court. In testimony whereof I have hereto set my hand & caused the seal of my sd county to be affixed at Lancaster the 21<sup>st</sup> day of June 1820.

Benj Letcher

[p6] =fore award or made me by any one of the sd United States. Given under my hand this 16<sup>th</sup> June 1818.

Teste  
Fr Johnson

John Forrester x his mark

State of Kentucky  
Barren County sct

I Christopher Tomkins judge of the eighth judicial district of Kentucky and judge of the circuit court for the said county of Barren do hereby certify that John Forrester who has

made and signed the foregoing statement of his services in the revolutionary war came this day personally before me and made oath that the matters of things contained in said statement are true. Given under my hand at Glasgow in the sd county and state this 16 June 1820.

Christopher Tompkins

State of Kentucky, Garrard County and circuit sct

This day William Strange aged 90 years personally appeared in open court and made oath to the following facts to wit:

That he was well acquainted with John Forrester about the year 1776 when this deponent did enter the service of the United States under Capt John Ashby. That the said Forrester was absent from his house in the

[p7]

County of Fauquier and State of Virginia for several years. To wit for more than two years. This deponent is of opinion from the best recollection which he has that Ashby's men were enlisted for 3 years, and this deponent always understood in the neighborhood that John Forrester did serve out his time without any complaint whatsoever.

I warrant to before me William L Kelley circuit judge for the 9<sup>th</sup> judicial district by William Strange who I do hereby certify to be a credible witness as witness my hand and seal this 20<sup>th</sup> day of June 1820

William L Kelly

Circuit judge

[p8 a note that his name was not found on the rolls, so Forrester must have the certified sworn statements of two disinterested witnesses as evidence of his service.]

[p9]

State Kentucky Barren County sct July Term 1820

On this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 1820 personally appeared in open court (being a court of record for the state and county aforesaid) John Forrester aged 81 years, resident in the count afs<sup>d</sup> a farmer by occupation and able to work, has no family except Mary Forester [sic] his wife who is aged 84 years of age). Who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows. That in the year 1776 he enlisted as a private soldier for three years under Capt<sup>n</sup> John Ashby in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Continental Regiment commanded by Col<sup>o</sup> Mercer. That he served out said time of three years and was honorably discharged and that he afterwards enlisted under Captain Triplett in Col<sup>o</sup> Morgan's Rifle Regiment, as well as he now recollects in the year 1780 and that he has lost his discharge; and that he never has received a pension from the United States and that he was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, sale, or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby to diminish it so as to bring himself within the provisions of the act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and Naval Services of the United States in the Revolutionary War passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818. And that he has not, nor has any person in trust for him any property or securities contracts or debts due to him. Nor has he any income other than

[9] what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed by him. Subscribed to wit one old mare and colt, a milk cow & calf & a heifer.

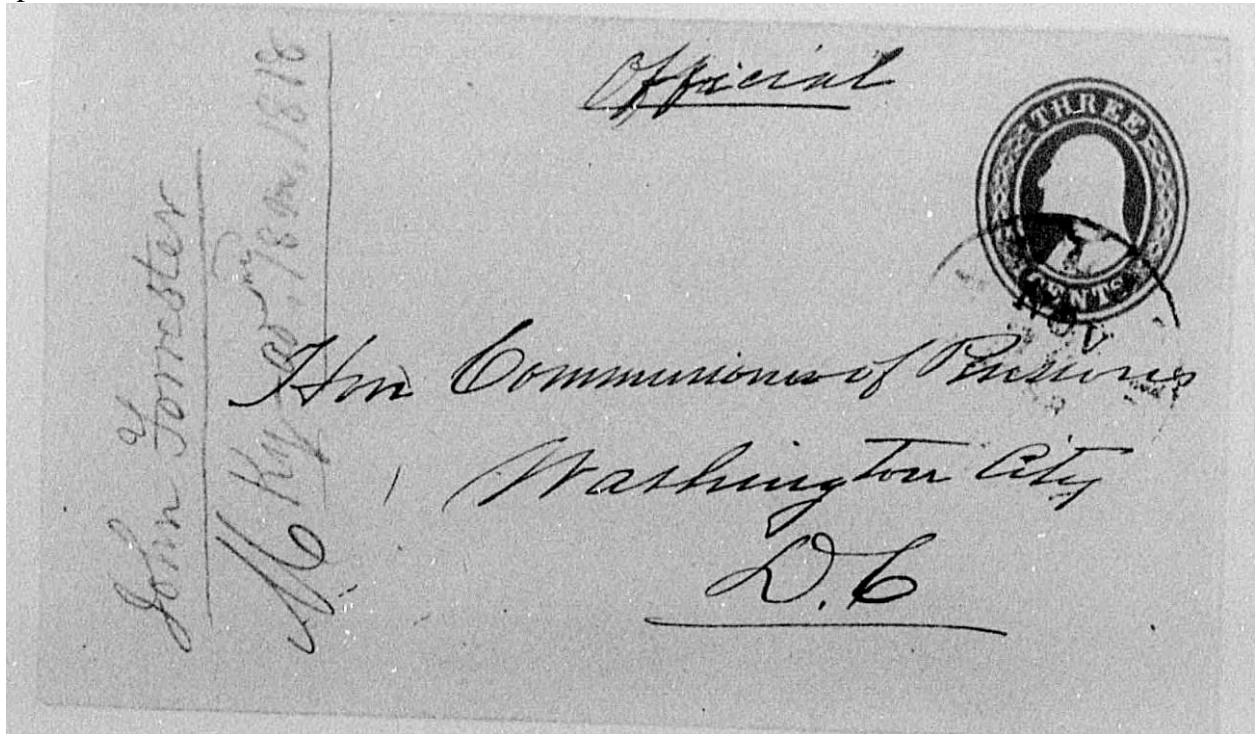
John Forrester                      x his mark

Sworn to and declared on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of July 1818 in open court before the court aforesaid.

W. Logan clerk

[routine county certification

William Logan, clerk  
[p16]



[Ed note: In 1845, some post masters began selling covers (envelopes). Typical postage rates were 5 cents additional collected by the sending post master and attested by his signature or the seal (stamp) of his office. In 1847, postage stamps were first issued to replace the post master's signature as proof of payment. The rates were five and ten cents. Much mail to and from DC was still carried by congressmen. Official court seals were still usually stamped into affixed melted wax.]