

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Prior S36242

f24VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/27/12

[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.]

[Note: the documents in this file have been heavily damaged by water and parts of each page are so faint as to be very difficult, if not impossible, to discern. Use the following with more than the normal caution.]

Georgia Burke County: Superior Court September term, 1820 present the Honorable Christopher B. Strong Esquire Judge of said Court
District of Georgia (SS)

On the 30th day of September 1820 personally appeared in open Court (being a Court of Record) John Prior age sixty-three years and upwards who being sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820 that he the said John Prior enlisted for the term of three years or during the War on the ___ day of ___ in the year 1775 in the State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain Swaringame [probably Lieutenant Captain Joseph Swearingen] in the 12th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Wood that he continued service in said Regiment about five years and was then transferred to the 8th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Posey in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment. That he continued to serve in said Regiment (except when a prisoner) until the ___ day of ___ in the year 1781 when he was discharged from the said Service in the State of South Carolina at Charleston, that he was in three Battles (viz.) one at Brandywine [September 11, 1777], one at Germantown [October 4, 1777] and one at Monmouth [June 28, 1778] that he was a prisoner of the enemy (the British)¹ for eight months and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except his own oath, and in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, 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.

S/ John Prior, X his mark

State of Georgia of Burke County: The Schedule of John Prior alluded to in the foregoing

¹ probably taken prisoner at the surrender of Charleston South Carolina on May 12, 1780

statement is one Shot Gun worth about \$10, that he has no stock of any ~~kind~~ description that he has four in family including himself viz. one boy and two Girls the oldest a boy about 14 years of age and the youngest a girl about 10 years of age that he is by occupation a planter that from his old age and infirmities he is very unable to work for support of himself and family and he has no means of support for himself and family except what derived from his own labor and the small assistance of his family can render him.

S/ John Prior, X his mark

[f p. 11: A letter in this file purporting to summarize the services of this veteran contains the following paragraph:

John Prior enlisted in Virginia, sometime in the year 1775, served as a private in Captain Swearingen's Company in Colonel Wood's Twelfth Virginia Regiment, was transferred to Captain Alexander Parker's Company, Colonel Posey's Virginia Regiment; he was in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, and the "fall of Charleston," and was discharged in the fall of 1782 at Charleston South Carolina. He stated that he was a prisoner held by the British he months, no details of his imprisonment given.

... John prior died October 8, 1823.

[Note: the details of the veteran having served under Captain Alexander Parker and being taken at the fall of Charleston must be in the documents which are not legible as posted on Fold3.com.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing September 30, 1820 for service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]