

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Stephen¹ S37468

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/20/12: rev'd 1/22/22

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

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District of Kentucky, SS

On this 24th day of August 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court for the said district, personally appeared John Stephen aged sixty years, resident in Lexington in the said district, who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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:" that he, the said Stephen enlisted in 1777 in the state of Virginia Augusta County in the company commanded by Captain John McGuire of the 16th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel William Grayson for three years; and that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States until the year 1779, when he was discharged from service in Smith Clove state of New York; that he was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777] & Monmouth [June 28, 1778] – and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services, but he is discharge here annexed.

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and year aforesaid,

S/ Benj. Johnson, Circuit Judge


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The bearer hereof John Stephen Corpl [corporal] in my in my company having Obtained his Discharge being unable to perform the Duties of a Soldier on account of a Soreness in his Leg – In justice to the sd. John Stephen I do certify that he has served with me the two last campaigns through which he behaved as a Brave & Faithful Soldier
Smith's Clove July 1779

S/ Thos. Bell Capt. [Thomas Bell Captain]

¹ This veteran's application is indexed in the federal pension records under the name "John Stephens."

The bearer hereof John Stephen Corp^t in my company
having obtained his Discharge being unable to
perform the Duties of a Soldier on Account of a Wound
in his Leg - In Justice to the S^r John Stephen. I do
certify that he has served with me the two last Campaigns
through which he behaved as a brave & faithful Soldier
Camp Smith's Clove 8th July 1779



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The Bearer John Stephen a private in Colonel Gists [Nathaniel Gist's] Regt. in consequence of a certificate from the Surgeon General Certifying that he is unfit for military Service, is discharged and permitted to return to Virginia. The Commissaries on the different stages are desired to furnish him with his rations, until he arrives in Virginia (provided he is not an unreasonable time on his way) certifying their issues on the back of this -

Camp Smith's Clove July 18th 1779

S/ P. Muhlenberg, B. Genl.

[the above certified as a copy of the original which is to be sent to Virginia for a land warrant—
S/ Benj. Johnson, Circuit Judge

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State of Kentucky, Fayette Circuit Court March Term 1822 - 10th of April 1822

Be it remembered, that on this day appeared in open Court, John Stephens, who produced in court, his declaration & the schedule hereto annexed of his property amounting to \$340 to which he made oath agreeably to the act of Congress concerning pensioners which is here upon ordered to be entered of record as follows:

District of Kentucky SS Fayette Circuit Court

On this 10th day of April 1822, personally appeared in open Court, being a court of Record, established by an act of the legislature of Kentucky a court of Record for the said District & circuit of Fayette County, John Stephens aged 64 years resident in Fayette County in said District, 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 in Virginia (he thinks in the year 1777) for three years in Captain McGuire's Company of the 16th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Grayson on the Virginia Continental line & that he served his time nearly out, and was honorably discharged by order of the Surgeon General for disability arising from a sore leg & for other particulars he refers to his original declaration now in the war Department. That he has been placed on the United States pension roll & the number of his certificate is (9407).

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

Two negro boys, one 6 years old & the other 4 years old worth	\$300.00
One old Horse worth	15.00
Two head of cattle worth	10.00
His equity in the redemption of lot of ground	<u>25.00</u>
	\$350.00

S/ John Stephens

He is indebted as follows

To the Commonwealth's Bank	\$240.00
To Mr. Haggin	50.00
To Dr. Ridgely	47.00
To Major Fishel	6.00
To John Bryan	5.00
To Col. Morrison	11.00
To Edward C. Payne	<u>7.00</u>
	\$366.00

He has debts due him to the amount of \$50 but the persons he thinks are insolvent & he does not expect ever to collect it. That he is a Farmer by occupation, but from old age, infirmity & a white swelling in his leg (or what is called a sore leg) he is entirely unable to follow any kind of business for a livelihood: he is also subject to a bilious complaint. That he has labored under his sore leg ever since the revolutionary war, and he increases with his age – & that he has been obliged, last winter, to use crutches to enable him to walk.

S/ John Stephens

[The veteran also files yet another application in 1825 applying for the restoration of his name to the pension list having been struck from it on account of property. He did not give any details regarding his service in this application, but confined himself to explaining the reduction in his property ensuing after his previous application.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing August 24, 1818, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

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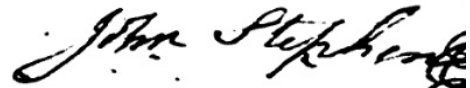
Addendum to John Stephens S37468

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 22 Jan 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Stephen, John.]

Know all men by these presents that I John Stephen of Fayette County & state of Kentucky do Constitute, appoint & ordain Robert Stephen of Greenbrier County & State of Virginia my true & lawful Attorney in fact to [illegible] name & for my benefit, to inquire at the proper Offices in the state of Virginia, for my claims to Land for services rendered in the revolutionary war in the sixteenth virginia Regiment a regiment under the command of Col. William Grayson [BLWt1366-500] & discharged when Col. Gist [Nathaniel Gist BLWt1874-500] was commander after having served two years & a few months, as will appear from the rolls of enlistment by Thomas Bell [VAS2473] Lieut. in Capt. John McGuire's company in said regiment & also from the muster rolls & pay rolls for said regiment – my discharge accompanying this power of Attorney & to procure for me & my name a Land warrant for the quantity of Land [illegible] [the rest boilerplate not transcribed]

[21 Aug 1818]



The subscriber hereunto having been enlisted [illegible] service of the United States in the spring of the year Anterior to the Battle of Brandiwine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] by Thomas Bell of Staunton, Augusta County, Virginia, first Lieut in Capt. John McGuire's Company of Colo. William Grayson's Reg't for the term of three years and I fought in the Battles of Brandiwine, Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] – and also sustained the dangers difficulties and privations incident to the department of the army to which I belonged untill I was discharged by virtue of a special recommendation for a discharge from the Surgion Gen'l of the American Army on account of a soreness on one of my legs. The discharge was written and signed by Gen'l Mulenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] then the comm[andan]t of the Brigade formerly under the command of Gen'l Scott [Charles Scott BLWt2055-850], which discharge is attached to the power of Attorney which I gave to Robert Stephen of Greenbrier County Virginia for the purpose of obtaining a warrant for the bounty Land for my services – and I farther state that I am the same John Stephen who is named in that discharge and the same who signed the power of Attorney to Robert Stephen as af'd and that I never did receive a Warrant for bounty Land for my Services, and that I never did assign my right to my bounty Land to any person or persons whatsoever, and that I know of no Testimony which I could adduce to Identify my being the very person thus claiming a Warrant for bounty Land as af'd other than my own Affidavit – unless Robert Stephen who is my Attorney in fact would be admitted as proper evidence. Given under my hand in Lexington Fayette County Kentucky this sixth of Feb'y 1819

John Stephen