

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Jackson <sup>1</sup>S38079

f90MD/PA/VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/24/14

[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' 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 5]

State of Tennessee Blount County: Viz.

Be it remembered that this day came William Jackson a Citizen of the said County and State aforesaid before me James Turk presiding Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for said County which court is a Court of Record and the said William Jackson being duly sworn saith that he is upwards of sixty-four years of age and declareth on oath that during the Revolutionary War between Great Britain and the United States being then a Citizen of the State of Pennsylvania, in the month of May in the year 1776 as well as he recollects he enlisted near Juniata in the said State under Captain Brown in Colonel Miles Regiment of the Pennsylvania line for the term of eighteen months and continued in the Military Service and being marched Eastwardly to Long Island and at the Battle of said Long Island [August 27, 1776] was taken Prisoner at that place by the enemy and after some time made his Escape from the Enemy and rejoined the American Army – That afterwards (but the precise time he does not recollect) he reenlisted in the Town of Baltimore & State of Maryland under Captain Armstrong of Colonel Gooby's [probably John Gunby's] Regiment commanded by General Smallwood [William Smallwood], for three years in the Maryland Line – that he remained there in the Military Service of the United States the full term of the said three years during which time he was engaged in two Battles against the Common enemy the British to wit the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and Germantown [October 4, 1777] – that after the expiration of the said three years this deponent was discharged at Petersburg in the State of Virginia by the said Captain Armstrong in the year 1780 in the month of July as well as he recollects and verily believes – that afterwards in the same year 1780 in the month of September – he enlisted a third time in the military service of the United States in the Virginia Line for during the War as a private soldier under Captain Crane [probably James Crain] of Colonel Davis [William Davis or Davies] Regiment commanded by General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg] and continued in said service until the end of the said War when he was ~~discharged~~ honorably discharged by the said Colonel Davis at Chesterfield Courthouse in the said State of Virginia in the month of December in the year 1781 having been in said service under the last enlistment upwards of fourteen months as well as he recollects – verily believes – the last Place where he was enlisted was at the said Chesterfield Court House.

This deponent states that he has neither of his said two discharges in his possession nor is

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<sup>1</sup> BLWt1791-100

it in his Power to procure them for that in or about the year 1784 after the end of said War he having married and went to housekeeping and living then in Rockingham County in the State of Virginia his house was partially burnt and with it both the said discharges. This deponent does not know of any person within his reach, power or knowledge who was personally with him during any of the said Terms of service or personally knows of his having performed them nor do did he know of any pension being allowed to the soldiers of the Revolution till within a few days ago he was informed by one of his neighbors – he knows of no Pension heretofore allowed him prior to the act of Congress of March 18<sup>th</sup> 1818 and if such does exist he hereafter relinquishes the same and claims a Pension under the said Act of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 which he has this day seen entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary War" – this deponent further declareth on oath that he is in reduced Circumstances and needs the assistance of his Country.

Sworn to and subscribed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of July 1819 before me the said  
S/ James Turk

S/ Wm Jackson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Jackson". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name "S/ Wm Jackson".

[p 10]

State of Tennessee Second Circuit, Blount County – August Term 1820 –

Be it remembered that on this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August in the year of our Lord 1820 – Personally appeared in open Court (to wit the Circuit Court being by the laws of the State, expressly made a Court of Record for said Blount County, and having the power of fine and imprisonment) – William Jackson aged sixty-eight years or thereabouts, 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 – he enlisted in May in the year 1776 for the Term of eighteen months under Captain Brown of Colonel Miles' Regiment of the Pennsylvania line, Continental establishment during said Term of service he was in the battle of Long-Island, and was taken prisoner by the British, and remained a prisoner until sometime in May 1777 at which he made his escape, and in a short time he enlisted for the Term of three years under Captain Armstrong of Colonel Grundy's Regiment, Maryland line, Continental establishment. During said Term of three years service he was in the battle of Germantown, and in the latter received a wound in his left hand, also in several other engagements – He was then marched to a place called the Stony Point, from thence to the State of New Jersey, to a place known by the name of Kemble's land [Peter Kemble's plantation called Mount Kemble, now part of the Morristown National Historical Park], near Morris Town [Morristown] from thence to Petersburg, then having faithfully served 3 years, received his discharge, sometime in 1780. And in a short time he enlisted again, during the Revolutionary War, in the spring 1781 – under Captain Crane of General Davis' Regiment, Virginia line and served faithfully until the close of the Revolutionary War, and was discharged – Shortly after he was discharged he got his house, and both his discharge is burnt, – He has never received any compensation for his land bounty; he has received a Pension under the Act of Congress 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 – his original declaration was made on or about the 10<sup>th</sup> of July 1818, his Pension Certificate is dated 8<sup>th</sup> July 1819 – and numbered 13164 – And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 – one horse worth \$35 – one cow & yearling worth \$15 – 8 hogs \$8 – one oven \$2 – one tea kettle one dollar – 13 plates \$1.50 – one spinning wheel \$2 – one pair cards \$.50 – 2 water pails \$.50 – one washing tub \$.50 – 6 knives & forks one dollar – 12 spoons \$.75 – 13 geese \$.75 – one Barsheer [?] plough one dollar – one ax one dollars – 8 cups and saucers \$.75 – one coffee pots \$.75 – one teapot \$.25 – one sifter \$.50—one chest one dollar – 2 hoes & mattock \$2 – Aggregate \$75.25. Also 60 acres of hilly land, on which the State installments are due and unpaid, I owe to various individuals for price of my land and other things about \$60; my occupation is farming which I am very illy able to pursue, my family consists of my wife Peggy aged 56 years, very much debilitated – My Son Lorenzo, about 15 years old, and small of his age and not very healthy, which are the whole of my family –

S/ James Jackson

Sworn to and declared on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of August 1820 in open Court before the Honorable Samuel Powell Judge of the said Court.

[p 20: In a letter dated March 24, 1821 from "A Neighborhood Society" in Blount County Tennessee, the War Office is informed that William Jackson was a British soldier and not an American soldier as he claims; that he, Jackson, deserted the British when Cornwallis was marching through the Carolinas and came to Albemarle County Virginia; that Jackson 'sculked' from County to County through Augusta, Rockingham in Shenandoah to avoid detection and being drafted; that Jackson married in Augusta County after the siege of York and lived in the above named counties teaching school until he moved to Greene County Tennessee and now lives in Blount County Tennessee.]

[p 18: A letter dated March 16, 1822 from William Jackson to the J L Edwards in which he speculates that the letter attacking his service was written by a certain Robert Young a close neighbor and John's father-in-law (not named) who Jackson claims to have malice towards Jackson.]

[p 88]

Maryville E: Tennessee March 8<sup>th</sup> 1822

Hon: Dr. Sir,

I Sorry that I have been put to the disagreeable Necessity of addressing you at this time, but I am in duty bound to defend myself & my poor family from all false & malicious informations that is or may be laid to my Charge or to Injure my person & Character: being far advanced in years & drawing to Eternity, you will therefore be kind enough to the excuse the Intrusion, having received a few lines from Mr. J. L. Edwards on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of the above month dated February 9<sup>th</sup> (for which I render him my sincere thanks) he Informs me that my pension has been that day suspended in Consequence of Information received at the pension Office relative to my Conduct during the Revolution that it is Stated I was a British Soldier and never at any period served in the American Army (I believe a Demon from the Infernal regions could not have Invented a completer scheme to ruin me & my poor family: Excuse the expression) and unless I can exhibit the testimony of two Credible witnesses proving satisfactorily that I served

as Stated in my declaration my Name would be dropped from the pension list: Now Honorable Sir where am I to go to produce those two witnesses: if I was in a Capacity to travel perhaps I might find them alive in some part, but so it is age & the rheumatic pains & other Circumstances have Completely put it out of my power: And in regard of the above Information I will now relate to your honor positive facts: & 1<sup>st</sup> of my becoming a British Soldier: In the year 1773 through the perversion of Mr. Stephen West: Merchant in Upper Marlborough Prince Georges County State of Maryland, I went under Captain John Coulson from patuxton [Patuxent] river as a sailor to learn the art of Navigation: I was to serve the said Captain three years as a Compensation when the ship arrived in the mouth of the River Thames: I was struck with a severe Cold & fever that my life was despaired of, when we arrived at London a physician was employed but to no effect, the Captain was persuaded to send me to St. Bartholomew's Hospital with which he complied, I remained in said hospital 8 or 10 weeks before I was discharged as perfectly recovered when I returned to the Captain's house he swore he would have nothing more to say to me, threw my Indenture at me & bid me begone from his house, thus Sir was I deprived of any friend in a strange land without one Cent of money but his Chief Mate Mr. Marshall gave me two shillings which was a little help till I could look about me: what to follow I knew not, to get back to America in hopes of reaching my father: I found was Impossible: finding myself to be in danger of coming to want I knew of no other plan to fall upon but to enlist. I accordingly enlisted in the 64<sup>th</sup> Regiment under Colonel Whymys [? James Wemyss? but he was a Major in the 63<sup>rd</sup> Regt.]. In hopes of someday returning to America: this was in 1774: and thanks to divine Providence it was not long before an opportunity offered: for in 1775 the Regiment came to America Under the command of General How [William Howe], never was poor soul gladder that I was, determined to leave them the first opportunity which I did after the Battle of Bunker Hill: I came to New York, where I received Information of my father's death & the sale of all his property for debts. I immediately went from New York to the back part of Pennsylvania to a place called Juniatta: Now Sir follows the true & Substantial narration of my Enlistment in the Revolution: 1<sup>st</sup> in May 1776 I enlisted under Captain Brown for the term of 18 months: you have I expect the testimony of Mr. William Cannon annexed to the power of Attorney sent to the Honorable General William Cocke in regard of my land Warrant: which Testimony of Mr. Cannon proving me to be the Identical person: we marched from Juniatta to New York: from thence we went over the Long Island: under the command of General Lord Stirling: Putnam & if I am correct, General Sullivan: where our Army was defeated: partly all killed & taken prisoners among which was my unhappy lot: you cannot think Sir the dread I lay under: but to state the barbarity of the Hessians would consume time: suffice it to say that the brutes chained our unhappy Colonel Miles after stripping him to one of their field pieces, the same likewise to Captain Brown: we were in a disagreeable situation three days & nights without anything to eat excepting a few apples which the Hessians would fetch in a little hand carts & throw in amongst us in the meeting house where we were confined: we continued prisoners for a week or so when one day one of the British officers came to our prison door inquiring whether any of us would enlist: we should be well used, but if not ripping out a great Oath that we should be kept prisoners till we rotted: for the damned Rebels (as the wretch was pleased to stiple our Army) had no prisoners of theirs to exchange; he went away giving us as he said a few days to consider upon it. After his departure several of us came to a conclusion that we would enlist as the only means whereby we could make our escape: Accordingly a Number of our men did Enlist among which was myself: now my dear Sir from Circumstances & the danger I ran of being detected, what else could I do: But thanks to the Supreme Being it was not long after my Enlistment before

myself & three others found an opportunity to make our escape: thus you see Sir I was twice a British soldier & how I came to be so: we Immediately pushed as fast as we could to Baltimore where myself and one man of the name of Harris enlisted in the Maryland line for the term of three years: Under Captain Thomas Cromwell who was then Enlisting recruits to fill up the broken lines in the several Companies of the Regiment to which he the said Captain belonged to myself & Harris fell into Captain Armstrong's company of St. Marys County Maryland: After the Battles of Brandywine & Germantown in 1787 [sic, 1777] If I am correct: that winter we wintered at the Valley Forge when several skirmishes used to take place between General Morgan's rifle men and the British: After the British left Philadelphia: we went to Stony Point [July 16, 1779] where the brave General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] retaliated upon the British for the massacre of his men [indecipherable word]: from stony point we went to Kempbles [Kemble's land] in the Jerseys on whose land we took our winter Quarters in the year 1779: while lying there in winter Quarters our orderly Sergeant Trueman received an Ensign's Commission: In the spring of 1780 we set off from thence to join General Greens [Nathanael Greene's] Army at the South when we arrived at Petersburg in Virginia I received my discharge as my term of three years for which I enlisted were expired from thence I went into Hanover County and after spending that summer in said County late in the fall I went to Chesterfield Courthouse where I enlisted for during the war under Captain Crane: Colonel Common [sic] Davis: where the greatest part of my Time was employed riding Expresses from said Courthouse to Williamsburg to Baron Steuben and from him to General Muhlenberg: and from Governor Jefferson until within a few days before the surrender of Cornwallis at little York: when I again received my 2<sup>nd</sup> discharge to which 2<sup>nd</sup> discharges I refer your honor to my declaration. After which I went back to Albemarle: where I became acquainted with Major Thomas Turk: That is soon after the war expired very early in the year 1784: who (if I am correct) was down in the militia from Augusta County, Virginia: and who is now living in Blount County Tennessee not far from where I am living whose deposition I expect I could get: If it were required: Now my Honorable Sir I have stated to your Honor a True & Correct statement: I leave it now to your Honor to Judge in your own breast whether or not I was or have been in the American Army: Could any person have stated more plain facts that I have done: If they have not been in an Army: for would it have been from me to be guilty of such an Enormous Crime as to apply for a pension from my Country without being certain sure that I was Entitled to it: I therefore humbly Crave it of your Honor an answer letting me know who or from what Channel the infamous information Came.

I am with respect your honors most Obedient Humble Servant  
S/ William Jackson

[p 22: On June 13, 1837, in Lauderdale County Alabama, the veteran applied for the transfer of his pension benefit to the Alabama agency saying that it was much nearer to draw his pension in Decatur Alabama then in the East Tennessee agency.]

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Land Warrant No. 1791 for 100 acres issued 13<sup>th</sup> December 1831 in the name of William Jackson Private of the Virginia line, and a resident of Florence, Alabama in the same was deposited in the General Land Office.

No. 1791 issued in no of lost Warrant No. 10236 – see Act of Congress approved 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1831

S/ Wm Gordon

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 10, 1818 for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

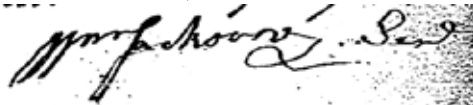
The State of Alabama Lauderdale County Orphans Court

Be it remembered that this day personally appeared before Sydney C Posey Judge of the County Court of the aforesaid County William Jackson an old Revolutionary Soldier who after being sworn made the following declaration to wit

The declaration of William Jackson Senior an old Revolutionary Soldier humbly Sheweth that by a letter from a certain Mr. Green addressed to the Honorable Judge Clay & forwarded by his honor to said William Jackson which letter is now in the Secretary of War's office or Mr. Gordon's or Mr. Edward's office he does not know which having said it back with a former declaration taken before the Judge of the Circuit Court held in Florence, reference thereto being had it appears by said letter that there was another William Jackson in the Virginia line of the Revolutionary war who drew a warrant for 200 acres bounty land from said State for his services to said State during said War & the same has been located by his said Jackson's Assignees in the State of Kentucky and by said letter that information was wanting to show whether or not I was the same William Jackson alluded to, I positively answer no & further deposeseth & saith that he never received his bounty land from the State of Virginia for his services to said State for & during said war, neither did he said Jackson ever assigned or authorized over to any person or persons whatever any claim or claims authority or authorities that he had upon said State for his bounty land viz. 200 acres reference being had to his papers &c lodged in said offices alluded to above for it plainly appears by said letter of him said Green that the first named William Jackson drew his land warrant from the State of Virginia directly after the Revolutionary War was over which was either in the year 1783 or 1784 deponent does not recollect but the records of Virginia will show whereas the present William Jackson never made any application for his bounty land from said State until a late period [2 or more illegible words at the bottom of the page] declaration was to General John Cock who was a member of Congress from East Tennessee where him [he] said Jackson then resided at the time the Honorable J C Calhoun was Secretary of War all of the papers &c alluded to will plainly show for had I been the first William Jackson alluded to above I must & would have been detected as an imposter, now as for proof that I am not the William Jackson alluded to as above mentioned the Rolls of the revolution of the Virginia line will show what Regiment the said William Jackson belonged to who was his Colonel Captain &c &c, And by this last William Jackson's first Statement & this present declaration setting forth the Regiment, Colonel, Captain Company he belonged to comparing both together will plainly discover that this last William Jackson is not the same & now for a statement of facts &c &c. The last mentioned William Jackson deposeseth & saith that in the month of May 1776 he enlisted in the first Battalion of Pennsylvania Riflemen commanded by Colonel Miles Captain Brown Company for the Term of eighteen months bounty money was 8 or \$10 deponent cannot recollect but supposes the Acts of Congress will show – which bounty he said deponent never received as we were marched shortly after to Lancaster Pennsylvania where we received our rifles from thence to Philadelphia from thence Elizabeth Town in the Jerseys from thence over to New York where we took up encampment for a few days in the land of General Lord Stirling, while lying in camp I applied to Captain Brown for my bounty money his answer was there was

no money to pay me my bounty but he expected there soon would be, we were marched over to Long Island where the battle commenced on the 26<sup>th</sup> of August, We were taken prisoners by the British & kept under confinement sometime from that time to the present I never sold Colonel Miles or Captain Brown. Some short time after I made my escape from the British & went on to [indecipherable name] Maryland enlisted on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Regiment deponent don't recollect but the Colonel was either Colonel Thomas or Colonel Gunby Captain name Armstrong for 3 years [entire line at the bottom of page illegible] recollect but the acts of Congress will show with a bounty in land of 100 acres for men that would enlist for 3 years or during the war, the land he received, but of the money he never received one cent. On our march from Morristown Jersey to join the Southern Army where we arrived at Petersburg Virginia my three years enlistment was expired, I received my discharge & went over to Hanover County – there I understood that the State of Virginia was giving a bounty of 200 acres of land to men that would enlist in her line of troops for & during the Revolutionary War & Serve out to the end of the same & Congress by an act passed deponent is correct past 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 1778 allowing an extraordinary bounty of \$200 in money to men who would enlist & serve out faithfully for and during the Revolutionary War, all of which this deponent faithfully did for he said deponent went to Chesterfield Court House & enlisted in the Virginia Line for & during the War. In the Regiment forgot the reason was that it was a new Regiment raising for & to be under the command of Colonel Davies which Regiment was attached to the Brigade commanded by General Frederick Augustus Mulenburgh [Peter Muhlenberg] and Captain Cranes Company of light Infantry. This deponent deposeth & saith that he has never yet received the land or money which he is entitled to & for which he has applied as by his papers letters &c to the Honorable Judge Clay, Colonel John McKinley, Mr. Ingham when Secretary of the Treasury Mr. Gordon &c &c all of which said deponent humbly begs leave to refer to

S/ Wm Jackson, Senr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Jackson, Senr.", written in dark ink on a light background.

Subscribed & sworn in open Court this 21<sup>st</sup> October 1836  
S/ S. C. Posey, Judge