

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Oliver S38269

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State and District of Virginia Frederick County Sct

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818, before me the subscriber, Sole and presiding Judge of the Superior Court of law for the said County, State and district, personally appeared James Oliver aged sixty years, resident in the said County State & 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 James Oliver enlisted in the said County of Frederick in the state of Virginia aforesaid as a private soldier in the company commanded by Captain Thomas Berry of the eighth Virginia Regiment [several illegible words] on the 22<sup>d</sup> day of February 1776; that he continued to serve in said corps, or in the service of the United States until the expiration of two years the term of his enlistment when he was discharged from service at the Valley forge in the state of Pennsylvania which discharge he as lost, that he was in the battles of Brandywine [sic: Brandywine, 11 Sep 1777] and Germantown [4 Oct 1777] 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 except the annexed certificates of Captain Berry and Nimrod Farrow

I do Hereby certify that near the middle of February in the year 1776 that Jas Oliver enlisted as a Soldier in my company belonging to the eighth Virginia Regiment Commanded by Col. Peter Mughlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] untill his promotion to Gen'l then by Col'n. Abraham Bowman which was raised by a resolution of the Convention of Virginia to serve two years and after the declaration of independence was placed upon the continental line which term of servitude expired near the middle of Jan'y. 1778 all of which time the said James Oliver served with the highest credit to himself and honour to the officers by whom he was commanded. and when the time expired for which he had enlisted obtained an honourable discharge by Gen Charles Scott - who commanded the brigade to which the eighth Virginia Regiment belonged. Thos Berry Capt of the 8<sup>th</sup> Va. R.  
January 19<sup>th</sup> 1818

I do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with James Oliver, who enlisted under Capt. Thos Berry as a soldier for two years, and I well recollect the time he returned from the army after serveing the time he enlisted for under Capt. Tho Berry, and I further know that the said Js Oliver remained with his friends but a very short time before he enter'd into the army again, and there remained dureing the War. N. Farrow March 2<sup>nd</sup>. 1818

NOTE: A letter in the file states that Oliver drew a pension for one year, but did not reapply under the act of 1820 that required proof of financial need. He lived in the part of Frederick County that became Clarke County in 1836, and he died about 1827, leaving a widow and several children.