

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

Pension application of William May Porter S38311

f15VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/5/12

[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.]

Virginia

At a Court held for not County the 3rd day of September 1818

William M Porter this day appeared in Court and being sworn declared as followeth: –

"That he enlisted in the regular service of the Army during the revolutionary War under Captain James Foster of the 15th Virginia Regiment and served fourteen months, after which he hired Edward Belcher as a substitute for the balance of the time, who was received and he the said Porter discharged in Caroline County by General William Woodford (or Woolfolk) which discharge he has lost: – That he was in the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and Germantown [October 4, 1777] in the year 1777 and that he is in such reduced circumstances as to need the aid of his country for support:" which is ordered to be certified

At a Court held for Nottoway County the 5th day of November 1818

Daniel Verser¹ – and John L Crute,² lieutenant late of the revolutionary War came into court and being first duly sworn deposed as follows: "That William May Porter during the Revolutionary War was enlisted in the Regular Army for three years, and was attached to the 15th Virginia Regiment under Captain James Foster and that he the said Porter was in the same Company with them the said Verser and Crute and was to their knowledge in several hard fought engagements – during the campaign of 1777 at Brandywine and Germantown. – Also John Robertson and John Belcher being sworn, depose that to their knowledge the said William May Porter is in reduced circumstances and needs the assistance of his country for a support.

[Certified by Francis Fitzgerald clerk of the County Court]

The Deposition of Daniel Verser, of lawful age, taken it Nottoway Courthouse in the State of Virginia on Monday the 5th day of July in the year 1819. This deponent states, that William May Porter, during the Revolutionary War, was enlisted in the Regular Army for three years and was attached to the 15th Virginia Regiment under the command of Colonel James Ennis in the company commanded by Captain James Foster, and that he the said Porter was in the same Regiment and company with him the said Daniel Verser, and was to his knowledge in several hard-fought engagements during the Campaign of 1777 at Brandywine and Germantown, and was to his knowledge over nine months in the service of the United States, as they served together during the whole of the year 1777 and a part of the year 1778 and he the said Daniel Verser further states that he is no way interested in the said claim of William May Porter. This deponent further states that the said William May Porter is in very reduced circumstances and

¹ [Daniel Verser \(Vasser\) W19575](#)

² [John L. Crute S24980](#)

stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support.

S/ Danl. Verser



Virginia, County of Nottoway SS

On this 5th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court (being a Court of Record by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia) William M Porter aged 62 years resident in the said County and State aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows – in the 15th Regiment commanded by Colonel Innes of the Virginia Continental line, in a company commanded by Captain James Foster, and that the date of the original declaration under which he obtained a pension warrant was the 3rd day of September 1818 and the number of the said pension certificate is 12594. 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 viz.: 3 washed tubs, two water pails, one powering tub, one cask, one pair tailor's shears, 2 old axes, 2 weeding hoes, 1 tin sugar box, one small trunk, one pair cotton cards, one flesh fork, 31 shoemakers' lasts, 7 shoemakers' knives, one pair pinchers, one pair nippers, one claw hammer, 25 awls, 19 tacks, one pair pocket Steelyards, one Razor & strop, one pair pot hooks, one lap stone, two drawing knives, one Grindstone, one small box, 8 earthen plates, 2 dishes, one pewter dish, 6 knives & forks, 2 coffee pots, two butter pots, & tea kettle, 3 iron pots, one Dutch oven, one spider, one frying pan, one spinning wheel, 3 pine chests, one skimmer, one grid iron, one pair of flat irons, one trivet, 2 jugs, one candlestick & snuffers, one woman's saddle, one pair candle molds, one pine save, to pine tables, 4 old chairs, – that he is a shoemaker by trade, but so old and infirm that he can work but little at it. That his family consists of his wife aged 61 years and very infirm and a Negro woman about 30 years old and her two children who are hirelings

S/ William M Porter, X his mark

[the court valued the veterans property at \$25]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month beginning September 3, 1818, for service as a private for 14 months in the Virginia Continental line.]