

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Taylor S38421

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 2 Feb 2022.

Montgomery County Sct.

This day John Taylor came before me a Justice of the peace of the County aforesaid & made oath that during the revolutionary war he enlisted under Capt John Knox [sic: probably James Knox BLWt1832-400], of the eighth regiment a Rifle Corps commanded by Colo. Bowman [Abraham Bowman W396]. That he with the other troops were marched to Charleston in the State of South Carolina [in anticipation of the Battle of Sullivans Island, 28 Jun 1776]. That they remained there five months. From thence they were marched to St. Augustine [FL]– That the said John Taylor taking sick he with s'd others were permitted to go to Salisbury [NC] for the recovery of their health That he afterwards rejoined the army at Middle Brook in New Jersey after which he continued with the army without interruption – The said John Taylor saith that he served during the revolutionary war six years & eleven months and was honorably discharged at Winchester in Virginia – which discharge has been long since lost– The said John Taylor further saith that he is now eighty four years of age, & deprived of the use of his limbs & that he has no property of any discription & that he has no other resource upon which to depend for support, but the Bounty & Justice of his Country.

September 14<sup>th</sup> 1819

Cyrus Robinson

District of Virginia to wit

On this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September 1820, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the General Court in the State of Virginia, & Judge of the superior Court of law in the circuit composed of the counties of Botetourt, Montgomery, Giles, Monroe, Greenbrier, & Nicholas, personally appeared John Taylor aged 86 or 87 years resident in Montgomery County in said State 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 & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war: That he the said John Taylor enlisted for the term of two years on the [blank] day of [blank] in the year [blank] in that part of the State aforesaid which was then called Fincastle now called Montgomery, under Capt. Knox of the Regiment commanded by Col. Bowman in the line of the State of Virginia on continental establishment in which service he continued untill the end of the aforesaid term of two years, when he again on the [blank] day of [blank] in the year [blank] at Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania [winter 1777-78] enlisted to serve during the war under Capt. Woodfall [probably Abel Westfall VAS612] & the Regiment commanded by Colo. Nevil [sic: John Nevil BLWt595-500] in the line of the State of Virginia on the continental establishment he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States, untill the [blank] day of [blank] in the year [blank] after the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] when he was discharged from service in the State of Virginia near the town of Winchester. That he was in the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] Germantown [4 Oct 1777] & Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] & that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country for support & also that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the affidavits which will accompany this declaration.

The said John Taylor also (being first sworn by me) stated upon his oath that he was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 & that he has not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provisions of the act of Congress entitled An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval services of the United States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property securities contracts or debts due to him other than what is contained in the subjoined schedule & by him subscribed. Sworn to by me the subscriber The following is the schedule of the said John Ta[ylor] above mentioned:

Exclusive of his wearing apparel – One pen knife

John hisXmark Taylor

The said John Taylor also saith upon his oath that he has no children (never having married) & that his occupation is that of a common laborer but his bodily infirmities are such as to render him wholly unable to pursue any occupation or to perform any effective labor

At a Court held & continued for the County of Giles on Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> day of June 1822

It is ordered to be certified that James Johnston [S5640] appeared in court and made Oath that John Taylor who this affiant understands had made application to the Superior Court of Law for Montgomery county to certify his claim on the general government for a pension for revolutionary services –

This affiant states that he belonged to the eighth Virginia Regiment commanded by Colo. Mulenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850], that he became acquainted with the said John Taylor in the year 1777 That the said John Taylor belonged to a company commanded by Capt'n. James Knox – that the said Captain Knox joined the regiment to which this affiant belonged in the year 1776 at or near Tarborough [sic: Tarboro] North Carolina. That the said John Taylor continued in the service in the American lines as a common soldier from the time this affiant became acquainted with him in 1777 until the month of February 1788 That he enlisted at the Valley Forge in the year 1777 for three years or during the War as this affiant understood That this affiant left the army in the month of February 1778. That he then left the said John Taylor then in the service of his country as a private or common soldier – Between three or four years afterwards this affiant heard that the said John Taylor had returned to the County of Montgomery in the state of Virginia. That this affiant went to see him and recognized him to be the same man he had left in the army as before stated – and the same whom this affiant has understood has applied for his pension as above stated – It is further ordered to be certified that James Johnston is a man of unimpeachable character for truth and veracity, & it is further ordered to be certified that this is a court of Record and has power to fine & imprison and proceeds according to the course of the common Law with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount keeping a record of its proceedings & has been solemnly adjudged so by the Superior Tribunals of this State all which is ordered to be certified to the department of War of the United States. Given under my hand and the seal of my Office as Clerk of the County Court of Giles County in the State of Virginia this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1822

David French GCC

County of Montgomery SS. State of Virginia

On this first day of July 1823, personally appeared in open court, (a) {being a court of record (b) for the county} of Montgomery aforesaid John Taylor resident in said county, aged eighty seven years, who, being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress, of the 18th March, 1818, and the 1st May, 1820, that he, the said John Taylor enlisted for the term of two years on or about the first day of March in the year 1777 in the state of Virginia in the company commanded by captain James Knox in the line of the state of Virginia–8th[?] regiment on the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps until the fall of 1779 when he was discharged from the said service, at Vally forge in the state of Pennsylvania at which place immediately after his discharge he reenlisted to serve during the war & [several words illegible]

That he was in the battles of Brandywine Germantown & Monmouth The first took place before his second enlistment the latter afterwards and that he has not other evidence, now in his power, of his said services, except the affidavit accompanying this declaration

And, in pursuance of the act of the 1st May, 1820, I do solemnly swear or affirm, (as the case may be,) 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, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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.

Schedule of the whole estate of John Taylor both real & personal — Land	none
personal property }	
(a little wearing }	none
apparel excepted }	

John X Taylor

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) in a file indexed as Taylor, James.]

State of Virginia }  
 County of Giles Sct }

I John Taylor aged about ninety years do upon oath testify & declare that I Enlisted at Valy forge in the year 1777 for during the war at Dumphries into the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment commanded by Colonel Muhlenburg into the Virginia line on continental Establishment I further declare that I served to the End of the war & was Honourably discharged at Winchester in the state of Virginia from the said 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment Commanded at that time by Colonel Nevel the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment having been consoladated previous thereto and further declaruth not

John hisXmark Taylor

I Jacob Taylor aged about 70 years do upon oath testify & declare that John Taylor Subscriber to the foregoing declaration is the Identical person he therein represents himself to be and I further declare that I know or do believe that he did perform the servis set fourth in his declaration.

Jacob hisXmark Taylor

NOTE: On 13 Sep 1819 James Barnett, 67, certified that “John Taylor returned during the War in the County of Montgomery that he brought some clothes which the Bayonet appeared to have penetrated.” On 8 April 1822 John Cofer stated that John Taylor had lived with his (Cofer’s) father at the time he enlisted, and that after two years he returned on furlough dressed as a soldier.