

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Jorden S38883

PA

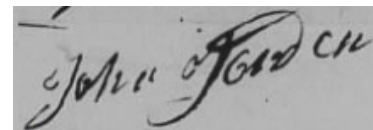
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee }  
2<sup>nd</sup> Judicial Circuit } This 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1818 before me the Subscriber one of the Judges of the  
of said State } Circuit Courts of law and Equity for said State and County being Courts of record

Personally appears John Jorden aged sixty two years in this month to the best of his knowledge and resident of Blount County a part of said Circuit who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision of the late act of Congress which provides for revolutionary soldiers in the late War of Independence to with that he said John Jorden in the month of July 1776 [sic: see endnote] at in the County of Lancaster in the State of Pennsylvania he enlisted as private soldier in the Army of the United States in the Light Infantry in a Company commanded by Captain Fry said Company being a part of Count Pulaskis Legion for two years which time of two years he faithfully served the United States against the common enemy in the Company aforesaid except Captain Fry resigned and Captain Lewis Celeron [sic: Paul Louis Celoron, pension application X941] took the command of the same and that he was on the first day of September 1779 at Charleston in South Carolina discharged from said service by Count Pulaski which discharge was afterwards when he was taken a Prisoner at Gates defeat [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] taken from him by the British

That in June as well as he recollects in the year 1780 at Cape fear in North Carolina he enlisted in a company of Cavalry commanded by Captain Brown [probably Jerome Le Brun de Bellecour] being a part of a regiment or Corps of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Armong [sic: Charles Armand] a Frenchman for two years more in the service of the United States and that from the time of said last enlistment he faithfully served the United States until the month of August ensuing when he was taken a Prisoner at Gates' defeat at said Defeat he was wounded in the head by a sword very badley and he was retained by the British as a Prisoner about three weeks when he made his escape from them That his corps to which he belonged was as he understood gone southwardly and he could not join them and before he could join his corps owing to his wound and the distance between him and them he was in Roan [sic: Rowan] County North Carolina he was taken a Prisoner again by Colonel Bryant [sic: Samuel Bryan] a Tory Colonel and Parrolled on condition he did not serve again against his Britanic Majesty during the war and then considered his life in danger if he forfeited his paroll and never attempted to join his corps

That he was in the several skirmishes at Acharvey in the fall of 1778 [probably Little Egg Harbor NJ, 5 Oct 1778] in the Battle at Charleston May 1779 [Old Race Track, 11 May 1779] in Colonel Cowatch's [Michael Kowats] regiment who said Cowatch was killed there was at the Battle of Stoney Point [see endnote] in the Seige of Savanah [sic: siege of Savannah, 24 Sep - 19 Oct 1779] where his commander Count Pulaski was killed [mortally wounded 9 Oct 1779] that he knows of no other evidence now in his power to establish his said Service but his own oath That he never has been a Pensioner for said service and releases to the United States all claim of a Pension except under the Provision of the before recited act That he is in reduced circumstances and has nearly lost the use of his right arm and has no means of support except his own labour which owing to his age and arm he is able to do little of wherefore he considers he is in need of the assistance of his country for support

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Jorden". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes characteristic of the late 18th or early 19th century.

State of Tennessee } Ss                    September Sessions 1820  
Blount County        }                    On this twenty sixth day of September 1820 personally appeared in open  
Court being a Court of record (having the power of fine and imprisonment and also having been made a  
court of record by the laws of said State) for the said County John Jorden aged sixty five years resident in  
the County of Blount aforesaid who being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath declare that he  
served in the revolutionary War as follows: that he enlisted in Landcaster County Pennsylvania in Gen'l.  
Pulaski's Legion under Capt. Fry and was exchanged to Capt. Lewis Celeron for the term of three years,  
and that afterwards he enlisted for two years at Cross Creek [now Fayetteville] in North Carolina under  
Capt. Brown in the Regiment Commanded by Colo. Ormand.

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 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 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 – about 47½ acres of land South of  
French Broad & Holston Rivers on which he owes the instalments about 47½ dollars with the interest  
thereon for about seven years, worth not more than \$4.00 pr. acres if the incumbrances were off say  
\$115.00 One sorrel mare worth \$30— Three Head of Cattle \$13— Three head of Sheep \$3— nine hogs  
\$8— Some farming tools \$4— Some household furniture \$15— Whole Amount \$188. the applicants  
pension Certificate is dated January 14<sup>th</sup> 1819 and payment to commence on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1818 by said  
Certificate which he supposes is the day of his declaration. His family Consists of himself and Wife. She  
is about sixty four years old and unable to do any work of consequence. He is verry unable to work, being  
old and infirm and having lost the use of one arm.                    John Jorden

NOTES:

Pulaski did not begin recruiting for his Legion until April 1778.

The Battle of Stony Point occurred in the state of New York on 16 July 1779, and it would have  
been impossible for Jorden to have been there as well as engagements in the South in the same summer.  
Perhaps "Stoney Point" was intended to refer to the Battle of Stono Ferry where Pulaski's Legion  
participated on 20 Jun 1779.

The file contains a letter dated 25 April 1860 stating that John Jorden died on 24 Dec 1835 with a  
widow who survived him some years.