

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Heard¹ S540

f62NJ

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/9/13 rev'd 3/8/14

[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 'indecipherable' 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 12]

"James Heard, Lieutenant, Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee's detachment during the revolutionary war. Inscribed on the New Jersey roll at \$8.50 per month to commence on the 20th of February 1817. Certificate of pension issued the 24th of March 1817, and sent to James Ewing, Esquire, agent for invalid pensioner, Trenton New Jersey."

[p 40]

To all to whom it may concern This is to certify that we have examined Captain James Heard and find him laboring under a wound, which appears substantiated he received during the Revolutionary war, in the service of his country, and which frequently breaks out, attended with much pain, trouble and expense. It also appears probable it may continue so, if not increased, through the remainder of his declining years. Consequently said wound at times (as appears from his testimony) renders him unable to prosecute his ordinary pursuit. In consideration of the above circumstances we deem him a fit and proper subject for the benefit of the pension law. We are of opinion his disability is in the 2nd degree. In testimony of which we have hereunto set our hands the 12th day of February 1817.

Woodbridge February 12, 1817

S/ Math^s Freeman [Mathias Freeman]

S/ Nathaniel Manning

Middlesex County State of New Jersey

On the twenty third day of March in the year of our Lord 1818, before me Benajah Munday, one of the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Middlesex New Jersey came James Heard of the County & State aforesaid to me known, who being duly sworn according to law, deposeth & saith – that he entered the Service of the United States in the revolutionary war as a subaltern in the year 1778, in the Regiment of Cavalry commanded by Colonel Stephen Moylan was afterwards transferred to Lieutenant Colonel Henry Lee's partisan Legion and there served as a Captain of Cavalry in said Legion until the end of the revolutionary war –

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Benajah Munday

[signature of James Heard is too faint to discern]

hi Certify that I do hereby relinquish the pension granted to me by a Law of Congress of the 3rd

¹ BLWt1003-300 Capt. Issued Aug. 27, 1789 to John Brown assignee No papers (carded)

day of March 1817 on being placed on the pension list by the late act of Congress.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "James Heard". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

State of New Jersey Middlesex County: Personally appeared before me Benajah Munday, Judge, as within stated the within named James Heard who being duly sworn on his oath Did further depose & say that I reason of his Reduced Circumstances in life is in need of assistance from his Country & further saith not.

S/ James Heard

[p 15]

District of New Jersey, SS

On this 29th of July 1819 before me the subscriber one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Middlesex County personally appeared James Heard Esquire aged fifty-seven years, resident in Woodbridge in said County in said 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 Heard was a Cornet on the __ day of __ in the year 1779 in the Troop commanded by Captain Peyton [Henry Peyton] of the Legion commanded by Henry Lee in the State of __ on the Continental Establishment; that he continued to serve in said Corps, or in the service of the United States, until the end of the War, when he was discharged from the service in the state of South Carolina, that he was in the battles of Guilford Courthouse [March 15, 1781], Shubrick's bridge [July 17, 1781], Moncks Corner [?] & Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] & that he was promoted to the rank of Captain in the year 1781 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.

S/ James Heard

Schedule

State of New Jersey Middlesex County, SS:

On this 20th day of June 1820 personally appeared in open Court, in the Court of Common Pleas in and for the County of Middlesex in said state, being a Court of Record, proceeding according to the course of the common law with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount, keeping a record of its proceedings, Captain James Heard aged 60 years, resident in Woodbridge 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: As Captain in Lees Legion. – And that he made a declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of March 18, 1818 in the same month and that his Pension Certificate is number 14.059 –

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

No property of any description

And I do further declare that I have no profession, Occupation or business or family residing with me. – And that previous to the receipt of the Pension allowed me as aforesaid I was dependent on the Liberality of my relations for support.

Sworn to and declared and subscribed on the day aforesaid

S/ Robert McChesney, Presiding Judge

S/ James Heard

James Heard

[p 26]

Alexa [Alexandria] Sept. 25th 1812

I certify that James Heard was a Lieutenant of dragoons in the Legion under my command, that he served to the end of the war with fidelity [indecipherable word] & honor, in the course of which in a contest with a party of the enemy he received a musket ball on one of his legs, of which he then complained as likely to injure him permanently.

S/ Henry Lee

Alex. 25 Sept 25. 1812
I certify that James Heard was a
Lieutenant of Dragoons in the Legion
under my command, that he served
to the end of the war with fidelity &
& honor, in the course of which in
a contest with a party of the enemy
he received a musket ball on
one of his legs, of which he then com
plained as likely to injure him per
manently – *Henry Lee*

[p 32]

Middlesex County New Jersey SS

Personally came before me Richard Marsh one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County of Middlesex, Mary Heard and Sarah Heard who being severally sworn on the Holy evangelists, do depose and say that James Heard, now a lunatic or of in sane mind, and under the Guardianship of Robert Lee is the same James Heard as is entitled to, and has received a pension

from the United States, payable at Trenton, and which has been paid to him from thence; These deponents further say that they believe the said James Heard has lost or mislaid the Certificate and other papers that would be evidence of his claim to such pension; and they further say upon their respective oath that they always understood and fully believes that the said James Heard served [p 34] during the whole of the Revolutionary war, and held the commission of Captain in Lee's Legion of the Virginia Line. These deponents further say that they are the sisters of the said James Heard, and therefore have opportunity of being acquainted with the facts set forth in this deposition.

S/ Mary Heard

S/ Sarah Heard

Handwritten signatures of Mary Heard and Sarah Heard in cursive script.

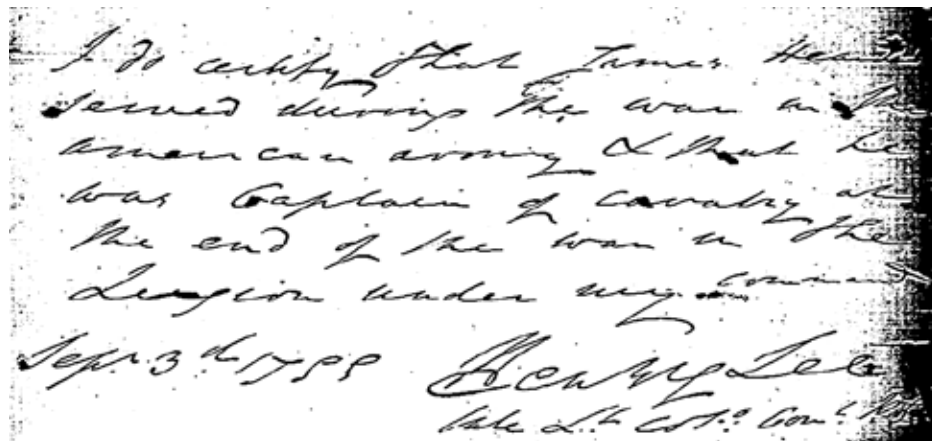
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing March 23rd, 1818, for service as a Captain in the Continental line in Lees Legion for 5 years.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 2 files: 1 of one page and the other 16 pages

I do certify that James Heard served during the war in the American Army & that he was Captain of Cavalry at the end of the war in the Legion under my command.
September 3rd 1788

S/ Henry Lee

late Lt. Colo. P. L.

A handwritten certificate of service for James Heard, signed by Henry Lee. The text reads: "I do certify that James Heard served during the war in the American Army & that he was Captain of Cavalry at the end of the war in the Legion under my command. Sept 3rd 1788 Henry Lee late Lt. Colo. P. L." The signature is in cursive and the text is written in ink on a dark background.

James heard of New Jersey (lately of Virginia) served through the war after my appointment to the command of the Parson Legion as Lieutenant of Cavalry, & in the close of the last campaign was promoted to the command of a troop. He is therefore entitled to all the emoluments granted by Congress to a Captain of Dragoons.

Alexandria
16 November 1812

S/ Henry Lee
then Lt. Colo. P. Legion

James Heard of New Jersey (late of
Virginia) served through the war
after my appointment to the command
of the Battalion in 1776 as Lieutenant
of Cavalry, & in the close of the last
campaign was promoted to the command
of a troop. He is therefore entitled
to all the emoluments granted by
Congress to a Captain of Dragoons.

Alexandria
16th Nov. 1812

Henry Lee
Lt. Colo. P. Legion

I Certify that James Heard late a Captain of Lees Legion served in the American Army in the City of New York in the year 1776 and Also in 1777 at Pompton in the State of New Jersey – Given under my hand this 14th day of April 1815

S/ Peter Kinnan, Then Secretary
to General Nathaniel Heard

Princeton New Jersey May 12th 1815

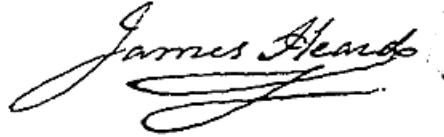
I certify that James Heard late Captain in Lee's Parson Legion was in Service in the American revolutionary Army in the City of New York & Long Island & under the command of his Father the late Brigadier General Nathaniel Heard in 1776 & also in 1777 at Pompton in New Jersey & I acted in the capacity of Brigade Major for said General Heard's Brigade during said years.

Given under my hand the day above mentioned
S/ Peter Gordon, Treasurer
of the State of New Jersey

To whom it may concern

Know all men that I James Heard of the County of Middlesex & State of New Jersey do make and appoint John Pryor Esquire of the City of Richmond & State of Virginia my attorney to demand & receive for me & for my use of the State of Virginia, the additional quantity of land granted to me for Services rendered in the revolutionary war & to do all lawful acts requisite for effecting the principles, hereby ratifying & confirming all that my said attorney shall do therein by virtue hereof, In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal the 19th day of May A.D. 1815

S/ James Heard



New Jersey Rakway [?] October 5th, 1815

Sir,

Having removed many years since from the State of Virginia & suffering under a wound which I received in the revolutionary war, has prevented me from adjusting my claims against the State – it appears that the Legislature of Virginia some years past enacted a law granting to her officers, who served to the end of the Revolutionary war, and additional quantity of land – in order to Substantiate my claim – I have taken the liberty to enclose to your Excellency a Certificate from General Lee, who commanded the Corps to which I was annexed, which I hope is sufficient evidence for to obtain my land.

I have the Honor
to be your Excellency's
Most Obedient & very humble
S/ James Heard

N. B. Major John Pryor
of Richmond is empowered
to receive my land for me
J. H.

State of New Jersey Middlesex County

At the same time also appeared before me Captain John Brown now of the County and State above said & being duly sworn according to law deposeh and saith that James Heard the above said Deponent during the revolutionary war was a Captain of Cavalry in the Legion Commanded by Colonel Henry Lee & that he continued to serve as a Captain until the end of the said war.

Sworn and subscribed before me the 20th day of March A.D. 1818

S/ John Brown



[in a letter dated Nov. 1818, Heard injuries about his own claim and those of George Pointer, Sergeant, Daniel Snailbaker, Samual Jess, John Woodeth and James Chambers, privates.]