

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John P. Hungerford S5586

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

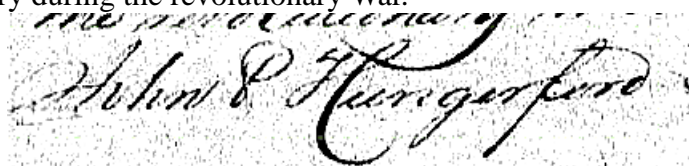
11/18/11 rev'd 5/21/14

[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.]

Virginia

At a Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery begun and held for Westmoreland County on Monday the 1st day of October 1832 General John P Hungerford presented in Open Court a declaration in the words and figures following to wit "I John P Hungerford was born in Virginia January 1761 by a statement in my father's handwriting in an old family Bible, and have resided within one and a half miles of that place ever since. It was then a part of King George [County] but in the year 1778, by an Act of Assembly was thrown into Westmoreland County. In the fall 1777 I performed a tour of duty as a private under Colonel Skinker [John Skinker] who commanded the Militia, being called out in consequence of two British ships of War, the *Roebuck & Phoenix* being up the Potomac near Hoors [?] ferry – after that being a resident of Westmoreland County, I was repeatedly called out under Colonel Richard H. Lee [Richard Henry Lee], who commanded the Militia of that County, as Lieutenant. Blackstone's Island lying in the Potomac nearly opposite the center of the County and where the British ships of War frequently resorted and landed their troops who occasionally depredated on the Maryland & Virginia shores, rendered it necessary for the Militia to be almost constantly on duty. I recollect that on one of our tours, that General Weedon [George Weedon] visited the camp and reviewed the troops. I well here remark that we were without tents, generally found our own rations and received no pay. In the spring 1781, a portion of the Westmoreland Militia, with a detachment from Richmond County, under Major Redman [Vincent Redman], were employed Leeds Town (West) where they were trained during that summer by Colonel Nelson, who I believe was sent there for that purpose by General Weedon early in September 1781, I went with a detachment of Militia from Westmoreland, to the siege of York – Colonel Layne [? Lane?] and Major Nelson of the Militia of the County marched with us – soon after getting to camp on the Gloucester side, Colonel John Taylor of Caroline [County] was in command – We were joined by Generals Choise [sic, ?] and Weedon, the Duke Lauzsar [Armand-Louis Gontaut, duc de Lauzun] [several indecipherable words] a btn [Battalion] of Grenadiers with several regiments of French and American [troops] with Colonels Enniss [probably James Innis], Page, Campbell and Bayliss – Colonel John F Mercer, who came on with General Weedon, and who had been in the Continental service, it was thought proper to give a command and to effect this object, a company from each Regiment was selected, which gave him the Command of between 3 and 400 men which were distinguished by the Grenadier Regiment, or Battalion. In selecting the Company from the regiments I was then in, General Weeden asked me the rank I bore, I told him a Lieutenant – he then observed to me, that if I could raise a Company of Volunteers, I should commanded, which I soon accomplish, and the Regiment being formed, we marched the same

evening on the lines Colonel Mercer & Major Throgmorton were the field Officers – nothing very important occurred but marching and countermarching till the third of October, when it was ascertained the evening before, that a very considerable foraging party were out supported by Tarleton's dragoons and a Regiment of infantry. Mercer's Regiment with Lauzun's dragoons under Count Dillen, led the Dan [?] and were soon engaged with Tarlton's Troops [Banastre Tarleton's], but after a smart Conflict and having acted gallantly, he gave way – Mercer's Regiment & Lauzun's dragoons received Considerable credit, by the approbation of General Washington – Gloucester Town, from that time, was closely invested till the surrender, which was on the 19 of October: the Legion of Lauzun and Corps of Mercer received the 13 Troops that were in Gloucester Town. After the ceremony of the surrender was over, they returned to Gloucester Town & Colonel Mercer called to me to follow him, with a detachment of about 70 men, and after taking possession of the works on the right bank and giving no instructions, he left the command to myself where I remained till the next evening, when I was relieved*at the same time a detachment of Lauzun's Grenadiers marched in and took possession of the fortifications on the left, as soon as we were finally discharged re-returned to our respective homes, I immediately raised a company of Grenadiers which was attached to the West militia, I presume I was commissioned by the [indecipherable word] but what has become of the Commission I know not, the circumstances are known to some few now alive – I was soon after promoted to the rank of Major and in a little while after to the command of the Regiment & in 1816 to that of Brigadier, which rank I now hold. It is impossible to remember every transaction that happened upwards of 50 years ago, but I am certain that I have rendered more than twelve months military service to my Country during the revolutionary War.



*General Lee in his Historical account of that day has made a considerable mistake (he says) "That Lieutenant Colonel Hugo of the Legion of Mercer with the Grenadiers & Militia took possession of Gloucester point" There was no such Officer in the Regiment nor do I believe in the Army. He says nothing about Lauzun's Grenadiers which I know took possession of the left bank.

JPH"

[Richard T Brown and Robert Murphy gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 5]

I Wm S. Jett¹ of the County of Westmoreland and State of Virginia being called upon by General John P Hungerford to examine the declaration of said Hungerford do hereby certify that he and myself have always resided within three miles of each other, that we have frequently been on tours of duty as Officers together during the war of the revolution, that I have a perfect recollection of all the material facts stated in the annexed declaration.

S/ Wm Storke Jett



¹ [William Storke Jett S5614](#)

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$240 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service in the Virginia service, nine months as a Lieutenant and six months as Captain.]