

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Josiah Taylor S6203

f12VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/13/11

[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.]

State of Virginia County of Chesterfield: SS

On this 22nd day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of law & Chancery, of said County now sitting Josiah Taylor a resident of the County of Chesterfield in State aforesaid aged seventy years on the 28th day of this present month (August) who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832,

That he the said Josiah Taylor entered the service of the United States as a volunteer under Creed Haskins as Captain, the subalterns not recollected, sometime in October 1780, (as well as his recollection serves him) he then was marched to Cabbinpoint [Cabin Point], Smithfield, Mackey's mill & to where the Army then lay (he believes) that General Muhlenberg was the commanding officer, & that James Monroe & __Mercer were Colonel & Lieutenant Colonel, and Robert Goode from the County of Chesterfield was Major, after being marched about through several of these lower counties we were marched up to Petersburg where we were discharged sometime about the 20th of December 1780, in a few days after his return home it was ascertained that the enemy was moving up the River towards her Richmond, which point they actually reached & then plundered & burnt the warehouses in Richmond and Manchester, on hearing of their approach having been drafted, he was again called out to meet them, he the said Taylor thinks he was commanded by Captain Thomas Wooldridge and he continued in the service of his country only a short space but the precise time not recollected & he [indecipherable word] was discharged at the town of Manchester in the County of Chesterfield, sometime in the latter end of February or the first of March 1781, he went as substitute for his father and was mustered into service at or near Goode's bridge on the Appomattox River he was then marched to Dinwiddie Courthouse & after some short stay he was marched to Petersburg & there discharged, but the length of the tour, he cannot recollect, so well as he recollects, David Patterson was Captain & Robert Goode the field officer, Sometime early in the month of April he substituted in the place of Gipson Kournay for the balance of his tour, he joined the Army at Black water & from there they marched to Petersburg where he remained in the neighborhood until after the battle of Petersburg [April 25, 1781], the Regiment to which he was attached was planted at the top of the hill in order to succor the main Army that was engaged in case it was necessary, after the Battle at Petersburg he was marched to Chesterfield Courthouse from there to the coal mines & from thence to James River at Tuckahoe ferry where the Army crossed over the River and then to Richmond where we met General Lafayette, (as was stated by several of the soldiers) we were marched about for some time from place to place, till we reached Wilton & from there to Petersburg on a detached party & from there again to Wilton & there discharged, I

served under Blackman Moseley as Captain. Sometime in the month of July following he was called to take his own turn in the service (immediately after the return of Cornwallis' Army down the River from the point of fork) he thinks (as well as his memory serves him) that he was mustered into service at Chesterfield Court house under a certain Captain ___ Hill was marched on to New Castle [?] where they drew their arms & accoutrements, from there he was marched to West point where they crossed York River & from thence to the Gloucester County opposite little York where Cornwallis and his Army was stationed, where the said Taylor remained until sometime in September at which time he was discharged near a church about 6 miles above Gloucester town.

The whole of the foregoing service was performed in the militia of this Commonwealth:

In the first tour mentioned when this declarant went down under Captain Creed Haskins to Cabin Point, Mackey's Mills and the neighborhood of Smithfield, he served two months.

In the second under Captain Thomas Wooldridge in Chesterfield above Manchester he served at least two weeks, Colonel Robert Haskins commanded the Regiment as well as he remembers.

In the third when he started to go on the southern campaign under Captain David Patterson, he served almost as much as two weeks

In the fourth, when he went as a substitute for Gipson Kourney under Captain Blackman Moseley and entered the Army at Blackwater, & was discharged at Wilton, he served at least six weeks, and he thinks seven or eight.

In the last when he went under Captain Hill to York River & to Gloucester he served two months and his field officers were Colonel Taylor and Major Campbell having served in all at least six months & a half if not more.

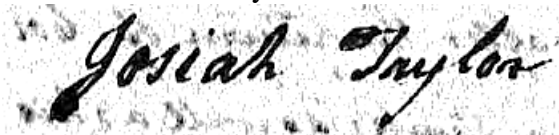
That he does not remember to have served with any regular troops or under any regular officer, except General Muhlenberg, Baron Steuben and General Lafayette, and that he was under the command of another General at Gloucester, a very short time whose name he cannot now recollect. That he never received any written discharge, and has no documentary evidence of his service; but that there are several persons now living who can testify to it.

That he was born in the County of Chesterfield and state of Virginia, the 28th day of August 1762 as he has always understood but has no record of his age except a memorandum he has found in an old book in his possession, corresponding with the above date and that he has always resided in the same.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state,

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Josiah Taylor

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Josiah Taylor". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

I Edmund Lockett,¹ a resident of the County of Chesterfield and State of Virginia, do hereby certify, that I am well acquainted with Josiah Taylor, who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration, and can testify that the said declarant served as he has stated, in the tour in the volunteer service down about Smithfield, but being in different companies, we were

¹ FPA W8064

separated during the tour, but finally were discharged at Petersburg on the same day, and I have no doubt that he served during the whole tour. I know moreover that the company to which he belonged was also called out at the time of Arnold's invasion in the winter of 1781, and I have no doubt from many minute circumstances I have heard him mention that he served during that tour as he states. I have also often understood, and from my own knowledge of Mr. Taylor and of the circumstances & situation of this part of the Country, during the latter part of the Revolution, which was continually invaded or threatened with invasion, I have no doubt, he served several other tours fully as long as he has stated.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Edmund Lockett

[Charles Forsee, a clergyman, and James Elam & Richard Elam gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$21.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 1/2 months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]