

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Welch (Welsh) S7847

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 February 2023.

[The pension application of John Welch is missing from the file, having been sent to District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from Harrison and other counties of present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application S6111 of David W. Sleeth and the endnote.]

John Welch. draws \$20—

July 14, 1834 Jno. Welch made the following statement – he is in his 84th year of age. – was raised in Orange county removed to Loudoun cty [Virginia] – whilst there and during the war was engaged perhaps two weeks in guarding Prisoners from Loudoun to Fauquier Jail – cant tell in what year – that after this he was in Alexandria with a team belonging to a man by the name of Camley. – he drove the horse. the team was pressed to transport the Baggage of Col. Gibsons Regt. – he went with the team thus pressed as Waggoner to Pensylvania near Philadelphia. there left his load and returned home. was gone in this trip hard upon a month. – on his return was drafted for a two months tour. marched from Loudoun county to Yorktown under Capt. Elgin was there at the defeat of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] Served out the tour of two months & came home. thus ended his services — Jacob Copelan wrote his Declaration told him the same he now tells. agreed to give him the first years draw. – Copeland called on him to know if he had not been in the R War. detailed to him the services above detailed. – upon which Copelan told him that he was entitled to a pension. – Swore to his Declaration in open court.

In testimony that this statement is true he hereto subscribes his name.

Witness Nathan Goff [Pension Agent at Clarksburg] John Welch.

this is an Honest man. Copelan has deceived and deluded him

G Singleton Nov. 18, 1834

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Virginia Lewis County, towit,

On the 7th day of May 1833 before the Justices of Lewis County Court in open Court, On motion of John Welch aged 76 years who satisfactorily proved by credible witnesses, that the said John Welch was a Soldier in the Virginia line on the Continental establishment, that he enlisted in 1776 in Loudoun County Virginia to serve during the War, that he did so serve in different Regiments until June 1783 when he was discharged. That he is yet living and resides alternately in Randolph, Harrison and Lewis Counties, which is ordered to be certified to the Executive Council of Virginia to the Register of the land Office in Virginia, and to the land bounty Office of the United States at Washington City, and also to the Secretary of the United States, as well as the first Auditors Office of Virginia.

A Copy Teste J. Talbott C.L.C.

1833 Dec 2 Rejected

NOTE

Welch's pension certificate shows that he was initially awarded \$20 per year for six months service as a private, beginning in the company of Capt. "Figgins" (Capt. Daniel Feagan of the Loudoun County VA Militia). All pensions from Harrison and Lewis counties were suspended pending Singleton's investigation. Singleton wrote "Fraud" on Welch's report, evidently because Welch said he had not served at least six months as claimed and required by the 1832 pension law. Welch drew his last semiannual payment on 4 Sept 1833.

The pension certificate was sent to “Hon. J. Johnson” – Col. Joseph Johnson, who handled applications and payments for many pensioners. “Jacob Copeland” was Jacob Coplin, a Justice of the Peace who assisted several men with their applications, some of them suspiciously.