

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Documents¹ relating to James Bentham SC3787
South Carolina Archives

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

6/5/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

To the Honorable John Lloyd Esquire President & the Honorable Members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina

The humble Petition of James Bentham

Sheweth

That your petitioner was taken Prisoner at the Capitulation of Charles Town [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]. - That having a large family (a Wife, Sister & 6 Children) he was necessitated in the December following to take the British Proclamation, soon after which he was chosen by the Inhabitants Church Warden of St. Phillips Parish, which office, to evade doing Militia duty, he accepted. In the execution of this Trust, he flatters himself he not only did service to the Parish Poor, but to the Parish itself, in preserving its Church Plate & Ornaments, which had he not taken the Precautions to conceal, he is convinced from many circumstances would have been carried off the Country. -

Your Petitioner begs leave further to observe that on 7 August last, he quitted the British Garrison and the next day received his Excellency Governor Mathews Protection, from which time to the Evacuation of Charles Town [the British evacuated Charleston South Carolina in December 1782] he did Militia duty on Edisto Island. - Your Petitioner therefore humbly request your Honors to take his Case into Consideration & in Mercy to his large family release him from the immersed not - And as in duty bound he will ever pray &c.

Chas. Town Feby 4th 1783

S/ J. Bentham



Petition of James Bentham

The Senate

Postponed

No. 6

¹ These documents are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the documents for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

Granted on the plea of Governor's Proclamation freeing him from the penalties by Amercement
Act
P 286. 1783
5 Feb. 1783