

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Taliaferro (Taliafferro) W11597 Mildred Talifaferro f38VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 11/5/11: rev'd 1/25/22

[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.]

State of Alabama & County of Pickens: Sct.

On this 31st day of October 1837 personally appeared before the Court of the County aforesaid in the State aforesaid, it being a Court of record Mildred Taliaferro a resident of said County aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed the 4th of July 1836. That she is the Widow of Richard Taliaferro who was a Captain in the Virginia Continental line during the War of the Revolution, and who at that period resided in the County of Amherst State of Virginia: that the first time she recollects to have seen her late Husband was in the month of January or February in the year 1777 or 1778 that at that time he was a recruiting regular Officer a Captain of Infantry in a Virginia Regiment Continental establishment: that the said Captain Taliaferro was stationed at Amherst Court House near to the residence of declarant's Father, that part of his time was taken up in the Army and conveying his recruits to his Regiment, which was his constant employment for near two years before she intermarried with said Taliaferro that after her intermarriage with said Taliaferro he continued his connection with the Army and attended to all the orders of his Commander and was from home a greater portion of his time and with the Army, at the scene of action. That she recollects to have heard and does believe that her said Husband was in the Battle at Bottoms or Long Bridge¹ and she also understood and believes that he was at the siege of York Town and surrender of Cornwallis [October 19, 1781].² That she well recollects his great success in the recruiting service and his ardor and zeal therein, and that at one period after her marriage with him he is health became too bad to travel on foot when he would travel on horseback to recruit men. That she does verily believe that he was connected with the Army as aforesaid until the close of the War, that for the services of her said Husband his Children and heirs at law, he being dead intestate on the 15th day of April 1806 have as she is informed and believes received from the Commonwealth of Virginia a Military bounty land warrant for four thousand acres of Land for a service of three years and that herself as administratrix of her said Husband at the last regular Session of Congress and several proceeding Sessions have petitioned for the commutation of five

¹ Perhaps a reference to the Battle of Great Bridge, December 9, 1775 (near Chesapeake, Va., Lord Dunmore: 600-man force of British, Tories and Negroes; Col. William Woodford, 2nd VA Regt.)

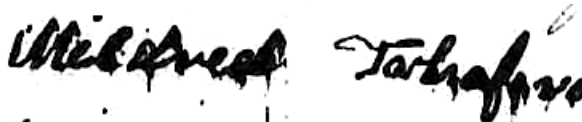
<https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/751209-great-bridge.html>

² September 28-October 19, 1781 Siege of Yorktown <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810928-yorktown/>

years full pay with Interest in lieu of half pay for life to which she is advised his services aforesaid entitled his personal representatives, to which petition or rather the evidence exhibited with said she now refers to sustain her claim under the Act of the 4th of July 1836. She further declares that she was lawfully married to the said Captain Richard Taliaferro in the County of Amherst and State of Virginia on the 19th day of July 1780, that her Husband the said Richard Taliaferro died in the State of South Carolina on the 15th day of April 1806 and that she has remained his Widow and unmarried ever since all which will appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed and referred to.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year
before written in open Court

S/ Mildred Taliaferro

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mildred Taliaferro', with a small flourish at the end.

[f p 10]

Amherst County to wit

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in the County aforesaid William Lavender³ who made oath in due form of law, that he is a soldier of the War of the Revolution, and that for his services he is now in the semi-annual receipt of a pension from the General Government of \$96 per annum – and that during the said War he became acquainted while serving in the Army with a certain Richard Taliaferro who was a Captain of a regular company of soldiers, that he recruited in the County of Amherst, and marched northward, that he does not know what Regiment he belonged to, nor does he know whether the Regiment was a State or Continental Troops, that he does not know when he joined the Army nor how and when he quit it, but he well recollects that he saw him in the northern Army in the year 1777 and that he again saw him in James Town just before the siege and surrender of York Town, and on both occasions he was in command as Captain of a company and that his belief is that he served the greater part of the war – That some years after the peace the said Richard Taliaferro removed to one of the southern states where he is informed he died.

Given under my hand this 11th day of June 1833

S/ Henry L Davies [JP]

Amherst County to wit

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid Benjamin Taliaferro Esquire and made oath in due form of law, that at a very early period of the Revolutionary War, he recollects that his brother Richard Taliaferro was an officer and employed in Recruiting men for the regular Army, and he believes for the State Service – That his impression is that his rank when he joined the service was that of a subaltern commissioned officer and that about the close of the war he was styled Captain. That he does not recollect that he the said Richard ever bore any command in the militia of the County of Amherst where he was raised. That he does not know when the said Richard first joined or when his commission with the Army was ended but he does recollect that about the close of the war he the said Richard had a severe and protracted spell of ague & fever – That it was as he believes in the year 1783 that the said Richard Taliaferro and his wife Mildred, removed to the State of South Carolina

³ [William Lavender W8080](#)

when they lived until the death of Richard which took place many years ago, his widow and many children survived him. Given under my hand this 15 June 1833

S/ Nelson Crawford [JP]

[p 12]

A pay Roll of Captain Richard Taliaferro's Company of foot in the Regiment of guards at Albemarle Barracks whereof F. Taylor Esquire is commander for the months of April & May – '79

No.	Names	Rank	Commencement of Pay	Time of service Mos/days	Satisfaction money & m? in Dollars	Amount of Pay in Va. Currency £/S/D
	John H. Woodroof	Lieut.	1779	2	36 2/3	22.0.0
1	Henry Campbell	Corpl.	19 April	1/11	7 1/3	3.0.0
2	Hardin Woodroof ⁴	do		2	7 1/3	4.8.0
3	Daniel Kelley	P	--	2	6 2/3	4
4	John B. Mace [could be Mare or Mane]	do	--	2	6 2/3	4
5	John Everett ⁵	do	--	2	6 2/3	4
6	Jesse Tucker ⁶	do	--	2	6 2/3	4
7	Robert Brown	do	--	2/15	6 2/3	5
8	Richard Cawthon ⁷	do	--	2	6 2/3	4
9	Robert Cawthon	do	--	2	6 2/3	4
10	Charles Hutchens ⁸	do	--	--	--	-- Not Joined
11	[indcipherable entry marked through and illegible]					Deserted
12	Jno. W. Kinney [John W. Kinney]	do	--	--	--	-- Enlisted in 6 Service
13	Bordel Hollas [Hollis?]	do	--	--	--	do
						£58.8

I do swear that that the within is a just and true pay Roll [indcipherable words] to the United States or any individual, to the best of my knowledge

S/ John H. Woodroof

Sworn to before made this 7 June 1779

S/ F. Taylor, Col. R. G.

Nelson County to wit

⁴ This MAY be the same man as [Harding \(Harden, Hardin\) Woodroof \(Woodruff\) W3485](#)

⁵ [John Everett S16786](#)

⁶ This is PROBABLY the same man as [Jesse Tucker W7987](#)

⁷ [Richard Cawthon S8175](#)

⁸ [Charles Hutchings VAS1682](#)

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Nicholas L Martin and made oath in due form of law, that the within is a true copy of an original paper now in his possession as the son and executor of the late Hudson Martin⁹ deceased of the said County, that the said paper is one of many documents, [one or more indecipherable words], of his said father as the Pay master of the Regiment of Barrack Guards, stationed at Albemarle Barracks during the War of the Revolution, which post his said father held as the said documents amply prove, and as he has often heard his father whilst living assert.

Given under my hand this 28th day of November 1833

S/ Ro. Reves [JP]

[p 16]

Amherst County to wit

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid William Cashwell¹⁰ who declares himself to be seventy-seven years of age and made oath in due form of law, that he was a soldier of the War of the Revolution and that he is now a pensioner under the Act of Congress of the 7 June 1832. That during the said War he was well acquainted with Captain Richard Taliaferro of the County of Amherst, who was a recruiting officer in the regular service that he said Richard Taliaferro, recruiting men in the County of Amherst, and at different times marched his recruits to the Army sometimes northwardly and at another to Carolina and he has a perfect recollection that at the period of the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] the said Richard Taliaferro was engaged in the recruiting service, and to the best of his recollection the said Taliaferro was so engaged for three or four years. Given under my hand this 7th day of July 1838

S/ Za Drummond, JP

[p 3: copy of a marriage bond issued to Richard Taliaferro and William Powell dated July 18th 1780 conditioned upon the marriage of Richard Taliaferro, bachelor, to Mildred Powell, Spinster. The bondsman all both indicated to be residence of the Commonwealth of Virginia but their County of residence or the County of the issuance of this bond is not so given. The attestation, however, of the copy is given by the clerk of the Amherst County Court, Virginia.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service for two years as a Captain of Infantry in the Virginia line.]

[Note: Other men who served under Captain Richard Taliaferro:

[S30887 Jesse Brock](#)

[W2629 William Smith](#)

[W25391 William Carter](#)

[S2005 Hugh McCabe](#)

[W6447 Bransford West](#)

[W7987 Jesse Tucker](#)]

⁹ [Hudson Martin W7394](#)

¹⁰ [William Cashwell W3771](#)

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Addendum to Richard Taliaferro W11597

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 25 Jan 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#).]

Heirs of Richard Taliaferro Capt Cont'l Petition &c

This claim has been already reported to the Governor by me as not allowable: and seems to have been twice acted upon by the Executive – to wit – in Nov'r 1833, when the Petition was rejected – and in Dec'r 1833, when it was again rejected. A reconsideration of it has been ask'd, on additional evidence. The additional evidence is, the Deposition of Colo. Nicholas [John Nicholas S46397; see endnote], and a Payroll of a Company of Infantry of the Regiment of Barracks Guards – which company was commanded by Captain Richard Taliaferro, for April & May 1779.

I have nothing to add to the evidence. I am of the opinion, that the Payroll, now introduced as evidence, materially changed the aspect of the case. It proves that Richard Taliaferro was Captain in the Reg't of Guards. Highly respectable witnesses prove that he was in service from 1777 as a recruiting officer. His name was not found on the army Register, & there was no sufficient evidence of his having borne a Commission, until this payroll was produc'd.

The Barracks Guards were raised early in 1779 & were discharged in June 1781. Colo. Nicholas' deposition goes to shew, that the U. States have allowd bounty land to officers of the Reg't of Guards. We do not know all the circumstances attending the cases in which the U. States have so allowd bounty land. The officers may have servd before this Reg't was raisd, or may have continued in service after it was discharg'd. Their other service taken into the estimate with that in [part missing] the Reg't of Guards alone. That Reg't was raisd for a special purpose – to guard Prisoners – was to serve one year, unless sooner discharged – and was actually discharged, when the purpose for which they were rais'd had been fully accomplished, that is to say, after a lapse of a little more than two years when the Prisoners were exchanged. However, it is not necessary to decide this question, in this case. There is proof (which, when connected with the additional evidence, is satisfactory) that Capt. Taliaferro was in service as an officer perhaps two years before the raising of the Reg't of Guards. That service, taken with his service in that Reg't, entitles his heirs to bounty land for 3 years. There is no sufficient proof of his service to the end of the war. The absence of his name from the Army Register is accounted for, by his early removal to the South.

on the original & additional evidence I report the Petition reasonable, for a service of 3 years.
To his Excellency Gov'r. Floyd Resp'ly submitted/ John H Smith/ 14th Jan'y 1834

NOTE: For the deposition by Col. John Nicholas, see John Thomas S46515.