

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Blackwell W1191 Ann Blackwell VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 May 2015.

State of Virginia Fauquier County – To wit – On this 29th day of August 1838, personally appeared before subscriber, a justice of the peace in and for said County, Anne Blackwell, a resident of said county, aged 77 years and upwards, who having solemnly affirmed the truth to speak, doth on her solemn affirmation, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled “An act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows.” That she is the widow of Joseph Blackwell, who was a Lieutenant in the 3rd Virg’a. Continental Reg’t. in Capt. John Chilton Company, in the Revolutionary War. This she has frequently heard her said husband mention. Also that he was in the march with the troops thro’ the Jersey’s. The period when he entered & when he left the service she cannot state but relies on such proof as the records, & affidavits of his cotemperaries may shew on those points. She further declares that she was married to the said Joseph Blackwell on the [blank] day of December seventeen and eighty four – that her husband, the aforesaid Joseph Blackwell, died on the [blank] day of October 1826. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, seventeen hundred and ninety four, to wit, at the time above stated.

She further states, according to her impression, that her said husband had something to do with the Quarter master’s business before the close of the War. Before the final close of the War he resided in the City of Richmond.

[signed] Ann Blackwell

[Ann Blackwell also applied for a pension (W14316) as the former widow of Edwin Hull.]

[4 Dec 1843] I certify to the Commissioner of Pensions, and all whom it may concern that John [John Blackwell, probably BLWt264-300] and Joseph Blackwell of Fauquier County, State of Virginia, were my brothers; we were born and raised in said county; I was married to Thomas Keith Esq, 25th May 1775. My brothers aforesaid were commissioned Lieutenants in the Spring of the year 1776, having been engaged the greater part of the preceding winter in recruiting their Quata of men. My brother John, a first Lieutenant & Joseph a second Lieutenant. They were attached to a company commanded by our brother in law, Captain John Chilton, and joined the army at Alexandria previous to marching to the north. The company as I always understood was attached to the third Virginia Regiment. after the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] my brother Joseph was taken with the small pox and it affected one of his eyes so much that he entertained great fears of loosing it; he returned home and so soon as his health would enable him to do so he engaged in the recruiting business for the army under orders from his commanding officer as I then understood, and was subsequently appointed a Quarter Master and was stationed in Richmond Virginia where he remained in that capacity until the close of the war; After the war, he engaged in the mercantile business in Partnership with Col. Martin Pickett, at Warrenton Virginia, & having made an ample fortune he retired from business about the year 1805 to a farm near Warrenton & died 12 or 15 years ago. He married the widow of Capt. Edwin Hull soon after the close of the war, she died about three years ago. They left several children. She was pensioned a few years before her death. There was another Joseph Blackwell [S37781] of this county a cousin of ours who entered the Army as an ensign as I now think, and it was some months after my brothers had marched to the north. He was spoken of as deserving & brave in the army, he rose in rank in the army but I do not now remember what was his final grade in the War, after Peace he got to be a colonel &, in that, his army rank was forgotten. He was captured at the Siege of Charleston South Carolina [12 May 1780]. He died in this County where he was born and raised about twenty years ago very poor, he was living solely on a pension he obtained for his Revolutionary services as I understood.

[signed] Judith Keith

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Some online records are misfiled under Bolling, Jesse. Others are redundant or not legible enough for transcription.]

To the Executive of Virg'a

Your memorialists (undersigned) being the devisees and heirs of Joseph Blackwell late of Fauq'r. County, and who was a Lieut in the 3rd Virg'a. Continental Reg't. in the War of the Revolution, beg leave to represent. That the said Joseph Blackwell was a distinct person from a gentleman of the same name from Fauq'r. Va and who was a Captain, and was probably in the same reg't with this Joseph Blackwell the Lieut above named. That this s'd Joseph Blackwell (the testator of your memorialists) was commissioned a Lieut. in the s'd 3rd Va. Cont'l. Reg't at an early period of the War, and entered the Army and continued to serve as they have been informed and believe till some time in 1778 when he retired as a supernumerary officer. And they pray that the proofs which they have been enabled to procure may be received and considered toward establishing their claim [several illegible words] informed that in similar cases it has been the custom of the Executive to grant land for the War, as your memorialists said ancestor the s'd Joseph Blackwell never did resign his Commission, but was ready as they believe to have reentered the s'd service at any time if called on to do so. [several illegible words]

Jno. H. Gaskins	John J Chilton
Ann Gaskins	Octavia E. Chilton
John Blackwell in my [rest illegible] guardian for J P Bla[?]	[illegible name]
James Blackwell in my own right and	Wm. Blackwell
Aggatha Jeffries [widow of Eurek Jeffries]	Wm. R Smith
	Lucy Smith

[The certification, dated 22 Oct 1834, also lists Elias Edmunds]

Date	Names & Rank	Of whom received	Articles Received	Specie Dollars
1782 Sept 20	Blackwell Jos. Lieut		pay for Jan'y. Feb. & March	80

Extract from a Book in this office presented to Governor Floyd by Philip Nicholas
Jas E Heath aud/ Aud Off. June 19, 1837

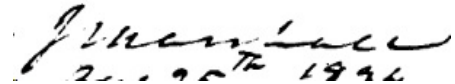
[The above table also has columns with the following headings with nothing beneath:
Pren't[?] [?]mission Dollars | [undeciphered] 90 | Old [?]mission Dollars | [undeciphered] 90]

I was very well acquainted with two gentlemen named Joseph Blackwell from the county of Fauquier in the Virginia line during our revolutionary war.

One was in the 10th Virginia Regiment. the other was a Lieutenant in the 3^d Virginia regiment. He entered in the service early in 1776 and served the campaign of 1776 and 1777. I am not sure whither he left the service at the close of the campaign of 1777 or early in 1778. Several officers became supernumerary in 1778 and it is not improbable that he was one of them though I do not recollect to have seen him in the army after 1777

[US Chief Justice John Marshall, pension application S5731]

Aug 25th 1834



It does not appear that Joseph Blackwell has received Land bounty for his services as a Lieutenant or Quarter Master in the Virginia Continental line S. H. Parker Reg. L. Office
Jany 25th 1848

To the Governor and Council of Virginia

The undersigned, agent for the heirs of Major Joseph Blackwell begs leave most respectfully to file the above certificate and to ask a review of his case, it is in proof that he entered the service at the time his brother Capt. John Blackwell did in the 3^d Virginia Regiment which proof the time of John Blackwells entering I also ask leave to file in the case – his allowance dates from 1st March 1776 by computation

Very respectfully/ Wm Helm/ agent for the heirs

State of Virg'a. County of Fauquier To wit

Personally came before me a justice of the peace in & for the county afores'd. this day, William Tomlin [S6261] of s'd county aged 75 yrs and upwards, and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joseph Blackwell, late of the s'd county & state. That he the said Blackwell was as this affiant understood & believed commissioned a Lieutenant in the year 1775 to serve in the War of the Revolution, and belonged to Captain John Chilton's Company which was attached to the 3rd Regiment of Continental troops which was first commanded by [Hugh] Mercer & secondly by [George] Weedon. That affiant was a private in s'd company which [undeciphered word] had enlisted for two years [several undeciphered words] expiration of s'd term to wit in December 1777 he reenlisted in a troop of Cavalry under Maj'r. Wm. Washington [William Washington] for [Stephen] Moylan's Reg't. of Horse. The s'd Blackwell continued in s'd command as Lieut. till the Spring of 1777, when [one or two undeciphered words] lack many men he was sent to recruit [several undeciphered words] returned to the army & continued till the period above stated (December 1777) when, as stated affiant reenlisted in the cavalry, and being necessarily called to different places, so that he had not the same opportunity of seeing the s'd Blackwell. This affiant does not think that s'd Blackwell resigned his commission but from all he has ever heard he believes that the great diminution of the number of privates about that time caused s'd Blackwell to return home, he not having a full command.

Given under my hand and seal this 31st of December 1833

M A Chilton J.P.

To the Executive of Virginia [29 Feb 1844]

The undersigned, a son, and the Executor of the will of the late Major Joseph Blackwell, begs leave to represent, that his father died in Fauquier County, Va, in the year 1826 and that during his lifetime he has frequently heard him speak of his Revolutionary services; that he has heard him say he was a Lieutenant in Captain John Chilton's Company and was attached to the 3rd va. Regiment, and that [several lines crossed out] The undersigned further represents that he has reasons to believe that the services in the Revolution of his said Father entitled him to bounty land from Virginia and is almost certain that he never obtained it in his life time; and in the names of his brothers, Wm. Blackwell & Jos. Blackwell, & the children of his brother Joseph Blackwell & his three sisters Mrs. Smith, Mrs Gaskins, & Mrs Jeffries and in his own right asks respectfully to be allowed such bounty in land of his father would have been entitled to were he now living

John Blackwell

D'r The United States In account with Joseph Blackwell

To pay as Lt from 1 January 1777 'til last Dec'r 1781	480.
To Retain'd rations from 1 June '78 to 31 July '80	25 15
To Retain'd rations from 1 Aug 80 to last dec'r '81	<u>25</u> <u>15</u>
	531 10

	By pay & subsistence from 1 st Jan 1777 to 1 st Dec 1779	443	35	6	9 ³ / ₄
1781	By Cash of Treasurer of Virginia	15,000	25		
Capt	By Sundry goods at Charlestown [see endnote]		25	14	1 ¹ / ₄
	By Cash at d'o		7	10	
	By Sundries of Capt Hite		9	10	1 ¹ / ₄
	By Certificates	408	18	3	

Fauquier ye 25 March 1783/ Sworn to before me/ N. Edmonds

I certify that the foregoing is truly copied from the Book containing copies of the settlements made by the Auditors under the Act of Assembly of Nov'r Session 1781, of the accounts of the Continental Officers – now in this Office.

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office Richmond this 28th day of June 1850.

Ro Johnston First Auditor

I do hereby certify that Lt. Joseph Blackwell of the Virg'a Continental line was appointed Quarter Master to my Reg't at Hadrells point [see endnote] in the place of Lt. Basqueville [sic: Samuel Baskerville S45238] who resignd

[Nathaniel Gist BLWt1874-500] Col/ May 10th 83



[The following is from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#). The online file contains misfiled records pertaining to many other soldiers. The records pertaining to Joseph Blackwell begin on p 101.]

Lieutenant Joseph Blackwell – 3rd Va. Contl Reg't

The vouchers filed in Cap. Joseph Blackwell's [S37781] case clearly shew that he was at the commencement of his service a very short time a Lieut when he was promoted to Captain, and that he continued to serve in that capacity in the line to the end of the war From which it appears that he was not the Q. M. referred to in the com'sr's report – since it will be recollected that Judge Marshall retired early from the service, and commenced the study of law – and consequently had no information as to these services of Lieut Jos. Blackwell in a department of the service not in the line – and it appears by reference to the statement of Mr. Conway clk. of Stafford that Jos. Blackwell Jr did certify to that Court[?] for an allowance for impressed provisions for the army – and also the records prove a settlement of his accounts as Q. M.

As attorney for the heirs of Lieut. Jos. Blackwell I respectfully ask a reference to the vouchers in Cap. Jos. Blackwell's case (filed 1806) Thos. Hord/ Ap'l. 27th 1835 further reference found since and a reference to the original [undeciphered word] asked in order to shew that Lt and not Cap. Jos. Blackwell was the Q.M. and so recognised as late as May 15 1783 (the entry is in the following words

“Certificates. That Lt Joseph Blackwell as Quarter Master to Colo. N Gist Regm't. was a Milit'y. Staff Officer appointed from and acting in the Virg'a Cont'l Line.”

[Extract dated 15 May 1783 from Vol. 4 of papers concerning the Army of the Revolution.]

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Fauquier County – Land/ Real Estate]

To the Senate and House of Delegates of the Virginia Assembly

Your petitioners being the heirs at law of Joseph Blackwell dec'd. late of Fauq'r. County in the state of Virg'a. Respectfully represent, that the said Joseph Blackwell was duly commiss'd as a Lieutenant in the 3rd Virginia Continental Regiment in the war of the Revolution, in the year 1776 and in that capacity served two or three years when he was again petitioners beleive retired from the service in the line for want of a command, and continued in service as a Quarter Master & so continued till the end of said War. Your petitioners presented their claim to his Excellency Governor Tazwell [sic: Tazewell] in the cours of the last year, and prayed the usual allowance of Land Bounty to Lieutenant for the War, but the same was rejected – your petitioners now respectfully ask that their said claim may be taken into consideration by your Hon'e bodies, and that the copies of papers herewith filed may be sufficient to refer to the original vouchers, now on file in the Secretaries' office to which a reference is respectfully prayed. with an add'l. paper of evidence which your petitioners have since come to a knowledge of and

now herewith file a copy shewing that Qr. Master Jos. Blackwell had been an officer in the Line prior to his appointment as Qr. Master. This case is so fully explained by the documents herewith filed [not found], that, your petitioners entertain a confident hope and belief that their pray will be granted. Certain evidence having reference to Cap. Jos. Blackwell [S37781] has been brought into this case in order to shew that your petitions have not confounded the one case with the other – but that there were several and distinct settlements made by each of those officers

Your petitioners pray that the Register of the land Office may be authorised by Law to issue Warrants to the heirs of said Lt. Joseph Blackwell for a Lieutenants Land Bounty for the war, and they will as in duty bound ever pray – John – William & James Blackwell and others being the children &

heirs at Law of Lt. Jos. Blackwell by Thos. Hord their agent &
attorney in fact

Jan'y 23^d 1836 ref'd to Rev'y C[lai]ms

1838 March 14

The evidence in this case is not satisfactory – and the circumstance of Lieut Blackwell failing to apply for bounty land during his life is against the claim Rejected DC [Gov. David Campbell]

1840 Mch 23/ Again rejected DC

NOTES:

Joseph Blackwell evidently served as Quartermaster while a prisoner at Haddrell Point across the Cooper River from Charleston SC.

The federal pension file includes a copy of a bond signed in Stafford County on 21 Dec 1784 by Joseph Blackwell and William Eustace for the marriage of Blackwell to Anne Hull, widow. See the pension application of Edwin Hull (W14316) for much more information about Ann Blackwell, née Ann Eustace. On 5 Mar 1853 Sarah M. Eustace, about 68, a relative by marriage, listed the following children of Ann Blackwell: Agatha Jeffries; James Blackwell; Ann Gaskins; Lucy Smith; John Blackwell; William Blackwell; and Joseph Blackwell, deceased. She also stated that when her first husband, Edwin Hull, died, he left only one child who died young. A document in the file states that Ann Blackwell died on 2 Dec 1840.