

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Sexton W172

f75VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/28/12: rev'd 5/7/21

[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.]

[p 6]

State of North Carolina Buncombe County} Personally Appeared before me Archibald D Murphey one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of Law & Equity in the State of North Carolina John Sexton aged fifty-seven years & after being by me duly sworn doth make & subscribed the following Declaration, to which, that he the said John Sexton enlisted as a Soldier in the United States Service in the revolutionary War in the year 1777 in the month of January for the Space of three years enlisted in the State of Virginia Charlotte County a regular Soldier in Captain Joseph Misshaux [Joseph Michaux] Company commanded by Major Stubblefield [probably Major George Stubblefield] of the 14th Virginia Regiment under Colonel Abraham Davis [probably a misidentification of William Davies] and that he served faithfully during the said Term of three years and was Honorably Discharged at Frederick Town in the State of Maryland by Colonel John Webb this deponent further states that he is of opinion that in the time of his service he was transferred or the Regiment he enlisted and was reduced to the 5th Regiment of Virginia Militia and that he was in the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4th, 1777], Monmouth [June 28, 1778] while in the Regular Service & that after he was discharged he was in the battle of Guilford North Carolina [Guilford Court House, March 15, 1781] this Deponent further states that his discharge was stolen from him or lost & that he has no further evidence of his said Services within his knowledge and that he is in the Reduced Circumstances and stands in need of the Assistance of his Country for his support.

S/ John Sexton, X his mark

Subscribed & sworn to before me Archibald the Murphey one of the Judges of the Superior Court of Law & Courts of Equity in & for North Carolina the 6th of October A.D. 1819

S/ A. D. Murphey

[p 16]

State of North Carolina Buncombe County} Superior Court of Law Term the 1st Monday after the 4th Monday of September A.D. 1821

On this 6th day of October A.D. 1821, personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the said County & State aforesaid John Sexton aged 62 years a resident of Buncombe County & State aforesaid; who being first duly sworn according to law; doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. That he enlisted in the year 1777 at Charlotte in Virginia under Lieutenant Richard Eusham (or Worsham) [perhaps Richard Worsham] of the company of Captain Joseph Mishaux (or Misshoe) of the 14th Virginia

Regiment commanded by Colonel Abram Davis & Lieutenant Colonel Abram Blueford [probably Abraham Buford] for the term of three years or during the war which term he faithfully served until discharged: and that his original declaration (under which he has obtained a pension) was dated October 1819, that the pension certificate under which he has received but one installment of 6 months half pay is dated on the 6th day of March 1820 – And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed – that I am by trade a farmer, but old, infirm and unable to do much for his livelihood that he has an old wife about 56 years of age, who has lost the use of one of her hands, that he has 3 children in his family one daughter 18 years of age named Nancy – 2 sons one 21 next August named Hiram – the other son 16 years of age named Lorenzo – all not able to contribute by their labor to the comfortable support of himself & family. That his property is as contained in the following schedule "to wit"

250 acres poor Land (mountain) worth	\$200
5 head of Neat Cattle worth	20
2 beds & furniture worth	15
one table & 6 chairs worth	3
table furniture worth	2
kitchen furniture worth	5
farming Tools worth	4
6 head of sheep worth	9
8 stock of hogs worth	8
1 plow nag worth	<u>30</u>
	\$296

S/ John Sexton, X his mark

[p 21: In October 1826 in Buncombe County North Carolina, the veteran, then giving his age as 68, filed yet another application for a pension in which he sets forth the same recitation of service in the regular service as in his prior applications except that he names General Muhlenberg as having command of the Brigade during the 3 years of his service; he has regarding his militia service more details as follows: "That he served as a volunteer afterwards under Colonel Lynch in the Virginia Militia who joined General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Army at Dick's ferry on Dan River, and was subsequently in the battle of Guilford in North Carolina." He states he has conveyed the 250 acres of land in Buncombe County to 2 of his children, Hiram and Ramsey, about 6 months ago in exchange for the care and trouble of providing for the veteran and his wife Liz property which he values at \$64.20. That he only just his wife as a member of his family saying that she is 66 years old and a cripple in 1 arm unable to labor. William T Smith and Jesse Bly gave the standard supporting affidavit in connection with this application.]

[p 14: On July 18, 1844 in Greene County Tennessee, Mrs. Mary Ann Sexton, 80, filed for a

widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Sexton a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she was married to him in the month of March 1780 in Bedford County Virginia by the Reverend John Anthony of the Baptist Church; that her husband died July 4th, 1844 in Greene County Tennessee. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 18: On July 19, 1844, in Greene County Tennessee, Isaiah Gilbert, 64 on the 9th November 1844 gave testimony that he is the half-brother of Mary Ann Sexton both having the same father (not named); that he was born in Bedford County Virginia November 9th, 1780; that he did not see his half-sister married as he was not yet born but ever since he could recollect anything he knew his half-sister to be the wife of John Sexton.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Isaiah Gilbert". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background. There are some small, faint marks below the signature, possibly indicating a date or other details.

[p 24: On August 30, 1844 in Sevier County Tennessee, Elizabeth Galyear, 72, gave testimony that she is the half-sister of Mary Ann Sexton; that she, affiant, was born about the year 1772 in Bedford County Virginia; that her parents told her that her half sister was married to John Sexton; that she, affiant, lived with John and Mary his wife 53 years ago when they lived on New River in Grayson County Virginia and that her sister at that time had 6 or 7 children. The affiant also states that she is the half-sister of the widow by her father Daniel Gilbert. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 12: On March 1, 1845 in Greene County Tennessee, John Cornwell, 55, gave testimony that he is a son-in-law of Mary Ann Sexton, widow of John Sexton, late a revolutionary pensioner; that he married a daughter of the veteran and his widow in Grayson County Virginia in February 1816; that his wife Judah or Juditha never had any record of her age until after she was married to him that the record was made from a reliable source from the recorded age of Elizabeth Terrel who was born and raised in the same neighborhood with Judith within a few days of the same date, to wit July 15th 1794; that he has heard his father all and mother-in-law declare that they were married in Bedford County Virginia; that his in-laws lived together as man and wife up to July 4th 1844 on which day John Sexton died in Greene County Tennessee.]

[p 74: On March one, 1845 in Green County Tennessee, Gilbert Sexton, 58 gave testimony that he is the son of Mary Ann Sexton and John Sexton, a revolutionary war pensioner; that his parents always told him he was born in Grayson County Virginia on the 9th December 1786 and was consequently 58 years old on the 9th December 1844; that his mother gave birth to 5 children before he was born – that the 1st born were twins, both having died, as he is informed before they were named, his brother William next, Benjamin next, Elizabeth next, then himself the aforesaid Gilbert; that he has no record of his age nor does he know of any record of the ages of any of his brothers or sisters. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 8: G. D. Sexton of Henderson County North Carolina gave testimony on January 24, 1874, that he is a son of John Sexton who was a soldier and pensioner of the revolutionary war; that his father was a resident of Henderson County (formerly Buncombe County) and died in Green

County Tennessee about the year 1842; that a warrant was issued to his father for bounty land but his father never received it; the affiant's understanding is that the warrant was located near Centerville Ohio but he is not positive; that he and his brother Hiram Sexton are the only surviving children of the veteran.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing October 6, 1819 for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum.]

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Addendum to John Sexton W172

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 7 May 2021.

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

This may Certify that John Sexton inlisted himself a regular Soldier the [illegible] day of Jan'y 1777 to serve three years in the 14th Virginia Reg't [three undeciphered words] from the date of his Inlistment which term he hath faithfully and Honourably Served and is worthy of Notice for which he is hereby discharged Given under my hand this [undeciphered] day of Jan'y 1780

John Webb Lt Colo [BLWt2052-450]

A Copy H. Randolph [undeciphered]
3^d Jan'y 1785.

Sir please deliver Mr. Jas Brackenridge the warr't for the Land due me for my Services as a Soldier in the Continental Army and Oblige/ your Hble S't
To Colo. Thos. Meriwether

Jno. Sexton
Dec'r 6th 1784

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

State of North Carolina } Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions
Buncome County } first Monday of October 1821

This 5th day of October 1821 comes John Sexton into open court and deposes and says that he enlisted for and served in the Continental line of the State of Virginia the term of three years during the revolutionary war as follows "to wit" He enlisted in the year 1777 at Charlotte in Virginia under Lieutenant Richard Euslum (or Worsham of the Company of Captain Joseph Meshaux (or Misshoe) of the 14th Virginia regiment commanded by Colonel Abraham Davis & Lieutenant Colonel Abraham Blueford for the term of 3 years or during the war which term he faithfully served untill discharged by Colonel John Webb of some one regiment of the Virginia line who commanded him and others or a corpse sent under his command to guard some prissoners who had been taken at Stony point and who then were sent out into the country in charge of the excort of which he was one. that he cannot now recollect the date of the discharge as it is lost but thinks it was after the term of 3 years from his enlistment being in the year 1781 – that he was in the battles of Brandywine, Germanton, Monmouth and the taking of Stony Point under General [Anthony] Wayne. that he is old infirm and does not know of any testimony to establish the above facts but his now oath – that he had a brother named Archibald Sexton who was enlisted a few days before himself under the same officers and for the same term of service who served with him untill the battle of Brandywine where he was killed whilst fighting for his country that he and his brother were both during the battle of Brandywine in the Company of said Captain Meshaux & were in the front of the engagement and is advised that he is the heir at Law of his brother John hisXmark Sexton

1823 Mar 19 Rejected evidence insufficient