

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Jacob Moon W4691

Ann Hancock VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris and Will T. Graves. Revised 9 Oct 2014.

State of Virginia } at a county court held in and for said County on the twentyfourth day of Oct  
Bedford County } 1842. personally appeared in Open court Christopher Moon a resident of said  
County of Bedford and State of Virginia; aged sixty three years, who being first duly sworn according to  
law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions  
made by the act of congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836. That he is the son and only heir at Law of Jacob Moon  
and his wife Ann Moon. That the said Jacob Moon was an officer of the Virginia line of the army of the  
Revolution. The deponent knows not when he commenced as the Rank in which he commanded, being at  
the time of his said father's death only about 16 months old, but he has always understood that he was a  
Lieutenant, and also held an appointment in the staff, Towit paymaster. he knows not the Regiment to  
which he belonged or the countries through which he marched, or the battles in which he fought, but has  
always understood that he was in the army to the north, most of the time, and that early in the year 1781  
he marched to the South, and was killed shortly after at the battle of Guilford [15 Mar 1781] being then  
at the time of his death a Capt. or Lieutenant [see endnote]. That he has not at this time any record or  
documentary evidence to show his said fathers services rank or death neither does he know where to  
obtain the same unless the records at Richmond Virginia or Washington City should furnish evidence of  
the same. That his said father lived at the aforesaid time of his death in the aforesaid County of Bedford,  
and had intermarried at the time with Ann Ammon of the County of New Kent, while thus in the army of  
the Revolution And brought his said wife to the County of Bedford where she and the deponent, then  
about 15 or 18 months old, resided at the time of his said father's death That after his said fathers death  
his mother was delivered of another son who departed this life in infancy. That his said mother  
afterwards intermarried in the said County with Samuel Hancock [pension application X916], who was  
also a Revolutionary officer or soldier That his said step father the said Samuel Hancock drew a pension  
anually of about ninety dollars from the United States for some years before his death, and that after his  
death his said mother as the widow of the said Samuel Hancock drew a pension for some two or three  
years, and departed this life on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1841. that his said mother never at any time recd a  
pension from any sources as the widow of his father the said Jacob Moon nor does he believe that she  
ever applied for the same. Therefore he applies for the pension to which by law his late mother was  
entitled at the time of her death in right of the services of her first husband Lieutenant or Capt Jacob  
Moon. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 24<sup>th</sup> day of Oct 1842.

Christopher Moon

State of Virginia } Sc.  
Bedford County }

This day [10 Jan 1843] Thomas Pullen [pension application S15847], a very aged man, and as  
appears by a certificate from the War department, dated the 5th day of february 1834, is himself a  
pensioner, came personally before the subscriber a justice of the peace, in and for said county, and made  
oath – That he was well acquainted with Capt. Jacob Moon, who was a Captain in Colonel Charles  
Lynch's regiment [of Bedford County Militia], which was called into service in the revolutionary war, to  
act against Lord cornwallis in North Carolina in the latter end of the year 1780 – said affiant was a  
private in the company of the said Captain Jacob Moon – the company rendezvoused at a place called  
Long Island, on Staunton River, in Campbell County now, but which was in Bedford County then, about  
the 1st of January 1781, & performed a three months tour of duty – and during this tour the battle of  
Guildford court-house was fought in which the said company under the command of the said Captain  
Jacob Moon was engaged, & the said captain Moon was there killed. The term of service of the said  
company having expired a few days after the battle of Guilford, said affiant returned home. the

subscriber further certifies that he has been personally and intimately acquainted with the said Thomas Pullen between 30 and 40 years & knows him to be a man of strict veracity. Given under my hand and seal the day & year first above named.

A. Otey J.P.

[The following is a copy of a document in [bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#). For a transcription from the original, see below.]

I do hereby certify that Jacob Moon was a Lieutenant in the army of the United States on Continental establishment; he entered into the service in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six and continued in service until the battle of Guilford, where he was killed by the enemy in action. Given under my hand this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October 1818.

Sam'l. Arnold [Samuel Arnold] 2<sup>d</sup> Lieut./ 5 Virginia regmt.

Witnesses/ Edw'd. Adams/ Elijah Folkes

[Charles City County VA]

State of Virginia, Bedford County to witt.

On this 13 day of June 1845, before me Wm W Reese a Justice of the peace in and for said county, personally appeared Christopher Moon, a resident of said county, aged 65 years – who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits of the provision, made by the Acts of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836, and March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1837; that he is the son and only heir of Jacob Moon dec'd. who was a Lieut. Paymaster, and Captain in the Revo'y. War, and was killed at the Battle of Guilford, while acting in the last capacity. The said Jacob Moon his Father entered the service as a Lieut, in the Va. Cont. line, in July 1776 and while in said service acted as Paymaster from the 28<sup>th</sup> of Ap'l. 1777 to the 28<sup>th</sup> of Aug. 1778 when he resigned as paymaster – which facts appear of record in the War department at Washington City. That he then returned to the recruiting service in Oct'r. 1779, in which he continued until Oct'r. 1780 – and while a Supernumeray [sic: supernumerary: with insufficient troops for a command], continental officer, he commanded a company of militia at Guilford in March 1781 at which place he was killed as aforesaid. [See endnote.] That in a few years his widow married Sam'l. Hancock. In 1808 declarant rec'd, as his heir, 2666 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres land as Lieut – and in 1838, the 1/6 in addition for services to the end of the War. Said Hancock rec'd a pension of \$91.66 cents pr an, under the act of June 7, 1832, and died the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Ap'l 1837 – and his widow Ann, rec'd. a pension from his death, under the Act of July 7, 1838, and died 22<sup>nd</sup> May 1841. After her death declarant rec'd the bal. due her under Jacob Moon her 1<sup>st</sup> husband Act July 4 1836, and March 3, 1837, on the rank of Lieut, at the rate of \$320 pr an. deducting the payments made Hancock. Declarant now claims the balance due him; it being the difference between the pay of Lieut. at \$26.66 cts pr mo, and that of Paymaster, at \$46.66 pr mo – or \$20. pr mo additional – for 16 mo or \$260 pr. an. increase of pension for the period, that declarant was allowed as the heir of Jacob Moon under the act of July 1836 and March 1837. This declarant claims further, the arrears of pension due him from the 4<sup>th</sup> of March 1831 to the 14<sup>th</sup> of Ap'l 1837 the latter being the time from which declarant drew, to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 1841 when his mother died; which arrears of pension according to a fair and liberal construction of the laws of 1836 and 37 are justly due him; he claiming full pension on the rank of paymaster for the time he was such.

[signed] Christopher Moon

To the U.S. Senate, and House of Representatives.

Your Memorialist respectfully represents, that he is the son, and only heir of Lieut Jacob Moon dec'd of the County of Bedford, and state of Virginia – who was killed at the battle of Guilford in March 1781, while in the Command of a company as Captain – tho holding only the rank of Lieutenant in the Va. Cont. line of service at the time. That according to the aff's. of Lieut Sam'l. Arnold the said Jacob Moon (his declarants Father) was Lieut. in the Va Cont line from July 1776 to the time of his death at Guilford as aforesaid in March 1781 [see endnote].

That during the time he held the rank of Lieut in the line, he acted also as paymaster, from the 28<sup>th</sup> of April 1777 to the 28<sup>th</sup> of August 1778, when he resigned as paymaster only – which facts appear

on record in the War department at Washington City; and that the records in Richmond &c shew that he the said Jacob Moon, (as declarant is informed) rec'd £2,000 to recruit with the 16<sup>th</sup> day of Oct'r. 1779; which, or its balance, he returned the 18<sup>th</sup> of Oct'r 1780 [last digit unclear]. That in consideration of which services and rank, his heirs rec'd. in 1808 2,666<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> acres of land, and in 1838 rec'd 1/6 additional, for services to the end of the war. That his Father the said Jacob Moon, was a married man at the time he rendered the most of the aforesaid service – having married Miss Ann Ammon during the progress of the Revo'y war. That after the death of said Jacob Moon as aforesaid, his widow, (declarant Mother) married Sam'l. Hancock, a Revo'y Soldier, and a U.S. pensioner at the time of his death, which was on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of Ap'l. 1837, and that his widow (declarants Mother) died on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1841 having never received the benefit of the Act of the Va. Legislature of Oct'r. 1780, nor of the Act of Congress of the 24<sup>th</sup> of August 1780 to which she was entitled, had she have known her rights – having died ignorant of them on this subject – which entitled her to 7 years half pension or pay, according to the rank her husband held in the Cont line of service, at the time of his death. Your Memorialist now therefor, as the son and only heir, of said Ann Hancock, formerly Ann Moon, the widow of Jacob Moon dec'd as aforesaid – respectfully asks that the money justly and rightfully due his dec'd Mother under the aforesaid recited acts be ordered to be paid to him by your Hon. body – having been refused payment by the Auditor of Virginia, on the ground, that it is barred by the act of limitation! as endorsed on the papers. Which claim however, had it been paid first by the State of Virginia, would eventually had to have been paid by the Gen'l. Gov't she having assumed to pay to the State of Va. all such claims &t'c.

Your Memorialist further respectfully asks of your Hon. body, that it will order to be paid to him the balance of pension due his dec'd Mother aforesaid as the widow of said Jacob Moon, under the Act of Congress of July 4, 1836 &t'c. the papers in which case, in the pension office, will shew that while the evidence of his Fathers services in the Revo'y war was sufficiently satisfactory to the Executive of Va to justify the allowing the heirs of said Jacob Moon Bounty land, for 6 years services, and 1/6 over as Lieut – the Commissioner of pensions [James L. Edwards] would only allow a pension on 16 months services of said Moon (his father) as paymaster – entirely disregarding the Aff't of Lieut Sam'l. Arnold, who swore, that he Moon was a Lieut. in the Cont line of Service, from 1776 to the time of his death in March 1781 at the Battle of Guilford. The com of pensions in this, as in all like cases, taking the ground, that the officer must shew, that he had obtained his commission to the rank he held in the Cont line; in default of which, no oral testimony would be rec'd proving his services: which rule we consider as entirely too stringent, and rigid – as it is an admitted fact, that it was quite a practice (at least with many) for the officers of the Cont line to have been in service for as much as 18 mo. and 2 years before they rec'd their commission, and some perhaps never rec'd them. Your petitioner therefore prays that the oral evidence filed as to his Fathers services may be rec'd – and that the remaining 8 mo pension per An. be allowed him – it being justly due his Mother at her death – and that a copy of the evidence be obtained from the pension office, in order to be filed with this memorial, to be laid before the Committee on pensions for their adjudication. For which he prays.

Christopher Moon by Ammon Hancock

his atty

Test/ Ro H Gray

(in his absence)

[A detailed legal argument follows.]

Memorandum to be filed in the case of Ch'r. Moon claiming an increase of pension for his Fathers services.

By the aff't of Lieut Sam'l. Arnold of Charles City Co. Va. and of the 5<sup>th</sup> Va Reg. cont. line, it appears that Jacob Moon, the Father of claimant, was a Lieut in the Va. Cont line from 1776 to the time of his death – at Guilford in March 1781. Arnold was cotemporary in service with Moon, and lived in the same county (Chas. City) that Moon married in during the War – and therefore was well acquainted with the facts of his Moon's services.

The aff't of Arnold is also supported in part by Gen'l. Joel Leftwich [S8830] of Bedford, the county where Moon resided at the time of his death – and also by the Gov'r warrant of Virginia, in Oct.

1799, sending him Moon £2,000 to recruit with, which was after he was Pay-Master from March 1777 to August 1778 – which will appear by the settlement of his depreciated pay a/c [account] as pay master. Upon this evidence Moons heirs was allowed land by the Executive of Va for services to the end of the war, (or to the time of his death) as a Cont'l officer – being satisfied, that the evidence was sufficient to justify it; and yet Mr. Edwards still persists in refusing to allow more than 18 months pension to the widow – 16 mo. as pay-master and 2 mo. at Guil'd – leaving 6 mo. pension clearly due on the rank of Lieut. in order to make the pension fully under the Act of July 4, 1836 – from the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March 1831 to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of May 1841 – the last being the day of the widows death – then, Mrs. Ann Hancock, having married Sam'l Hancock, after Moons death, about the year 1784.

The objections raised by Mr Edwards to the parole evidence of Sam'l. Arnold and Gen'l Leftwich is that their evidence is not sustained by the records, save only as paymaster from March 1777 to August 1778; and yet this very record which is admitted to be imperfect by 3 of the principle officers of the Gov't – Mr. Gordon, Hagen, and Edwards himself (See [illegible abbreviation] rep 84) – is here thrown in our face, as an evidence of the whole of Moons services! I trust the committee will not permit such inconsistency as this, on the part of Mr. Edwards to go unnoticed. But should it be disposed to regard the decision of Mr. E. as infallible, they will also give the claimant in this case the benefit of it, wherein, he admits, the records and rolls of the Revolutionary war, to be so defective, that they can not be depended on. Then what is the character of the parole evidence in this case, and what the record? [A summary of the evidence and precedents follows.]

Bedford County to wit State of Virginia

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1845 before me William Leftwich Jr a Justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Maj'r Gen'l. Joel Leftwich a resident of said county aged about 85 years being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath say, he was personally acquainted with Jacob Moon, but not in the regular service; but have no doubt he was there in regular army. That he himself was in the regular army in the year 1777 at at the North, and that he understood that Jacob Moon belong to the regular army to the North at the same time, as a Lieutenant in the Virginia continental line of service; that deponent was at the battle of Guilford in March 1781, he was personally acquainted with Moon at the time, and is well satisfied, he was killed at said place, as commander of a Militia Company, he cant say how long he served as militia officer, nor can he say he resigned his commission as a Continental officer or not.

Joel Leftwich

[The following two items are from copies certified on 30 Dec 1845.]

Williamsburg in Va. October 16th 1779

Dr. Jacob Moon. Gover's. Warrant to recruit £2000.0.0

From Green Journal page 216

Richmond Virginia October 18<sup>th</sup> 1780

Jacob Moon. Rec'd. of him Cash formerly advanced £2000.0.0

From Journal A page 494.

#### NOTES:

In addition to Pullen's statement, several pension applications state that Jacob Moon was serving as a Captain in the Bedford County Militia when mortally wounded at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. According to J. T. McAllister's *Virginia Militia in the Revolutionary War*, Jacob Moon, Jr. was recommended for a commission as Ensign in the Bedford County Militia on 29 June 1779. A letter in the file from the Bedford County Clerk to the Pension Commissioner confirms this recommendation. Jacob Moon was also probably the Jacob "Moore" in McAllister's book who was sworn as a Second Lieutenant on 28 Aug 1780. Samuel Arnold's and Joel Leftwich's statements that Jacob Moon was an officer in the Continental Line during the same period is evidently mistaken.

The file includes a copy of the last will and testament of Jacob Moon dated 2 March 1781 and probated 28 May 1781 with the following provisions: to son Christopher the land on which he lived; to his unborn child 200 acres in Albemarle County “joining the old furnace;” to his wife a riding chair and one chair horse; and the remainder of his estate to his wife and two children equally. His wife and two brothers, William and Archalaus, were named as executors.

Many of the less-informative documents in the 168-page file are not transcribed here.