

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Slover (Selover) ¹ W6205

Margaret Slover f46NJ

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/25/09: rev'd 9/10/17

[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' 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.]

State of New Jersey Middlesex County SS:

On this seventeenth day of September A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open court before Robert McChesney, Thomas Hanes, Josiah Ford, Nicholas Booram [?] & others the Judges of the Inferior Court of Common Pleas the County of Middlesex now sitting John Slover of Court Bridge in said County of Middlesex & State of New Jersey aforesaid in the aged sixty-seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, that he was born on the 11th day of September in the year 1765 near his present residence & has always lived in the immediate neighborhood thereof & has a record of his age in an old Dutch family Bible. That he entered the service of the United States as a sailor on board of the Ship "*South Carolina*" carrying twenty-eight forty-two pound guns between decks & twelve 18-pound guns on the Spur [?] deck, Capt. Joiner [John Joyner], Lieutenants White [Thomas White], Fitzgerald [Thomas Fitzgerald] & another whose name is now forgotten. On the 17th day of September before the peace in the 1782 at South River in New Jersey for 6 months & longer if required -- went from South River to Philadelphia immediately thereafter & went on board the Ship at Gloucester Point a few miles below Philadelphia where the ship lay. The lower [?]² deck guns were not on board but were put on board after the Ship got below [two indecipherable words, could be "said point" or "mid fort"]³. That he sailed from the coast on the 19th day of December following & was on the next day taken by the British Ships *Diomed* of 50 guns, *Eagle* & *Ostrich*⁴ of about 40 guns Each. Part of the crew among whom was Deponent were put on board of the *Diomed* & taken to New York, where they were put in a prison ship. Deponent remained in the prison ship until he became sick & was then put on board of a hospital Ship where he remained until the last of April 1783 when he was discharged & returned home. Thomas Bisset

¹ BLWt10297-160-55

² 

³ 

⁴ Another crew member of the *South Carolina* said she was taken by the *Diomed*, *Astrea* and *Quebec*. [Joshua Mersereau S7224](#)

went from the same neighborhood with deponent & served in the "South Carolina" & is deceased. The Deponent Enlisted in the service & was to have three pounds ten shillings per month -- received at the time he entered six Dollars bounty from the recruiting officer named Sharo or Sharer [??].⁵ Don't now recollect any of the officers in the line of the Army of the revolution -- never received any written Discharge and has no documentary evidence of his Services -- Obadiah Herbert, Jacob Van Wribble, John Outcalt of persons to whom deponent is known & to whom he refers for his character for truth and veracity & their belief of his services in the revolution. James Slover knows this part of applicant being a prisoner as aforesaid. The Applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State.
Subscribed in open Court

S/ John Slover, X his mark

S/ Thos. Hance [could be France], Judge

Middlesex County SS: James Slover being duly sworn according to law on his oath saith that John Slover the above Petitioner is the brother of this deponent, was a Prisoner on board of a prison ship in New York as is above stated, that this deponent saw him there & was present when the said John Slover was released. The said James [sic, John?] had been very sick & was then quiet weak but recovering gradually.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court the day & year first above written

S/ Thos. Hance, Judge

S/ James Slover, X his mark

Middlesex County SS: Daniel Slover being duly sworn according to law on his oath saith that the above named Petitioner enlisted as in said declaration is set forth -- & that he left the neighborhood to go to the Ship -- Witness frequently heard of his being a prisoner & recollects when he returned from New York, but did not see him until his return.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court the day & year first above written

S/ Thos. Hance, Judge

S/ Daniel Slover, X his mark

[Asher Bissett and John Outcalt gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9: On January 9, 1847 in Middlesex County, NJ, Margaret Slover, 77, filed for a widow's pension stating that she is the widow of John Slover; that she married him in July 1785; that he died December 5, 1838. She signed her application with her mark.]

[Facts in file: Margaret Slover was the sister of Samuel Scobie; her age is stated variously in different documents in the file; John and Margaret had the following children:

Hulda born October 4, 1786

Isaac born March 12, 178_ [last digit torn off]

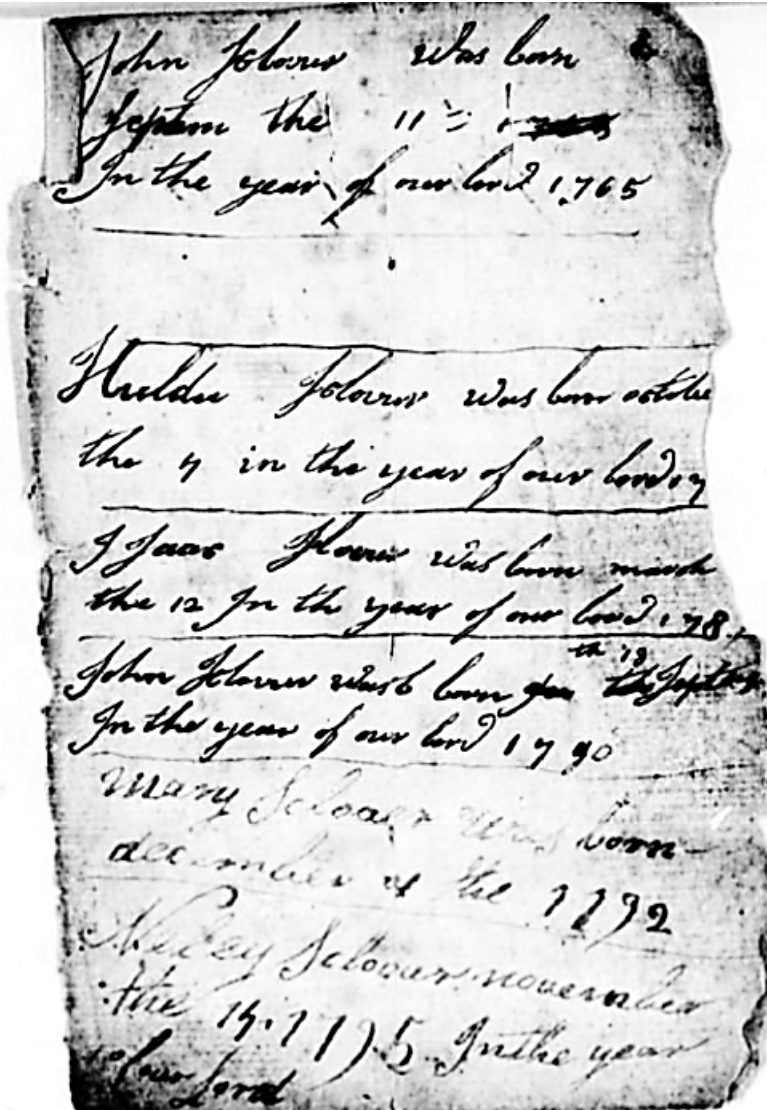
John born September 18, 1790

Mary born December __, 1792 [birth day is illegible]

Neley born November 14, 1795

Sharo or Sharer

The names of all of the child is given in the family register as "Selover"
[p 11]



A "Hulda Culver, 61, gave testimony in 1847 in support of Margaret's claim, but she doesn't state she is her daughter.]

[p 13: On January 9, 1847 in Middlesex County New Jersey, Mary Bissett, age 76, gave testimony that she was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife; that she was present at their marriage in the house of Jacob Stults (a relative of the family) by the Reverend Mr. Smith⁶ of Cranberry New Jersey; that their 1st child was born October 4, 1786. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 17: On April 13, 1855 in Middlesex County New Jersey, the widow, aged 85, applied for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She signed this document

⁶ By letter found on p 33 of the file, the Rev. Mr. Smith was Thomas Smith (died December 1789), pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranbury, NJ.

with her mark.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private in the New Jersey militia.]