

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Powers¹ W8522

Gitty

f41VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/15/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of New Jersey Middlesex County

It be it known that on this 2nd day of April 1818 before me Thomas Hance Esquire one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the County of Middlesex in the State aforesaid came John Powers the applicant above named to me well-known and being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith, that he enlisted in the spring of the year 1777 at Portsmouth in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Hoffler in the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Gibson being the first Virginia State Regiment on the Continental Establishment – that he continued to serve in said Regiment against the common enemy and fought in the forlorn Hope at Stony Point [July 16, 1779] and at Curthbert Sims² of the County of Somerset was a soldier in the same Regiment. – And this deponent further saith that he enlisted for the Term of 3 years and served from the spring of 1777 aforesaid until the 24th day of December in the year 1779 when the Regiment being at Philadelphia on their way to Virginia to be discharged this deponent applied to and received his discharge at Philadelphia from Lieutenant Colonel Allison or Ellison of said Regiment. – And this deponent further saith that the discharge so by him received was deposited at Richmond in Virginia at the time he received a Warrant for land granted by that State. – And this deponent further saith that since his discharge as aforesaid he has continued a resident citizen of the State of New Jersey and of the United States and that by reason of his reduced circumstances in life he is now in need of assistance from his country for support – and further saith not.

Sworn & subscribed this 2nd April 1888 before me

S/ Thos. Hance

S/ John Powers



Middlesex County SS: Curthbert Sims of the County of Somerset being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with John Powers the applicant – that the said John Powers was a soldier for several years together with this deponent in the first Virginia State Regiment on the Continental establishment – that they were both in the advance party at the attack on Stony Point and were afterwards on the 24th day of December 1779 regularly discharged at Philadelphia.

S/ Curthbert Sims, X his mark

¹ BLWt17578-160-55

² [Curthbert Sims \(Syms\) S33674](#)

State of New Jersey Somerset County: SS

On this 5th day of January 1831 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the said County of Somerset John Powers resident in the County of Middlesex in said State aged seventy-two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the first May 1820. That the said John Powers enlisted for the term of three years sometime in the spring of the year 1777 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Colonel George Gibson in the line of the First State Regiment of Virginia on the Continental establishment – that he continued to serve in the said Corps until the latter part of the year 1779 when he was discharged from the service in Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania – that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present – that his name has been placed on the pension list that the number of his pension Certificate is ___ And that he never before as he believes exhibited a schedule of his property because as he was informed & verily believed it was not required by law when he first made application for a pension –

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, 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 the occupation of this declarant is that of a Gaoler but that in consequence of old age and infirmity he is almost disabled from pursuing it further – that his family consist of himself and wife only the latter being 52 years of age or thereabouts and unable to contribute much towards his support – and that he is in such indigent circumstances as to be unable to support himself without the assistance of his country except by private or public charity. –

Subscribed & sworn in open Court the day & year first above written.

S/ Wm B. Gaston

S/ John Powers

*A true list of all the property in possession of
or owned by John Powers the above declarant - viz*

<i>2 beds & Bedding</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>33.32</i>
<i>1 Box Chair</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>3.00</i>
<i>1 Bureau</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>7.00</i>
<i>1 Wooden Clock</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>_____</i>	<i>20.00</i>

3 Tables	4.50
4 Pots & Kettles	8.00
2 Pair of Wood Shoes	3.00
1 Pair Carpet	1.50
1 Lot of Broken Ware	5.00
1 Looking Glass	2.00
1/2 Doz Metal Spoons	.82 1/2
1 Trunk	1.00
1 Meal chest	1.00
2 Tin & 2 Wooden pails	.75
1/2 Doz knives & forks	30.00
2 Cans	.75
1 pr Candlesticks	
	<u>\$ 119.94 1/2</u>

John Powers

[f p. 36]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 28th day of April 1783 in the name of John Powers as Sol. Infy and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £55.2.6, delivered to Jno. Hudson but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 12th day of February 1856.

S/ G. W. Chitter

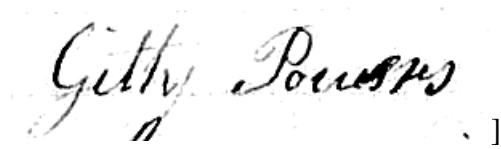
Auditor Pub. Accts.

[No Seal of Office]

[f p. 14: On January 7, 1854 in Middlesex County New Jersey, Gitty Powers, 74, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of John Powers, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him in New Brunswick; that they were married by the Reverend Mr. Huntington, a Presbyterian minister in the year 1818 or 1819 she cannot recall which; that Colonel Joseph Warren Scott a highly respectable gentleman was present at their marriage; that her husband died March 3, 1831 and she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 21: On April 13, 1855 in Middlesex County New Jersey, the widow filed for her bounty land

entitlement as the widow of a revolutionary war soldier. She signed this application as follows

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gitty Powers". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The first name "Gitty" is written in a larger, more prominent hand, and "Powers" follows in a similar but slightly smaller hand. The signature is enclosed in a faint, rectangular border.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 2, 1818, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line. He was dropped from the pension roll under the 1820 act and his widow was pensioned in her own right at the rate of \$96 per annum commencing February 3, 1853.]

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

John Powers a Soldier of the first Virginia State Regiment having served the Term of 3 years are hereby Discharged the Service. Given under my hand Philadelphia this 24th day of December 1779.

S/ Wm Hoffler, Capt.

J. Allison, Lt. Col. Comdt