

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Powell¹ W8525

Ann Powell

f106VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/14/12 supp'd 5/18/15

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 14]

State of Kentucky Mercer County SS

On this 15th day of October personally appeared before me Michael G. Youce, a justice of the peace for the County & State aforesaid, Mrs. Ann Powell (being from age, sickness & infirmity unable to attend the County or Circuit Courts) a resident in the County and State aforesaid, aged seventy-four, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4, 1836. That she is the widow of Robert Powell who was a Major in the State line of Virginia, according to the best of her recollection. She further declares that she was married to the said Robert Powell to the best of her belief in the year 1779; that her husband the aforesaid Robert Powell died in the year 1815 or 16, & that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will only appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. On the day & year above written before me.

S/ M. G. Youce, JPMC

S/ Ann Powell



[Attested October 22, 1836]

[p 17]

Evidence to be used in the case of Mrs. Ann Powell deceased for a claim for a pension under the late act of Congress conferring pensions on the widows of officers and soldiers of the Revolutionary War.

I, Susan W Jacobs of the County of Mercer and State of Kentucky do this day April 2nd 1838 make oath to the following facts in the [indcipherable word] of the County court of the County aforesaid:

to wit, that the living children of my late mother Mrs. Ann Powell are John W Powell, Robert Powell, Margaret P Bledsoe, Mary B Jones, William M Powell & myself; that seven children of my late mother have died, viz.: Francis Kerr who died in 1833 leaving no children; Ann T. Ricketts who died in 1821 or thereabout leaving no children; Amelia H Powell a [indcipherable word] who died upwards of twenty years since, & four others, who died in

¹ VA Half Pay

infancy previous to my own birth, as I was informed by my mother. I further make oath that the record of the births contained in the family Bible has been destroyed for a number of years & is no longer in existence; & that there is no evidence in existence of the time of my mother's marriage or of the birth of my brother John W Powell on record to my knowledge & belief. I further make oath that my mother Ann Powell departed this life on the 5th of January 1837.

S/ Susan W Jacobs



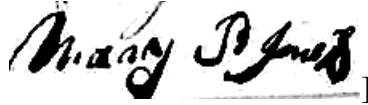
[p 5: Power of attorney dated November 29, 1833 executed in Garrard County Kentucky by Margaret P Bledsoe, widow , formerly Margaret P Powell, one of the heirs of Major Robert Powell.



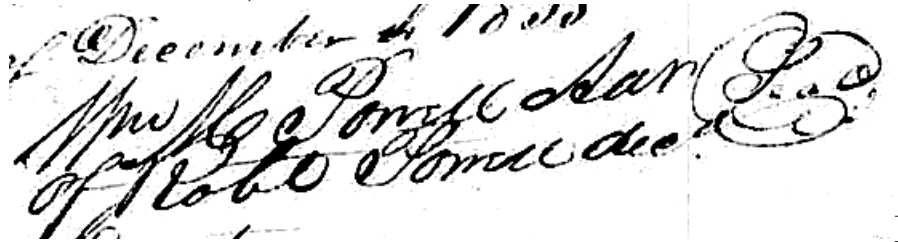
[p 6: Power of attorney dated October the 2, 1833 executed in Nelson County Kentucky by John W Powell one of the sons and heirs of Robert Powell an officer of the revolutionary Army.



[p 9: Power of attorney executed September 23, 1833 in Casey County Kentucky by Mary P Jones, wife of William Jones deceased of Casey County and one of the daughters and heirs at law of Major Robert Powell a revolutionary war officer.



[p 12: Power of attorney dated December 20, 1833 and executed in Nelson County Kentucky by William M Powell, administrator of the estate of Robert Powell deceased.



[p 20]

Council Chamber June 20th 1783

I do Certify that Robert Powell Esquire is entitled to the proportion of Land allowed a Captain of the Virginia Continental Line for 3 years service –

S/ Benjamin Harrison

S/ Thomas Meriwether

a warrant for 4000 acres issued to Robert Powell Esquire June [day cut off and illegible] 1783

[certified as a copy from the records of the land office December 14, 1833]

[p 22]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, 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, that a Certificate issued on the 28th day of June 1783, in the name of Robert Powell, as a a Captain of Infantry for £293.6.2, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Mr. Henderson and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

To wit – as Captain from one January 77 to 25 July 1779

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
14th day of December 1833.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[p 28]

I do certify that Captain Robert Powell entered into the service of this State on Continental Establishment in January 1776 and continued therein until June 79 when he resigned to accept a majority in the State service.

S/ Will. Heth, Col.

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, 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, that a Certificate issued on the 15th day of December 1783, in the name of Robert Powell, as a Major of Infantry for £100.14.0, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colonel Henderson and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
3rd day of November 1836.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[Facts in file: the veteran married in 1779 in Fairfax County Virginia Ann Wert who was born July 29, 1762 at West Grove near Alexandria Virginia. The veteran and his wife had the following children:

1. John W, born October 9, 1780, resident of Warren County Kentucky as early as 1833, and in 1860 his son, Hob Powell, was living in Yazoo City, Mississippi; John W Powell was resident of Bowling Green in 1836
2. Mary B Jones who was living in Adair County, Kentucky, in 1838 and was then the widow of William Jones
3. Robert who was living in Hickman County, Kentucky in 1838
4. Margaret P Bledsoe who was living in Clay County, Kentucky, in 1838 and was then a widow.
5. Susan W Jacobs who married John A. Jacobs and was living in Mercer County Kentucky in 1838
6. Francis who married John R Kerr and she died in 1833 leaving no children
7. Ann T. who married Caleb H Ricketts and she died in 1821 leaving no children
8. Amelia H Powell who died while a mile or
9. William M Powell who lived in Bardstown Kentucky in 1833 and was living in Nelson County Kentucky in 1838]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$540 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a Captain & Major in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Fairfax County Legislative Petitions

To the Honourable the Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Delegates. –
The Petition of Robert Powell of the County of Fairfax
Humbly Sheweth –

That your Petitioner on the 26th day of December in the year 1776 was appointed a Captain in the 3rd Virginia Regiment of Infantry on Continental Establishment, and received a commission accordingly; which being lost by the Casualties of War, the same was received on the 20th day of March 1779, entitling your petitioner to Rank as a Captain from the date of his first Appointment; as will appear by the said Commission signed by the Honorable John Jay Esquire President of Congress; and from the Number of the said Commission (Viz. No. 1) it will also appear that your petitioner was at the time the eldest Captain in the said Regiment. –

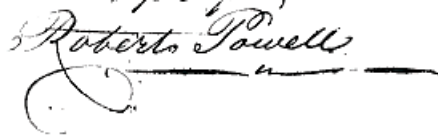
That in the month of July 1779, your petitioner being at the Town of Petersburg, on his March to the Southward, with a detachment of the said 3rd Virginia Regiment, then commanded by Colonel William Heth, was appointed a Major in one of the two Regiments of Infantry just ordered to be Raised, by Act of Assembly, for the Defense of the Western Frontiers, and Accordingly received his Commission as a Major in one of the said Western Regiments, Signed by the Governor of Virginia, bearing Date of the 8th day of November 1779, That the Western Regiments to which your petitioner was appointed Major was commanded by Colonel Joseph Crockett [Joseph Crockett] and about the same time, Captain George Walls (then an old Captain in another Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment) was appointed Major to the other new Western Regiment commanded by Colonel __ Knox.

That your petitioner was induced to except of this Appointment as Major of one of the said Western State regiments, instead of his Commission of a Captain in the Continental Line, not from any Intention or Inclination to quit the Army in which it was always his earnest desire to serve through the war, but because, from his knowledge of the Western Country, he was of opinion he could render his Country more essential service in that than in any other Department; and from the words of the Act of Assembly for raising the said to Western Regiments, he had the fullest confidence of being entitled to the same Emoluments and Advantages, in every Respect, as if he had continued an officer in the Continental Line. –

That after your petitioner had served as a Major in the said Western Regiment about eight months, the Government finding that men could not be raised to fill both Regiments, thought proper to Consolidate the said to Western Regiments into one Regiment, in which the field officers of either Regiment were continued according to their form of seniority of Rank in the Continental Lines, by which Regulation Colonel Crockett was Continued as Colonel, and Major Walls (having been an elder Captain in the Continental Line then your petitioner) was Continued as Major of the Regiment so consolidated and formed out of the two Regiments; and your petitioner was discharged as supernumerary officer without any fault or Design of his own; whereby he has lost his rank in the Continental Army (where he had well-founded hopes of promotion) and is Consequently Subject to the great Loss & Injury, without the Interposition of this Honourable House, having only received (since he left the Continental Service) pay as Major for the four months he Served in one of the before mentioned Western State Regiments, before

they were consolidated, and only the Allowance in Land due to a Captain in the Continental Line, whereas, under the Circumstances, which your petitioner has faithfully recited, he humbly conceives himself Justly entitled to the full Allowance your Petitioner has never yet been able to obtain; but relying upon the Justice of this Honourable House, he humbly presumes to represent his Case and to pray such redress therein as to them shall seem Just and reasonable. –
And your petitioner will Ever pray

S/ Robert Powell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Powell". The signature is written in dark ink and features a long, sweeping horizontal flourish at the end.

[Reverse]

Resolved that the petition is reasonable, and that the Petitioner Major Robert Powell ought to be allowed the Commutation for half pay as a Captain in the Virginia Line on Continental establishment; and that he ought also take – [indecipherable word]² the Quantity of Land due to him as a Major in the Virginia Line on the State Establishment; deducting from it the Quantity of Land, which have already been allowed him as a Captain on Continental establishment.

[Reverse]

Robert Powell's petition
November 1st, 1787
Referred to Propositions
Rejected
(reported)

[Note: How to resolve the apparent contradictory rulings on this petition is not clear from the documents in this file.]

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

[There are 3 files indexed under the name of "Robert Powell" or "Robert Powell Senior" among the bounty land records that may be applicable to the above veteran.]

Petition for additional land

The Heirs of Robert Powell Major – State line

This Officer was allowed land, as Captain in the Continental line, for a service of Seven years. He was Major, as the Chesterfield arrangement, or that made at Cumberland old Court House, will show. He was a member of the Society of Cincinnati: and he appears in the list of members as Major Ro: Powell.

His heirs appear to be entitled to the difference between a Captain's & Major's Bounty,

² *allowed* ['allowed' or 'attained'?—neither seems to fit]

for a service of seven years.

Respectfully submitted
S/ John H Smith, Commissioner &c
March 20th, 1834

To his Excellency
Governor Floyd

Richmond Virginia November 19th, 1818

I do hereby Certify that Captain Robert Powell is a Member of the Society of Cincinnati of the State of Virginia: That he entered the Army at a very early period, and it is presumed, from his being a Member of this Society that he continued in the service until the end of the War.

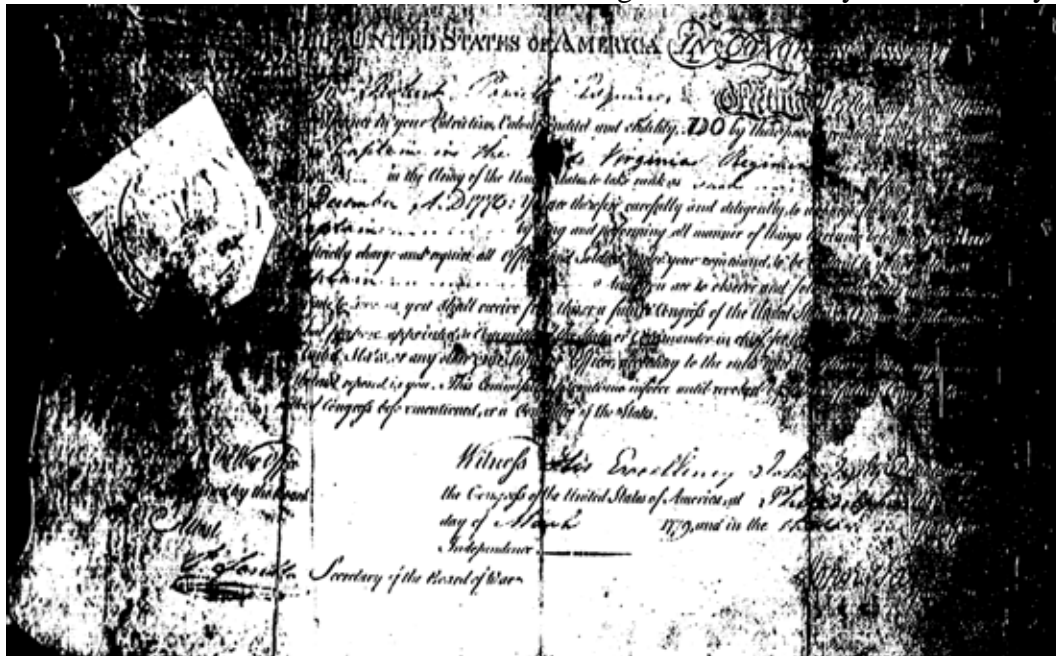
Given under my hand as Secretary of the Society of Cincinnati the date above

S/ Ro. Quarles [Robert Quarles]
Secretary So. Cin.

I do certify that I was well acquainted with Captain Robert Powell in the Revolutionary Army and that he entered the said Army at a very early period of that War, and I am perfectly satisfied in my own mind, that he served to the end thereof, not having heard of his resignation or any occurrence that could induce a belief to the contrary.

Richmond
November 19th, 1818

S/ J. Pryor
An Officer of the 1st
Regiment of Artillery Revolutionary Army



[Note: The above appears to be a captain's commission issued in December 1776 by John Jay President of the Continental Congress. Presumably it is a copy of the commission granted to this veteran.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] a 18-page file peace bookings & a 12-page containing petitions by the heirs of Major Robert Powell. Most of the images posted are

either illegible or were posted in split image version rendering them difficult to transcribe. Based on a review of what portions of the documents I could make out, it does not appear that any of the petitions add material information to that already posted in the documents transcribed above.]