

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Sidebottom (Sydebothom) W8775                      Jane Sydebothom                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 22 May 2021.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky

Clarke [sic: Clark] County    Sct

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1819 before me the subscriber one of the Circuit Judges for the State of Kentucky, personally appeared John Sidebottom (alias) Sidebotham aged about sixty nine years – who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late law 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;” That he is a citizen of the State of Kentucky and resident in the County of Clarke, and that he was enlisted for one [year?] in Prince William County State of Virginia on or about the [blank] day of September he thinks in the year 1775 (he knows that it was the same year the battle of Bunkers hill was fought [17 Jun 1775]) by one Cuthbert Harrison [VAS1415] and served in the Company commanded by said Capt Cuthbert Harrison of what Regiment he does not recollect nor does he recollect what description of service it was. That before the expiration of the year he was discharged and that immediately upon his discharge or within four days thereafter he enlisted for two years at Hampton in the State of Virginia with one Capt Charles West on or about the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year 1776 as well as he recollects, and served in the company commanded by said Capt Charles West until he was promoted to the rank of Maj’r [1 Feb 1777] when he thinks the company was commanded by Capt. Brisco [probably Reuben Briscoe BLWt81-300], of the then regiment Virginia line on Continental establishment commanded when he joined the Reg’t by Colo Weden [sic: George Weedon BLWt2418-850], and afterwards by Colo Thos Marshall [Thomas Marshall VAS494]. that he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States in the Continental army against the common enemy until about the 8<sup>th</sup> day of February 1778 when he was honourably discharged from service at the Valley Forge in the State of Pennsylvania, that he was in service in virtue of his last enlistment two years, and was in the battles of New York island [Long Island, 27 Aug 1776], White plains [28 Oct 1776], Brandy Wine [Brandywine PA, 11 Sep 1777] & German Town [Germantown PA, 4 Oct 1777], That he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for his support, that his discharge was on the day of [blank] together with his pocket book and some other papers stolen from him and he has not heard of it since and that he has no other evidence of his service and discharge than what is here transmitted

On this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 1819 Charles Leanox [Charles Lenox S25629] of Clarke county and state afsd made oath before me the subscriber one of the circuit Judges for the state of Kentucky That he was well acquainted with the within named John Sidebottom and knows that he was a soldier in the war of the revolution for the time he has stated in his declaration. They were both under one capt in the menutte [sic: Minute Man] service first, as said Sidebottom has stated, that they were discharged from that service, and both enlisted for two years at Hot Hampton in the state of Virginia on the same day, he thinks in the year 1776, the said Sidebottom with Capt Charles West and this affiant with Capt Leach [sic: Andrew Leitch BLWt1251-400] and both of the 3 regt Virginia line on continental establishment that he knows the said Sidebottom served out his time of enlistment that during the whole time he was well and intimately acquainted with him.

Charles Lander [S31198] of Bourbon County and state afs’d aged about sixty five years being first sworn on the day and year afs’d states that he was himself two years a soldier in the Army of the revolution That during the whole of the said two years he was well acquainted with the afs’d John Sidebottom. That the said Sidebottom enlisted a few days before this affiant for when he enlisted in the same company to wit the company of Capt Charles west the said Sidebottom was then a soldier. That they said Sidebottom

served out his term of service and was discharged about the first of February 1778 at the Valley forge in the State of Pennsylvania that the said Sidebottom and this affiant were discharged on the same day. That this affiant and the said Sidebottom was during much the greater part of the said two years messmates and slept together in the same tent. That they were together in the several battles enumerated by the said Sidebottom and that part of the time the said sidebottom acted as a Corporal. That he had an opportunity of Witnessing the conduct of the said Sidebottom during the two years afs'd and in justice to hm he has the pleasure of saying that in his opinion a braver soldier was not in the army than the said Sidebottom.

State of Kentucky } Sct  
 Clarke Circuit }

On this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of July 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for the said Circuit John Sidebottom aged 70 years the 11<sup>th</sup> day of December next, resident in the County of Clarke and State of Kentucky who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows in Capt Charles Wests company third regiment Virginia line, that he served for two years on continental establishment that he made his original declaration on or about the 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1819 (the precise day he cannot be positive of as he has not a copy of the declaration) that in virtue of said declaration, he was inscribed on the pension list roll of the Kentucky agency the eighth day of July 1819, that his certificate is numbered 12.287. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereof so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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.

Schedule

about one hundred and eight acres of poor hilly land worth four dollars per acre .	\$432.00
Two Horses . . . . .	\$60.00
Ten head of Cattle . . . . .	50.00
Stock of Hogs. . . . .	30.00
Sheep . . . . .	10.00
there are debts due to me to about the amount of . . . . .	<u>10.00</u>
. . . . .	592.00

I owe the following debts

To Isaac Barnett. . . . .	\$10.00
To John Bruner . . . . .	7.00
To William Poston about . . . . .	18.00
To Samuel Hairson. . . . .	8.00
To the Bank of Kentucky . . . . .	100.00
To J G Bush. . . . .	<u>65.00</u>
The whole amounting to	208.00

This sum deducted from the value of my property in the Schedule leaves the property worth \$384. to be added to this sum is the value of my farming utensils omitted in the Schedule of the value of \$10.

John Sidebottom

I am by profession a farmer, from age and bad health I am incapable of supporting myself by labour and this year have hired a new man to work my land for me. I have a wife aged about forty three years and the following children who reside with me and are supported by me, to wit, twelve in number Sally Sidebottom aged about twenty years she is sickly and incapable of supporting herself by her labour, Jane Sidebottom aged about 18 years is healthy and able to labour, Rebecca Sidebottom aged about 15 years and 6 months a weak constitution and not able to do much labour, Franky Sidebottom aged about 14 years

and six months healthy and able to labour, Ruth Sidebottom aged about 12 years healthy and able to do as much labour as ordinary girls of her age Milly Sidebottom aged about 10 years healthy but too young to labour to any profit, Mourning Sidebottom aged about 8 years and four months sickly and unable to labour, Cynthia Sidebottom aged 7 years 3 months too young to labour Polly Sidebottom aged 6 years next August too young to labour, John Sidebottom aged 4 years and 2 months too young to labour, Peter Sidebottom aged 3 years too young to labour, James C Sidebottom aged 1 year next August too young to labour

Nancy Sullivan is a daughter of mine she married a lazy prodigal man who abandoned here in extreme poverty about six months since, she is now liveing with me with two small children and are dependent upon me entirely for support. I therefore without hesitation swear that I stand in need of the assistance of my country for support

John Sidebottom

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Sidebotham, John.]

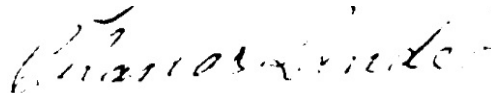
Kentucky Floyd County Sct [12 Dec 1821]

John Sidebotham appeared before me, a justice of the peace for said County, and made oath that he enlisted as a Sergeant, in the year 1776 for three years in Captain Charles West's Company of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Virginia Regt on Continental line, commanded by Col. Marshall & that he continued in said service until his term of enlistment had expired, at which time, he was honorably discharged, and that through the course of time, he has lost said discharge, and that he quit the army as a sergeant, and has never received his Land warrant

He is now seventy one years old, and has seventeen living children, and the youngest is only 8 months old; most of his family are females, and he is very poor & scarcely able to maintain them – and he therefore hopes, that if there should be any doubt as to the legality of his claim, that the Governor & council will lean to the side of charity and for the same, he will ever pray. John hisXmark Sidebotham

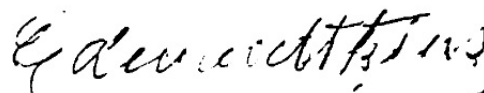
[several illegible words] [8 Jan 1822]

Charles Lander appeared before me a Justice of the peace for said County and made Oath that he was in the same Company and Regiment with John Sidebothom (towit) Capt. Wests Company third Virginia Regiment on the Continental line Commanded by Col. Weden and Col. Marshal and that said John Sidebothom was a Sergeant and enlisted for Three years and served that period and was honorably discharged; and served faithfully.



Kentucky Fayette County Sct [7 Feb 1822]

Edward Atkins [VAS2312] appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for said County and made Oath that he served in the same Company and Reg't with the above named John Sidebothom in the Revolution in the [undeciphered], and that said Sidebothom enlisted as a sergeant for Three years and served his time Out and was discharged a Sergeant honorably from the Virginia Continental army.



1823 March [illegible] Allowed for 3 years service as a private in Cont Line  
Claimed as a Sergeant.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Sidebottom, John.]

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 August 1783, in the name of John Sidebottom as a Soldier of Infantry for £15.12.0, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Dan'l Thompson and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 14th day of March 1842.  
Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.

The Evidence of Mrs. Catharine Davis Taken before me the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for the County of Prince Wm. & State of Virginia this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August 1841 – as follows –

question – did you know any thing of Joseph [Joseph Sidebottom W8727] and John Sidebottoms Respecting the Revolution War

answer as to Joseph Sidebottoms – he enlisted and went to the War whether he served during the war or not I do not know – as to John Sidebottoms he enlisted & went to the war, and did not return until the war was over; and I heard him say he served during the war in the Continental line

question 2<sup>nd</sup>

What do you know Respecting the heirs of John & Joseph Sidebottoms  
answer. I know Nancy Sidebottoms a very old woman She is the sister to Both John & Joseph Sidebottoms and the only living heir to Either of them that I know anything of or that is living at this time  
Given under my hand this 27<sup>th</sup> August 1841. Catharine Xmark Davis

#### NOTES:

John Sidebottom appears on muster and payrolls as follows:

In the company commanded by Capt. Charles West, April and June 1777: as Corporal

In the company commanded by Capt. Reuben Briscoe, no date: as Private and Corporal

On a list of discharged soldiers whose accounts were settled in February 1779, listed as a private.

On 27 May 1844 Sam Hanson stated that he had heard John Sidebottom say “that he was one of two men who bore from the field of battle during the Revolutionary War the late President of the United States James Monroe after he was wounded” at the Battle of Trenton NJ, 26 Dec 1776.

John Sidebottom is recorded as a “Free White Male” in the 1820 federal census, but according to the pension application of Charles Lander (S31198), John Sidebottom and his brother Joseph were “Two Coloured men.” In addition, the following citation appears in Grundset, E. G. (Ed) *Forgotten Patriots*. Washington, DC: National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 2008, p. 503. “... and I [George Harrison Sanford King] have a long account (and most interesting) of one Sidebottom of this area helping to carry wounded James Monroe, then a colonel [sic: Lieutenant], from the field of battle. Uncle JM never forgot Sidebottom (sic), a mulatto.”

On 24 May 1844 Jane Sydebothom, 67, applied for a pension stating that her late husband, John Sydebothom was stricken from the pension roll because of too much property, and that he died on 28 Apr 1823 from “a wound on his head received by the hand of his nephew Joseph Sydebothom from which wound he lingered about sixteen months and by the effects of the said wound he was thrown into fits which ultimately produced his death.” She stated that she was married to him on 28 May 1792 by a Baptist preacher named Robert Elkin in the presence of her sisters, Milly White, wife of Henry White, and Nancy Barnett of Boone County MO in the part of Fayette County that became part of Clark County KY. Supporting statements were made by her sister, Milly White, 58, and by her daughter, Frankey Landrum, 37. As evidence of the marriage Jane Sydebothom submitted pages from the family register of a Bible formerly owned by her husband, who did not record the information himself, as he “was not a Scholar [and] could not more than write his name.” The Bible was at that time owned by her son Peter Sydebothom in Morgan County MO. The pages submitted are transcribed as follows:

#### MARRIAGES

John Sydebothom & Jenny his wife was joined in holy matrimony May the 28<sup>th</sup> 1792

James Sullivan & Nancy his wife was joined in holy matrimony on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of July 1811

John Sullivan was born June 2 1813

#### BIRTHS

Joseph Sydebothom was born April ye 16<sup>th</sup> 1793

Nancy W Sydebothom was born March ye 13<sup>th</sup> 1795

Isaac Sydebothom was born November ye 7<sup>th</sup> 1796

Elizabeth Sydebothom was born September ye 14<sup>th</sup> 1798

Sally Sydebothom was born August ye 12<sup>th</sup> 1800

Jeany Sydebothom was born August ye 22<sup>nd</sup> 1802

Rebecca Sydebothom was born October ye 10<sup>th</sup> 1804

Franky Sydebothom was born October 10<sup>th</sup> 1806

Ruth was born June the 10<sup>th</sup> 1808

Milly Sydebothom was born April ye 13<sup>th</sup> 1810

Mourning Sydebothom was born February ye 5<sup>th</sup> 1812

Sinthy Sydebothom was born April 18 18[last two digits illegible, but typed summary says 1813]

[one entry illegible, but typed summary says Polly Sydebothom, born 9 Aug 1814]

John Sydebothom was born April 7 [possibly 1] 1816