

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Fergusson (Ferguson) W8808
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Catharine Fergusson MD

State of Kentucky
Hardin Circuit Set

On the 30th day of June 1841 Personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Armistead H Churchill Judge of the Circuit Court for Hardin County Catharine Fergusson a resident of Hardin County and State aforesaid aged Eighty six years 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 4th 1836 That she is the widow of John Fergusson who volunteered in the service of his Country in Hagerstown in the State of Maryland in Seventeen Hundred and seventy six in a Company of Riflemen Commanded by Captain Crissup [Cresap] who was afterwards promoted to the rank of Col. He the said Fergusson served in said Company one year and received his discharge which discharge was lost during the lifetime of said Fergusson what Regiment the said Captains Company belonged to the declarant does not now recollect but thinks the regiment was under the command of General Sullivan [sic: John Sullivan] She further declares that she was married to the aforesaid John Fergusson in the fall of the year Seventeen Hundred and Seventy seven in the County of Frederick in the State of Maryland and the Spring of the year Seventeen Hundred and seventy nine her deceased husband the aforesaid John Fergusson enlisted in the County of Frederic in the State of Maryland for the term of Three years and marched in a Company Commanded by Capt Montjoy Bailey [sic: Mountjoy Bayly, pension application S12094] of the Second Maryland Regiment and served until the battle of not recollected when he was wounded and then he received a furlough until he recovered the use of his arm, but that he did not recover before the end of his time which furlough was lost during the lifetime of her deceased husband the said Captain Bailey after her husbands enlistment was promoted to the Rank of Major [sic]. She further declares that her deceased husband the aforesaid John Fergusson died in Hardin County Kentucky on the 31st of December Eighteen Hundred and twelve & was buried on the 1st day of January (1813) Eighteen Hundred and thirteen and that she has remained a widow ever since to the present period She further declares she knows of no record of her marriage nor of the age of her children but she recollects her first & oldest child was born on the fourth day of January Seventeen Hundred and Eighty while her husband was in the Service of his Country
Catharine herXmark Fergusson

Land Office, Annapolis, 17th December 1840

I hereby Certify, that it appears by the Muster rolls of the Revolution remaining in this office, That John Fergusson, enlisted as a private, in the 2nd Maryland Regiment, for the term of three years, on the 1st day of April, 1779, and on the 16th day of August, 1780, was made prisoner [see endnote]. And I further Certify, That it appears by a Pay Roll, kept by John Hamilton, Agent of the Maryland Line, That John Fergusson, was discharged on the 1st of April, 1782, and received \$100.20 cents, arrears of pay to 1st of January, 1783.

George G. Brewer/ Reg'r. Land Off. W. S. Md.

Memo. I do not find the name of John Fergusson, upon the muster roll of the Rifle Regiment, commanded by Col. Moses Rawlings, Captain Cresap, Commanded a Company in that Regiment, but no muster or pay roll of his Company can be found.

George G. Brewer/ Reg'r. L'd. Off. W. S. Md.

NOTES:

John Fergusson was captured on 16 Aug 1780, the same day as the Battle of Camden SC, and it is therefore presumed that he was captured at that battle.

On 24 Aug 1841 John Morris, 52, stated that seven or eight years previously he had heard Samuel Patton (pension application S31901) say that he had "served in the same Company and Regiment with the aforesaid John Fergusson."

Edney Strickler made a statement supporting the application of her mother, Catharine Fergusson.

On 17 April 1841 John Thomas of Frederick County MD stated that after the return of John Fergusson from service he lived with his wife, the former Catharine Thomas, on the farm of his father near Frederick. On 9 Nov 1841 Col. John Thomas of Frederick County MD, age 74 on the previous 5 July, stated the following: "at the time of their [John and Catharine Fergusson's] Marriage I lived with my father Francis Thomas, who resided one mile south of Frederick town and that my aunt [Catherine Fergusson] lived with her parents in Frederick Town, that my eldest sister, Elizabeth, went with them to the Marriage and returned with them after their marriage. That my sister and the Reverend D. Booth are both since Dead." The file contains a letter to the Pension Commissioner by C. M. Chinn of Harrodsburg KY dated 2 April 1842 that reads in part as follows: "Enclosed you have the deposition of Col John Thomas of Frederick County Md. the Father of the Govenor of that State, who seemed to me to be one of the first Gentlemen of the State. He seemed to have no doubt on his mind of the Marriage of Mr & Mrs Furguson prior to Mr F joining the army, Saying that one of his Uncles persuaded Furguson to enlist believing that if he got killed his Aunt would not loose much as Mr Furguson was quite a dissipated man."

On 4 March 1842 John Wise, 76, stated that after John Fergusson returned from the army "he established a Blacksmith shop in [Frederick] and carried it on for several years and then moved From there to Hardin County."