

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Gorden (Gordon) W8858  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Mary Gorden

VA

State of Kentucky                    }  
Clarke [sic: Clark] County    } Sct

On this twenty sixth day of november in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court held in and for the County aforesaid John Gorden, a resident of said County and State, aged sixty nine years on the twenty sixth day of september last, 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

I was drafted in Goochland County (where I then resided) in the State of Virginia for a term in the Virginia Militia during the Revolutionary war between the United States and Great Britain and marched on said tour under Capt William Miller and marched from Dover Creek in said Goochland County into Albemarle County to Albemarle Barracks where I served one month guarding the British Prisoners [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks from Jan 1779 till Feb 1781]. I have forgotten the names of the Colonel and Majors of the Regiment to which said Company was attached and at the end of said month I was discharged from said tour I performed the foregoing service in the month of december, but have forgotten the year, though I think it was about two years before the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781].

Afterwards I was again drafted for another tour in the Virginia Militia in said Goochland County and thence marched in said service under Capt Elisha Leak to Petersburg and to the Isle of Wight and on the South side of James River in said State. I recollect that Major Decloman [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman, a Dane] was attached to the regiment to which said Leak's company belonged but I have forgotten the name of the Colonel of said Regiment and on that tour I served upwards of two months and we were not on this tour engaged in any battle. And I remember that said Decloman was a Frenchman by birth and his name may not be herein correctly spelt and I don't remember the name of any regular officer serving with us in the above tour. I have forgotten the year when the last tour was served, but I recollect that it was performed in the spring of the year and before the siege of York

Afterwards I was again drafted in Goochland County for another tour in the Virginia Militia was attached to the Company of Capt Stokely Towles [sic: Stockley Towles] and thence marched in said Company in the regiment of Colonel Pleasants to Richmond in Virginia where the Militia was rendezvoused and from Richmond we were marched down the James River to the Mobbin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond] upon Turkey Island Creek – and on that tour I served two months – and we were engaged in a skirmish with the British Troops I don't remember the name of the Commanding General, if there was a General's command there. Genl. LaFayette was the commanding General at Richmond where we were rendezvoused as above. I dont remember the year this tour was performed – but it was before the siege of York and in the summer months.

Afterwards I was again drafted for another tour in said Goochland County, in the Virginia Militia, in the Company of Capt Gideon Hatcher and marched in said Company from said Goochland County down James River and crossed over to the Isle of Wight and thence to Cabbin Point [sic: Cabin Point on James River in Surry County]. We were not engaged in any battle on this tour. I don't remember the name of the Colonel of the Regiment to which I was attached and there was not a General's command out so far as I can recollect – and on this tour I served upwards of two months. I dont remember the year when this tour was made, but I recollect that I was discharged in november or december in Petersburg and before the siege of York

After wards I was again drafted to serve another tour in the Militia of Virginia, in Goochland County and

thence marched under Capt. Duke [possibly Edward Duke] whose first name I have forgotten, [to?] Williamsburg where we were rendezvoused and thence marched to the Town of Little York where our Company was attached to Colonel Joseph Dark's regiment under General [Edward] Stevens during the siege of York and until we captured said town and Cornwallis surrendered – we were thence marched to Winchester in Virginia with the British prisoners & I was discharged at the Winchester Barracks and on this tour I served upwards of two months  
And on said several tours I served eight months in all in the performance of the above tours I received a regular discharge from each but I have not any documentary evidence of such discharges or of my service as aforesaid

I can prove my services aforesaid in part by Vachel Fandre [pension application W1407] and in part by Richard Lewis, who lives about eighty miles from this County and whose statement I can not conveniently procure.

I was born in Goochland County aforesaid, on the 26th september 1763. I have a record of my age, at my own house in this County, entered in a family bible and transcribed from my father's register of the ages of his children.

I was living in said Goochland County when called into service as aforesaid, and had lived there from the time of my birth and since the revolutionary war I continued to live in Goochland County, until the 4th day of march 1796, (except one year I lived in Fluvanna County) and on the day last named I moved from Goochland County to Kentucky, which last place I arrived at on 4th april 1796 and settled myself and family in Clarke County in said State where I have continued to reside ever since and where I now live.

I never received a written discharged from the service because I never called for my discharge. We were discharged by companies and I always knew I could get one from my captains on application.

I served under General Washington at the siege of York – and in the course of said tour I served under Gen La Fayette or the Marquis as he was then called.

I am known in my present neighbourhood to Col. Francis F. Jackson, David Hampton Esq. Samuel J Carson, James Clark Esq late member of Congress from Kentucky and Chelton Allan Esq at present a member of Congress from this District, Samuel M. Taylor Esq and sundry other persons who can testify as to my character for veracity and their belief of my services as a soldier of the Revolution

And I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid                      John hisXmark Gorden

#### NOTES:

Vachel Fandre stated that he also performed all the tours performed by Gorden except the one under Capt. Gideon Hatcher. He also stated that on the tour to Yorktown they were in the same mess, together with Richard Lewis and Nicholas Crutchfield.

On 13 Feb 1843 Mary Gorden, 82, applied for a pension stating that she married John Gorden on 18 Sep 1783, and he died on 5 Feb 1839. The file includes a family record transcribed below, certified by Richardson Gorden as having come into his hands after the death of his father. He stated that all the children were living except for two, that one of those who died was named John, and that afterwards his parents named another child John. Dates in brackets are now illegible in the online image and are copied from a typed summary in the file.

On 21 Feb 1843 William Gorden, 70, stated that he was “at Randle Roundtrees in the County of Goochland and State of Virginia when my Brother John Gorden and Mary Roundtree daughter of the above named Randle Roundtree; was married.”

John Gorden was born the 26 of September in the year 1763

Mary Rountree was born the 10<sup>th</sup> of April in the year 1761

John Gorden and Mary Rountree was married 18<sup>th</sup> of September 1783

Randol Gorden was born 15<sup>th</sup> of July in the year 1784

John Gorden was born the 23<sup>d</sup> of January in the year [1786]

Salley Gorden was born the [4]<sup>th</sup> of March in the year 178[8]

Jo[hn] Gorden was born the [8] of February [1790]

Elizabeth Gorden [illegible] August in the year 17[??]

William Gorden was born [24<sup>th</sup>] of December in the year 179[?]

Judah Gorden was born the 24<sup>th</sup> of February in the year 1797.

Thomas Gorden was born the 29<sup>th</sup> of May in the year 1799,

David Gorden was born the 13<sup>th</sup> of October in the year 1801,

Richardson Gorden was born the 9<sup>th</sup> of December in the year 1804,

~~Elisha nigo Boy~~ was born march the 5 day 1817