

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Taylor S__ [X789]

f2VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/11/11: rev'd 2/1/22

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

Va. Taylor, James S__ no papers

James Taylor

The Revolutionary War Agency Book for the State of Virginia shows as follows under Act March 18th, 1818

James Taylor, Certificate No. 14062 – Sergeant Major – Rate of \$8 per month

Certificate issued May 15, 1719 – pension to commence January 8, 1819

Died May 15, 1834 – Stricken off October 31, 1820; with the following remark, (see 1832. No 32986.)

James Taylor deceased Certificate number 32986 – Lieutenant – Rate \$320 per annum

Certificate issued May 15, 1852 – Ending of pension May 13, 1834

The printed report of 1835 – shows Vol. 2, page 30 of Virginia

James Taylor of Powhatan County Virginia – Sergeant Major – Annual

Allowance \$96 – sums received \$1359.22 – Service Virginia Line –

Placed on pension roll May 15, 1819, pension to commence January 8, 1819 – Aged 79 – Act March 18, 1818

There are no papers on file relative to this pensioner his name does not appear on the 2 combination books compiled in 1870, and it is not known how or when they were withdrawn prior to that date.

Everything searched. A.W. May 3, 1915

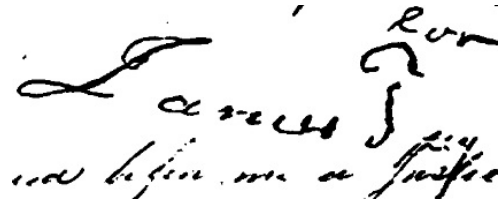
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Addendum to James Taylor X789

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 31 Jan 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) in two files.]

I James Taylor of the County of Prince Edward do hereby certify that I am now 78 years of age that the following is a true statement of my services in the Revolutionary War
In the year 1776 I enlisted under Gen'l Scott [Charles Scott BLWt2055-850] and marched against Governor Dunmore in Williamsburg. In the year 1776 I enlisted under Captain Charles Fleming [VAS3594] for two years. March 1777 I enlisted for the term of three years as I understood there was additional pay for those who would enlist for that term of years In the year 1778 I enlisted for the term of the War having understood that the bounty was still promised for those who would enlist for the War. In year 1779 I was promoted to the rank of a Lieutenant in Colo. George Mute's [sic: George Muter VAS803] Regiment. In 1780 I marched to the South and was appointed Brigade Major in General Lawsons [Robert Lawson VAS850] Brigade. Some time in April 1781 I was taken prisoner by the enemy at Petersburg [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781] and was not liberated until after Cornwallace's defeat at York Town in October 1781 [19 Oct 1781]. I was engaged in some of the most distinguished Battles fought in the Revolution viz Gwin's Island in Virginia [Gwynn Island, 8-10 Jul 1776]. To the North, Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], Christian bridge [Cooch's Bridge on Christianna River DE, 3 Sep 1777], Germantown [4 Oct 1777] and Monmouth [28 Jun 1778]. In North Carolina Gilford Court House [sic: Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] – besides many other smaller engagements. I was Brigade Major in Gen'l. Lawsons Brigade when taken prisoner which commission I had to the close of the war [18 Sep 1833]

Handwritten signature of James Taylor in cursive script, with the name 'James Taylor' clearly legible.

Powhatan County to Wit [2 Nov 1833]

I hereby certify that I am now seventy three years of age and that I was an Officer in the Revolutionary War and that I was well acquainted with James Taylor who was formerly a resident of this County but now a resident of Prince Edward. The said James Taylor entered the service as a Volunteer under Capt. Charles Scott afterward Gen'l Scott and when the troops were organised he enlisted and believe that he was promoted; but do not recollect what grade he held at the close of the War. I have no hesitation in saying that the said Taylor served more than three years in the Regular Service, and believe that he served to the close of the War.

Wade Mosby [W3856]

Handwritten signature of Wade Mosby in cursive script, with the name 'Wade Mosby' clearly legible.

To the Executive of the State of Virginia

your Memorialist by their Att'y respectfully represent, that that they are the heirs of Lieut Ja's Taylor dec'd of the County of Prince Edward who was a U. States pensioner, Act. 1818 and that he served in the Revolutionary war, as a private and Sergt from the spring of 1775 to May 1779 at which time he was promoted to the rank of Lieut in Col. Geo. Muter's State Garrison Reg't and performed service in said capacity and Reg't until the Spring of 1780 when said Reg't or Comp'y to which he belonged was broken up when he obtained an appointment as Brigade Major, under Gen'l Lawson, and was with him during the

Campaign in the South at Guilford and other Battles, and places until Ap'1 25th 1781 when he was taken prisoner at Petersburg by the Army under Gen'l Philips [William Phillips] and remained a prisoner until the Surrender of Cornwallis when he the said Jas. Taylor was exchanged, and became Supernumerary until the close of the war, never having resigned his Commission, nor was Cash[iere]d or Superceded but held himself always ready to enter into active service again when called on, in accordance with the requisition of the Reso[lutio]n of the Va Leg[islatur]e of May 1779.

That accordingly, having rendered 8½ years service in the Revo'y war, from March 75 to Nov 83 as above (the close of the war) and only having rec'd land for 3 years services, on the rank of Lieut of Inf'y his heirs are entitled 1st To the difference between the rank of Lieut, and that of Brig. Major 2666⅔ (who ranks with a Major of Inf'y) for 3 years Service and also the additional allowance for 2½ years Services, over and above 6 years 1777⅔ more on the rank of Major – making the increase claimed in all about 4444⅓ acreas – which quantity of acres we expect satisfactorily to prove by evidence already filed in the Ex[ecutive] dept. of Va and Pension office in the City of Washington of which we will obtain a certified Copy, to be filed with the papers in Rich'd and on the whole of which combined we confidently expect, at the hands of the Ex. dept of Va the additional allowance claimed of 4444⅓ acres or thereabouts more, or less – which large increase The Executive will observe mainly grows out of the rank of Brigade Major, which he Taylor is admitted by the Pension dept. to have held under Gen'l. Rob't Lawson, from some time in 1780 up to the time of having been made pris'r by the British Ap'1 25th 1781 and exchanged as aforesaid after Capitulation of Lord Cornwallis the 19th day of Oct'r 1781 and remained Sup'y to the end of the war – being entitled of Course, to his quantity of Land, on the rank which he Taylor held at the time of his capture – he having done, nor could he do, any act which could deprive him of said Rank of Brigade Major! after said capture.

This being so, the only question which remains for the executive to enquire into – is he Taylor entitled to land on the Staff Rank of Brig. Major? - which he held when taken prisoner! in regard to which satisfactory legal information may be obtained by referring to the 11th Vol. Hen. [Hening's Statutes at Large] Page 310. May Sep'r 1779 where the executive will find provision of land bounty made by the Va. Leg[islature] for Staff officers who held such rank, even independant of the rank in the line; after the following manner. To with

Commissary Gen'l.	to be allowed land as Col's of Inf'y	6666⅔
Brigade Majors	do do as Majors 3 y's	5333
Pay Masters	do do as Captains do	4000
Surg's Mates	do do as do do	4000

The above cases are sufficient to shew that the heirs of Jas Taylor are entitled to the additional quantity of land claimed by us as the agent of the heirs and that the Executive will therefore have the necessary order made to authorize the Register to issue to the respective heirs, on file warrants for their due proportion of the same when it shall be made to appear satisfactorily to him that they are the proper persons to receive them; and for which respectfully pray &c. Robt H Gray Att'y for dec'd Taylor's heirs