To the Legislature of Virginia

The petition of James Gibson of the County of Scott, humbly represents: that in the year 1776 he enlisted as a soldier of the Revolution under Ralph Falkner of Chesterfield County of the second Virginia Regiment which was attached to the command of General Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg] –

That having served as a soldier two years your petitioner was taken sick and did not recover until four months afterwards and during this illness he became perfectly blind and has continued in this wretched situation ever since.

After your Petitioner recovered his health he was discharged by Col. Francis Epps at Williamsburg at which place he was, during his sickness; And is now far advanced in age very infirm and destitute of the means of subsistence having never received any aid for his support either from the General Government or from the State of Virginia.

Your petitioner being blind and infirm has it not in his power to prove the facts contained in his petition by any other than his own oath a certificate of which is hereunto annexed.

The prayer of your petitioner is that your Hon. body will take his deplorable case into consideration and that a law may be passed allowing him a small annual pension for his support and he as in duty bound will ever pray &c

S/ James Gibson

[reverse]

Petition for the relief of James Gibson
December 14th 1822
Referred to Claims
26 December 1822
Laid upon the table
1823
January 9, Reasonable
[January] 10th report drawn
29th Bill drawn
Scott County to wit
This day came James Gibson before me Lewis Harris a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that on or about the first day of January A.D. 1776 as nigh as he the said James Gibson can recollect he listed [enlisted] in the regular service and served in the defense of his country for the space of two years under Ralph Forkner [sic] of Chesterfield County in Virginia in the second Regiment to the best of his recollection commanded by General Mewlingburge and received his discharge from Col. Francis Epps and that he was taken sick whilst he was in the service and lay for four months in the hospital at Williamsburg doctored by Dr. Golt [could be Dr. Gott] and by the said spell of sickness he has lost his eyesight and has remained blind ever since and that the aforesaid James Gibson has never received any pay for his services during that time or on his discharge. Sworn to this 8th day of June 1822 before me
S/ Lewis Harris, JP

Buckingham January 6th 1823
I hereby Certify that James Gipson [sic] of Chesterfield County, a brother of mine, enlisted as a regular Soldier in the revolutionary service, the officer's name not recollected, after his discharge from service he lived several years in my neighborhood in the County of Buckingham, upwards of thirty years ago he removed to some Western County in the State of Virginia, before he left Buckingham he had a film coming over his eyes. I have every reason to believe that James Gipson of Scott County who petitions the Legislature of Virginia to be placed on the revolutionary pension roll is the aforesaid brother of mine.
Given under my hand the day and date above written
S/ Miles Gipson Sr.

paid 10
Col. Reuben B Patteson [sic] Richmond

[From Digital Library of Virginia ] 29-page file

[Note: This file only contains annual powers of attorney beginning in 1823 and ending in March of 1831 whereby the veteran gave a power of attorney to a third-party to collect the pension due him as authorized by the legislation referred to above. There are no substantive documents in this file. It is interesting to note, however, that each of the powers of attorney was signed by the veteran using his mark. Consequently, I do not believe the signature exhibited in one of the transcripts above is the veteran's actual signature.]