

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to James Hord [Hoard, Howard] VAS1608 [vsl 14 +](#)  
and Thomas Hord [Hoard, Howard]

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/24/14

[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 'indecipherable' 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 identify or 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: The documents transcribed below probably relate to more than one Virginia officer by the name of James Hord, Horde, Hoard, Howard, etc., but I have decided that there is not sufficient information available in the files to allow me to unscramble the different officers so as to assure which documents relate to one or the other of those officers. Consequently, I have elected to leave the documents as they are so that researchers can satisfy themselves as to which documents relate to which officer. Two of the files also contain documents relating to a veteran named Thomas Hord, said to be a brother of one of the James Hords.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

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 30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1784, in the name of James Hord, as a an Ensign of infantry for £61.7.11, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Thomas Hord and was given for services prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this  
6<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

I Certify that in the Virginia Gazette of September 22<sup>nd</sup> 1775 it is stated that at a meeting of the select Committee for the District of Spotsylvania, Caroline, Stafford and King George Counties, held in Spotsylvania on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September 1775

Lewis Willis was elected Captain of a Company of minute men for  
Spotsylvania County, and

Reuben Briscoe and James Hord were elected Ensigns in Companies of  
minute men for King George County.

And I further certify that the Virginia Gazette above referred to is now on file in the  
Library of Congress

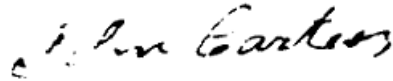
S/ John L Maham, Librarian of Congress

I hereby certify that I was acquainted with James Hord of Caroline County from boyhood

– The said Hord and myself were raised in the same neighborhood – The said Hord went into service of the United States in the revolutionary war and was an Ensign in seventh Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment. Hord was in the battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and Germantown [October 4, 1777] –

After those battles I marched with the said second Virginia Regiment to which [one or more indecipherably faint words] to sundry places & [indecipherably faint word or words] into winter quarters at the Valley Forge – I do not know positively how long James Hord continued in service but I think he did not quit the service until the close of the war.

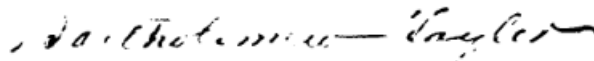
S/ John Carter<sup>1</sup>



[Attested in Caroline County Virginia in 1833]

I certify that I was well acquainted with Thomas and James Hord in the war of the revolution both of which entered into the Virginia service very early in the war and continued therein nearly to the close of it, if not to the close – Thomas was a [indecipherably faint word]<sup>2</sup> and was wounded on the nose by a British officer at the battle of Bluford's defeat [Abraham Buford's Defeat or the Battle of the Waxhaws, May 29, 1780]. His nose was cut entirely off & hung down by a small piece of skin – it was sewed on again & became reunited [?]<sup>3</sup> – I was on the ground the day after Bluford's defeat & saw said Hord – James Hord was an Ensign in the company of Captain Rd Stephens [Richard Stevens or Stephens] – Both of the said Hords belonged to the Continental service & I have no hesitation in saying that they were in service at least four years – I had a brother who enlisted & served three years under said Stevens and James Hord – I was in service at same time & enlisted for the war, but was not in the same company with my brother though we were often together.

S/ Bartholomew Taylor<sup>4</sup>



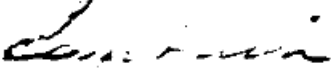
[Attested in Caroline County Virginia May 9, 1833]

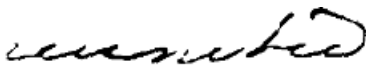
The affidavit of Thomas Coghill<sup>5</sup> of Essex County & State of Virginia aged sixty [last digit too faint to discern] – the said Coghill states that he was acquainted with James Hord during the revolutionary war, that said Hord was an Ensign in the Army & belonged to the Virginia line. The said Coghill further states that said Hord was in service 3 years.

S/ Thos Coghill

---

<sup>1</sup> This MAY be the same man as [John Carter S9131](#)

<sup>2</sup> 

<sup>3</sup> 

<sup>4</sup> [Bartholomew Taylor W3473](#)

<sup>5</sup> [Thomas Coghill S15785](#)



[Attested May 26, 1832 in Caroline County Virginia]

I certify that I was well acquainted with James Hord in and before the revolutionary war, being born & resided in the same neighborhood with him – I am now in my seventy first year & James Hord was about fifteen years older than myself – the said Hord entered the regular service of the United States in the first part of the war and continued therein several years, after which he returned home in Caroline County, where he remained a very short time, and then went off to the State of Kentucky, then called the Wilderness – He was amongst the earliest settlers in Kentucky, but in what capacity he first went to the West I do not know – It is my impression that Hord went to Kentucky in 1779 and in this impression I am confirmed from the circumstance that in the year 1783 I went to Kentucky myself & there saw Hord at a station on a Creek called Dick's as well as I recollect, and I then understood that he had been there about four years – I cannot say positively how long Hord continued in service, but I am confident that he served at least 3 years

S/ Thomas Coghill

[Attested December 6, 1833 in Essex County Virginia]

[p 8: partially legible affidavit]

I certify that I was well acquainted with James Hord in & before the war of the revolution & with all his family, being born & raised near them –

The said James Hord and his brother Thomas, both entered the service in the beginning of the war and served through the whole of it – James Hord was at the siege of York Town, but I am not certain whether Thomas was there. Sometime before that siege Thomas was wounded by a blow on the nose from a British officer which disabled him for some time, the [one or more indecipherably faint words] of which he returned [several indecipherably faint words] James was an Ensign and Thomas [several indecipherably faint words].

[The name of the affiant is too faint to discern in either the document itself or in the attestation]

[p 9]

James Hord – Subaltern – Continental

The certificate of the Librarian of Congress proves that James Hord was selected Ensign of King George minute men on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1775.

The Council Journal shows this officer to have been 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant in the Regular service 12<sup>th</sup> September 1776 – (how long before does not appear.) His settled accounts show that he received pay from January first 1777 to March 7<sup>th</sup> 1778 – about one year & six months. Anthony Dunn says that James Hord entered the service in the beginning of the war & served to the end of it – and says also, that he served more than 4 years. Thomas Coghill says that James Hord was in service 3 years as Ensign. John Carter says that James Hord was Ensign 7<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment: and was at the Battles of Brandywine & German Town, and witness thinks did not quit the service till the close of the war. Bartholomew Taylor says that James Hord was in service at least 4 years. A second affidavit of Thomas Coghill states, that Hord served for 3 years; and further, that said Hord left the Army, returned home & remained there a short time and then moved to Kentucky in 1779. This is the state of the evidence, to which I have nothing more

to add.

Heir's claim has been twice rejected, or advised to be rejected

If James Hord was in service from September 1775 to the 7<sup>th</sup> of March 1778 the latest period to which he settled his accounts as an officer, he did not serve three years. But his service in the minute Company of King George & his service in the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment were probably not a continual service. If he was in service only from September 1776 when he appears on the Full Journals as 3<sup>rd</sup> Lieutenant, and his term of service closed with his settlement in March 1778, he served only about a year & a half. The evidence of living witnesses is that he served more than 3, or some 4 years. The witnesses are respectable; (and certified to be credible) but there is reason to doubt the correctness of their memories, one of them says James Hord moved to Kentucky in 1779, after having left the Army, and remained a short time at home. If his time of service should be computed from September 1775, and he left the Army before September 1778, he was not in service 3 years. But he may have left the Army after September 1778. These remarks on the evidence we respectfully submitted.

When the whole, the evidence of witnesses is respectable, to show a service of 3 years, there remains for the Executive to say, whether that evidence is explained away by the documents, and by the testimony of Coghill, that James Hord removed to Kentucky in 1779. I report the case as somewhat doubtful.

Respectfully  
John H Smith  
28<sup>th</sup> January 1834

---

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 2 files indexed under the name "James Hord" described as a lieutenant.

[2-page file]

To the Executive of Virginia

The case of Lieutenant James Hord which has been recently acted upon and rejected by the Executive it is respectfully believed will be taken up for reconsideration on the following statement. Judge Marshall proves that this officer came from the County of Stafford – and all the witnesses prove the same, and that he died in Fauquier. The Commissioner has evidently confounded the name of this officer with that of James Heard (who was an officer in Lees Legion and came from New Jersey) and who did receive a Captain's land pay in 1799 & 1819 from Virginia. The name of said Captain James Heard is printed in Mr. Smith's list Doc. No. 30 as James Hoard – The evidence in the case clearly shows Lieutenant James Hord or Hoard to have been a distinct person from any other who was in service – & although there was an Ensign James Hord in the Virginia C. L. yet by reference to the papers in his case it will appear that he was from Caroline County & in different service and not the Lieutenant James Hord now claimed 4. A reconsideration of the case is respectfully asked.

by Thos. Hord  
Counsel for the [Heirs]

[note: 23-page file]

[p 1]

Mem.-- There were two James Hords in Virginia Continental line – Land has been allowed for three years to the James Hord who left the service and removed to Kentucky in 1780, he was from Caroline County Virginia

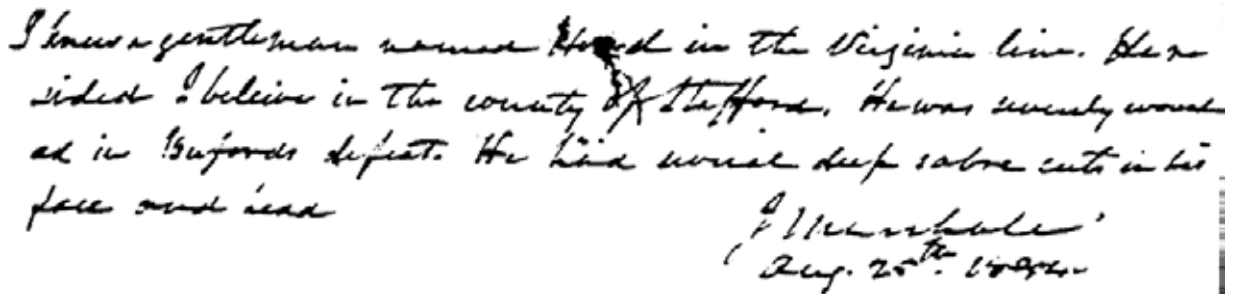
The case now presented is of James Hord who went from Stafford County & died in Fauquier County and was in a different part of the Army from the first named James Hord.

This officer was probably a Lieutenant in Judge Marshall's statement who was probably best informed.

[p 2]

I knew a gentleman named Hord in the Virginia line. He resided I believe in the County of Stafford. He was severely wounded in Buford's defeat. He had several deep saber cuts in his face and head.

S/ J Marshall [John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court]  
Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> 1834



*I know a gentleman named Hord in the Virginia line. He resided I believe in the county of Stafford. He was severely wounded in Buford's defeat. He had several deep saber cuts in his face and head.*

*J Marshall  
Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> 1834*

[p 3]

[indecipherable word] September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1834

Dear Sir

I have received yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> instant Mr. Hoard mentioned in my certificate was undoubtedly a commissioned officer in the Virginia line on Continental establishment. I do not recollect his Christian name nor do I know what his rank was though I believe he was a Lieutenant. I know he was badly wounded in the face and head and understood from himself and others that his wounds were received in Buford's defeat. I have always supposed that he never resigned his commission. I have no doubt of your finding by his account in the Auditor's Office whether he continued in service to the last of December 1781.

I am [the image of the document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point but this document is in the handwriting of John Marshall, Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court and is clearly intended to amplify on the above transcribed affidavit.]

[p 6: illegibly faint]

[p 7]

State of Virginia County of Fauquier to wit

This day personally came before me a justice in & for the County aforesaid Gory W. Sinclair of said County and being first sworn according to law deposeth & saith. That he was well acquainted with James Hoard who lived on marsh run in the said County of Fauquier & that he frequently heard the said Hoard say that he was an officer in the Virginia Continental line in the war of the revolution. That he has repeatedly heard him converse on the subject, & well

recollects that some time after his death, he this affiant was at his home when his sons were looking over his papers, and that he saw the said James Hoard's commission as an officer in the regular Army, but don't at this time remember what the grade of the commission was. This affiant further states that the said James Hoard took great pride in the circumstance of his having been an officer in the Revolution and has heard him say that when he was commissioned that he was called on in the Town of Falmouth on the Rappahannock River to say in writing with sundry others whether or not he would except a commission in the regular Army – That he subscribed his name stating that he would and in a short time he received a commission. This affiant further states he well recollects that the said James Hoard was called on by a soldier in the regular Army by the name of Murry [? very faint] to certify that he enlisted him the said Murry into the service – and that he believes that he did so certify – And further this affiant saith that the name of the family of said James Hoard was originally spelled Hoard & that the same name is now and has been for several years spelled Hord. That the said James Hoard left a well and that the following all the names of his children who are living in Fauquier County to wit – George – Ambrose – Charity – William Hord. And further he saith not.

Sworn to this 21<sup>st</sup> day of May 1834

[signature of the attesting justice is too faint to discern]

[p 10]

The affidavit of William Pattie – who says – that about the termination of the minute service, in Virginia, he was at the town of Hampton, & there became acquainted with James Hord, from the County of Deptford, and was informed by him that he held a Commission of Ensign. The affiant further says – that he afterwards heard, that the said Hord went on to the northern service, but does not know to what Regiment he belonged. That he did not see the said Hord again until after the war, when he moved to Fauquier County where he lived & died. The affiant further says – he never heard that the said James Hord resigned his Commission: – and that there were other persons of the name of Hoard who he understood were in the regular Army, as officers. They were from the South side of the Rappahannock, and were sometimes called Howard: but generally the whole family was called Hoard. (See the affidavit of William Pattie)

The Petitioners relying on these facts and statements of witnesses, ass that bounty land may be allowed them for the services of their ancestor Lieutenant James Hord. There is no sufficient proof, that there were two James Hords, officers in the Continental service, in the war of the Revolution, nor is there satisfactory proof (if there were two) that Lieutenant James Hord the ancestor of the Petitioners, served three years or to the end of the war.

I have reported the substance of the evidence in this case, in order to present in one view, all that has been offered by the petitioners for the purpose of endeavoring to prove that there were two James Hords in the Continental service, one of whom has not received bounty land.

As before stated, Captain James Hord received 4666 2/3 acres of land for a service during the war. The papers filed when his original & additional bounty land was allowed may give the Executive some aid in the examination of his claim. They are in the Executive Department in the custody of the Secretary of the Commonwealth. That officer has denied made the use of those papers in my office, for the purpose of assisting me in the investigation of this claim. The Executive can command them.

Respectfully submitted

John H Smith Commissioner &c

[p 11]

Report of the claim of Lieutenant James Hord of the  
Virginia Continental line for bounty land, for his services

To the Governor  
Sir

The following all the facts in this case. Ensign James Hord received £61.17.11, the balance of his full pay from January one, 1777 to May 7, 1778 (see settlements by State Auditors in first Auditors Office).

Captain James Ford received in September 1779 & in February 1819, 4666 2/3 acres of land, for his services during the war.

Lieutenant Hord's name is on "a return of clothing for the Continental officers of Colonel Buford's Battalion" at Petersburg November 1779. It is also on "a Return of Rum, Sugar & Coffee &c for the officers of Colonel Buford's Battalion under General Scott &c" for November & December 1779. (See original Documents in the vol. 2 Army papers Division No.7.)

The following evidence has been filed by the petitioners, to wit; – a letter & certificate of Chief Justice Marshall, setting forth that he knew a gentleman named Hord in the Virginia Line, on Continental establishment, who (he believes) resided in the County of Stafford, that he was severely wounded in Buford's defeat, & had several deep saber cuts on his face & head; – that he does not know what the rank of said Hord was, but believes he was a Lieutenant, & always supposed that he never resigned his Commission (See Judge Marshall's letter & certificate)

The affidavit of G W Sinclair – who says, that he knew very well James Hord who lived in the County of Fauquier; that he has frequently heard him say, he was an officer in the Virginia Continental line, in the Army of the Revolution: – That after the death of the said Hord, he saw his Commission, but does not remember the rank: – that he has heard the said Hord say, he was called on in the town of Falmouth to say whether he would except a Commission in the Army – that he consented & soon after received his Commission. That the name of the family of the said James Hord was originally spelled Hoard, but has been lately spelled Hord. (See Sinclair's affidavit)

The affidavit of Spencer Withers – who says he was well acquainted with James [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point. It appears to me to be a portion of the report that would have been rendered by John H Smith, as Commissioner charged with responsibility for reviewing and recommending action upon claims for bounty land by veterans and their heirs.]

[p 12]

State of Virginia Fauquier County to wit

Person came before the subscriber a justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid William Pattie a citizen of said County aged 72 years and upwards, and being a person of respectability and whose statement is entitled to full faith and credit, and he being first duly qualified according to law, deposeth – that about the close of the minute service in Virginia that this affiant was at the town of Hampton and there became acquainted with James Hoard who was from the County of Stafford in the State of Virginia – and was informed by the said Hoard that he then held the commission of Ensign – and as affiant heard afterwards, he the said James Hoard went on to the northern Service & he believes as an officer – this affiant don't know what Regiment he was attached to – Affiant never saw said James Hoard till after the end of the War, and then only after he removed to Fauquier County which he thinks took place in 1788 – and he

lived and died on marsh run in the said County of Fauquier. Affiant is certain that said James Hoard was from Stafford County when he entered – There was also persons of the name of Hoard who affiant always understood was in the regular Army as officers – and they were from the South side of the Rappahannock River in Caroline County – The name of Hoard was numerous. Those on the South side were usually called Howard – But in a general way the whole family were mostly called Hoard – Affiant never heard that said James Hoard resigned his commission – He was a wealthy man. His heirs reside in the County of Fauquier – one of them is called Enos – another Ambrose and others and further he saith not – Given under my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 1834

S/ Wm Horner

[p 14]

State of Virginia Fauquier County to wit

Personally came before the subscriber a justice of the peace in & for the County aforesaid Spencer Withers a citizen of the Rappahannock County aged 69 years & upwards and being a person whose statement is entitled to full faith and credit – and he being first duly sworn – deposeth – that he was well acquainted with James Hord who lived in the County of Stafford and who died in Fauquier where his heirs now live. Affiant knows the fact that said James Hord was commissioned an Ensign in the Virginia Continental line and belonged to the company commanded by Captain Buckhannon [Buchanan?]. Affiant don't know how long he served. And further he saith not – given under my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> day of September 1834

S/ Wm Thompson

[p 16]

To his Excellency the Governor of Virginia and Council –

Your petitioners Enos Hord and Ambrose Hord for themselves and sisters heirs and devisees of the late James hoard of Fauquier County by Thomas Hord their attorney in fact respectfully represent that their said father was duly commissioned a Lieutenant in the Virginia Continental line in the War of the Revolution, and as such served to the end of said war. This officer entered service from the County of Stafford we he resided and after the War removed to and died in Fauquier where he lived many years before his death. Your Petitioners state that their claim for land bounty was made to the late Executive in May 1835 but was rejected – annual petitioner is believed that the same would have been allowed, but for an error which they did not discover till sometime after. It will be seen [by] reference to the commissioners report a copy of which is here with file that he reports that a Captain James Hord or Hoard received a 4666 2/3 acres of land from Virginia in 1779 & in 1819 & the inference therefore was that Lieutenant James hoard above mentioned was the same man promoted to a captaincy. Now your petitioners say that there was such an officer as Captain James Hord or Howard or Hoard in the Virginia Continental or State Line – and by reference to the Revolutionary archives it will be found that Captain James Heard was the officer whose name has been confounded with that of Hord or Hoard by the Commissioner. It is true that his Doc. No. 30 showing the names of the Officers who had received land bounty spells the name James Hoard – See p. 16 but that is a misprint – This Captain James Heard was a Captain in Lee's Legion – came from New Jersey – and returned & died in that state. Your petitioners pray that reference may be made to the vouchers in that officers case filed either the Secretaries Office, or in the Registers – at date 19<sup>th</sup> September 1799, where it will be found that his name was Heard and not Hord or Hoard. There was an Ensign James Hord who left the service in 1780. That officer was from Caroline County



as may be fully shown by reference to the vouchers filed in Secretaries Office in February 1834.  
Your petitioners [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]

[p 17]

Feeling satisfied that there was but one officer of the name of James Hord of the Continental line  
either Ensign or Lieutenant entitled to bounty land, if any was entitled and bounty land having  
already been allowed to Ensign James Hord – This application is rejected

S/ D. Campbell [David Campbell, Governor of Virginia]