

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Love R21476

Louisa Love

f104GA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

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[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' 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 8<sup>th</sup> 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.]

[p 2]

State of Georgia City of Savannah Chatham County} On this 24th day of September A.D. 1855, personally appeared before me Montgomery Cumming a Justice of the Inferior Court for the County of Chatham in said State, James Love age 65 years a resident of the County Bryan in said State, who being duly sworn according to law, declares that the reason why he came to Savannah to file his declaration was owing to the fact of the original records being in Savannah, and in the possession of Mr. Lezar Solomon and Wife, and the evidence in relation to his claim was in Savannah only, that he is the son of the late John Love who was Surgeon's Mate in the 1st Georgia Continental Battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Regiment Commanded by Colonel White in the Revolutionary War against Great Britain as he was informed and verily believes, that his father John Love and his mother Louisa Duffle were married in the City of Charleston, State of South Carolina on the 26th of February A.D. 1789, and the Reverend Mr. Joseph White a Minister of the Episcopal Church performed the marriage ceremony, as he was informed by his late father and mother in their lifetime, by reference to the record the fact will fully appear, that his father John Love departed this life on the 25th of April A.D. 1809, and that his mother Louisa Love survived his father and departed this life in New Orleans on the 13th of September A.D. 1851. That he was informed by his late father John Love, that he served from the Commencement to the end of the Revolutionary War, that after the Siege of Savannah [the British occupied Savannah Georgia on December 29, 1778]<sup>1</sup> by the British, his said father John Love was taken a prisoner of War, and remained as such prisoner for Nine months, and escaped from his captivity in a boat, and that he was shot in the knee by the enemy, and to the day of the said John Love's death was lame by reason of said wound of which he has been repeatedly informed by his late father John Love, late Surgeon's May as aforesaid. He declares, that he is the only surviving heir of his late father and mother -- He makes this application for the purpose of receiving the arrears of pension money that may be found do his late father and mother.

He further declares that he intended to file his declaration before the Judge of the Superior Court, but owing to his absence he is unable to file it before him, that he has not heretofore made any application in the right of his late father and mother.

Sworn to and subscribed before me at the City of Savannah the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Love

S/ Montgomery Cumming, JIC CC

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/781229-savannah/>



[p 4: Certificate of the marriage at the Protestant Episcopal Church of John Love, practitioner of Physic, on the one part, and Louisa Duffle, on February 26, 1789 in Charleston South Carolina by Joseph White.]

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To the Honorable Senate and House of representatives in Congress assembled

Your petitioner Sheldon C. Dunning a Citizen of Georgia, respectfully represents that he is duly qualified Administrator of the Estate of Louisa Love. That under and by proper authority her husband John Love was appointed to and accepted the office of Surgeon's Mate in the 1st Georgia Continental Battalion commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Regiment commanded by Colonel White in the Revolutionary war against Great Britain, and who served to the end of said war. Your petitioner further represents that the British took possession of Savannah on the 29th of October in the year 1778, and at that time Colonel Mordecai Shaftall Deputy Commissary General of Issues for Georgia was taken prisoner together with others of the American Army, and conveyed on board of British vessels then lying near Savannah.

On the 9th day of October in the year 1779, an unsuccessful attempt was made by the French and Americans to recapture Savannah<sup>2</sup> from the British. Count d'Estaing and General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] were the Commanders. At that time count d'Estaing was wounded and noble Pulaski killed. Also in said engagement John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid was wounded in the knee, and after having received said wound, was taken prisoner by the enemy and conveyed on board of a British vessel then lying near Savannah. He subsequently escaped from his captivity and joined the American Army and nobly served to the end of the war. And your petitioner further represents that by reason of the wound said Love was disabled up to the time of his death which was on the 25th of April in the year 1809. And your petitioner further represents that John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid was married to Louisa Duffle in the City of Charleston State of South Carolina on the 26th of February in the year 1789, and that the issue of said marriage were the following named children James and Elizabeth Ann, both of whom are now deceased -- James Love son of said John and Louisa Love married Ann Williamson and the issue of said marriage were Henry, John A. D., Charles and Andrew now alive, and his widow Ann now survives said James Love -- Major Peter [illegible middle initial] Oram married Elizabeth Ann daughter of said John & Louisa Love, and the issue of said marriage was Emma L. C. the only child of said persons, who is now Mrs. Emma L C Beard of New Orleans, who are the only heirs at law of John & Louisa Love. And your petitioner further represents that Mrs. Louisa Love departed this life on the 13th of September in the year 1851, and that according to the pension laws she was entitled to have received a pension from 1831, up to the period of her death, to wit, on the 12th of September 1851. Also, your petitioner represents that in the life time of James Love son of Mrs. Louisa Love, he presented to the Commissioner of Pensions, and which is now on file in said office, evidence, record and parol, which has proven that said John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid served to the end of the war &c &c. Notwithstanding this the Commissioner of Pensions offer to pay \$3000 or thereabout according to his record evidence of file, but refused to accept parol evidence, which amount of money James Love in his lifetime

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<sup>2</sup> Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

refused to accept.

Your petitioner begs leave further to represent that the Americans having had the possession of Savannah Georgia about eleven months or thereabout rations were issued for that period. Your honorable body will at once perceive that the Commissioner of Pensions required an impossibility and still persists in it. By reference to the evidence the fact will more fully appear.

In conclusion, your petitioner as Administrator as aforesaid, begs leave to state that John Love, Surgeon's Mate, as aforesaid, and his wife never made any application for a pension, and never received any gratuity from the Government of the United States. Your petitioner prays that Congress may pass an act for relief of the heirs of John & Louisa Love. And your petitioner will ever pray &c.

S/ S. C. Dunning



Administrator Estate Louisa Love

Savannah January 27th, 1858

[p 14]

To the Honorable Senate & House of Representatives in Congress assembled

The petition of James Love respectfully showeth unto your honorable body, that your petitioner's Father Doctor John Love who was Surgeon's Mate First Battalion Lieutenant Colonel Harris, Regiment commanded by Colonel White entered the Continental Army in 1777, as Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid and faithfully served as such, that in the year 1779, at which time an unsuccessful attempt was made by the French and American armies to recapture Savannah from the British -- Count d'Estaing and General Lincoln were the Commanders 637 of French and 241 of the Continentals and militia were killed and wounded, among the wounded your petitioner's Father John Love Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid received from the Enemy a wound on the knee, and was then taken prisoner and conveyed on board a British Vessel lying then near Savannah, and remained as such prisoner for several months, that his late Father has repeatedly told your petitioner, that he made his escape in the nighttime in a Barge belonging to the vessel in which he was confined as a prisoner. That in the year of aforesaid 1779, he again joined the American Army as Surgeon's Mate aforesaid, and at the close of the War was promoted to a Surgeon in the Regiment aforesaid. Your petitioner also begs leave to remind your honorable body in this attack Pulaski fell, the spot where he was shot down is about 100 Rods from the Central Rail Road Depot in the City of Savannah, Georgia.

Your petitioner did not know when he came to Savannah to present his claim against the Government in the right of his late Father and mother, that he would come across a living witness, that could prove the fact of his late Father's wound and capture, by reference to the affidavit of Mrs. Catherine Ritter now 106 years of age the fact will fully appear.

Your petitioner also begs leave to state to your honorable body by reference to the ration return it fully appears that your petitioner's Father received rations up to the time the British took Savannah, the other books and papers are supposed to have been destroyed by the enemy. The books and papers now in the Sheftall family were preserved by the late Mordecai Sheftall Deputy Commissary General of the issues, having been sent by him out of the City of Savannah at that time, it will be recollected that the said Mordecai Sheftall and his son Sheftall Sheftall

were taken prisoners by the British, that the name of Sheftall Sheftall<sup>3</sup> is inscribed on the pension roll.

Again your petitioner solicits the attention of your honorable body to the fact that by reason of said wound that his late Father received in the knee while in the line of this duty against the enemy, that he was lame up to the time of his death.

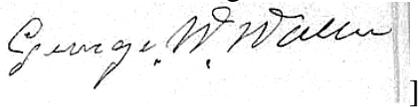
Your Petitioner's Father Doctor John Love who was Surgeon's Mate as aforesaid departed this life in the city of Savannah State of Georgia on the 25th of April A.D. 1809, that his Mother Louisa Love survived his Father John Love and departed this life on the 13th of September 1851 at the City of New Orleans, that neither of his late parents in their lifetime applied for commutation half pay, invalid pension or rears of pension money.

Your petitioner now with due respect approaches your honorable body and respectfully asks your interposition to the intent, so that your petitioner being the only surviving heir of the above mentioned persons made the allowed to receive the half pay due his late Father from 1782 to 1809, and that your petitioner may also be allowed to receive pension money in right of his Mother from 1831 to 1851, and may be placed on the same footing that officers wives are now by law who were married at the time of the war. And your petitioner will ever pray etc.

S/ Jas. Love



[p 18: Affidavit dated January 13 1757 given in Chatham County Georgia by George W Waller, 57, stating that he was present at the marriage of James Love and Ann Williamson in the County of Chatham, Georgia in 1810.



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State of Georgia

City of Savannah} On this the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February A.D. 1854, Personally appeared before me Levi S. Russell, a Notary Public authorized by law to administer oaths for general purposes come within the City of Savannah, County and State aforesaid Catherine Ritter aged One hundred and five years and upwards a resident of the City of Savannah, who I certify to be respectable and entitled to credit, who being duly Sworn according to law declares, that she was personally and intimately acquainted with Doctor John Love and Louisa Love his Wife in their lifetime, that they lived together as man and wife and were so reputed, that James Love was acknowledged by them to be their Son, and so generally reputed in the Community, deponent derives her information having resided in the County of Chatham from the Commencement of the Revolutionary War against Great Britain until peace was proclaimed, that in the year 1779, which was the time the Americans undertook to recapture Savannah, at that time the said Doctor John Love was Surgeon's Mate in Colonel White's Regiment and wounded in the knee, that he was then taken prisoner, and subsequently escaped or released, and served in the American Army until peace was proclaimed, that the said Doctor John Love was lame by reason of the wound he received up to the time of his death – Deponent does not expect to receive any reward or

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<sup>3</sup> [Sheftall Sheftall S31959](#)

compensation for filing this affidavit, or is she directly or indirectly interested in the claim of James Love. Deponent from old age and bodily infirmities is unable to go before a Judge to file her affidavit.

Sworn to and marked before me the day and year aforesaid

S/ Levi S. Russell, JP

S/ Catherine Ritter, X her mark

[Note: Anyone interested in this family and its genealogy is encouraged to review all of the documents in this file, a number of which address the descendants of the veteran. The sheer number of such documents was so overwhelming that I elected not to take the time to transcribe them all because the primary focus of this database is to celebrate the military services of those who fought in the Revolutionary War and not genealogy.]