

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James F. Gordon S32278

Transcribed by Will Graves

f11NC

8/31/07 rev'd 9/13/15

[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 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.]

State of Georgia and, County of Oglethorpe: SS

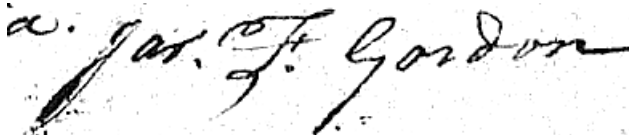
On this fifteenth day of January eighteen hundred & thirty four personally appeared in open court before the Honorable the Justices of the Inferior Court now sitting, James F. Gordon of the county & State aforesaid aged sixty eight years, less seven days, who being first duly sworn according to law doth, on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he was born in Brunswick County, State of Virginia on the 22nd day of January 1766. That the only record of his age that he has is a transcript made by himself from the old family bible which is now exhibited in court & which was always considered correct by the family. That when he first went into service he lived in Warren County North Carolina & was a well grown lad of fifteen years of age. That after the Revolutionary War he lived in Mecklenburg County North Carolina & that he now lives in Oglethorpe County State of Georgia where he has resided for about twenty seven years past. That he first entered the service as a substitute for one William Ballard. That the nature of the service he had to perform was such that he had no opportunity of being personally acquainted with any of the regular officers or Continental regiments; and if his own company of Militia were ever organized into a regiment at all he has no recollection of its number or name. That he left home with the expectation of being placed under the command of General Greene [Nathanael Greene] & that expectation continued until he got within fifteen miles of Guilford Courthouse where himself & about sixteen or eighteen of the company to which he belonged were ordered back with the stock procured for provisioning the army to a magazine where they were stationed during the remainder of the three months guarding the magazine day & night under the strictest discipline. The name of the Captain under whom he served was John Twitty, the names of his first Lieutenant & Sergeant if he remembers a right were White & Langford. That forgetfulness of names & dates is his peculiar infirmity. That he set out from the edge of N. Carolina next to Virginia & marched direct for Guilford where he would have joined Greene & taken part in the battle of that place [March 15, 1781] if he had not been disposed of in the manner above mentioned. This tour was commenced in the early part of the Spring of 1781 say about the last of February or first of March & deponent served out every day of the three months.

Immediately after the close of this first tour he went over to Brunswick in Virginia to his grandfather's & there though perhaps too young he stood a draft & it fell to his lot to serve another tour of three months in that State. On this occasion he was commanded by one Captain Stith, a Lieutenant Collier & if his memory serves him the Battalion was commanded by a Major of the same name with his Captain. The names of other officers he does not recollect except the Commissary with whom he had more to do than with anyone else. He only had to march about five miles from his grandfather's before he came to the dwelling of a Mr. Lamb who was the Commissary just alluded to & whose home furnished one department of the magazine & deponent having become somewhat skilled in the services

required about magazines he was again left among those upon whom such duties were imposed & the duties performed for three months were precisely of the same character with those described in the first tour. He obtained discharges from his Captains at the close of each tour & left them at the house of a stepfather in Chatham County N. Carolina where they were destroyed. This tour was commenced & completed in the summer of 1781. Deponent never held a commission & has now no documentary evidence by which to support this declaration nor does he know of a single living witness of the facts herein stated. He feels no difficulty in stating the names of the Rev. Miller Bledsoe, Benjamin Blanton, George Lumpkin & Thomas Amy to whom he is known in his present neighborhood & who he thinks would cheerfully testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. Declarant not thinking it of much consequence had almost failed to mention, that in the Fall of the same year above mentioned (1781) he was again drafted for a three months tour in Warren County North Carolina & enlisted under the command of Captain Kendrick [James Kendrick] & Major Davis & marched from Warren to Dinwiddie County in Virginia & when approaching near to Dinwiddie Courthouse news came that Cornwallis had surrendered [October 19, 1781] & we were then on the way to assist the American forces at Yorktown we were marched back home & disbanded not having been subjected to military discipline much more than about three weeks, but fully that length of time. So that six months & three weeks is the whole amount of time which deponent served in the war of the Revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State the United States.

S/ Jas. F. Gordon



Sworn to and subscribed the day & year said in open court before me.

S/ John Landrum, Clerk

We, Benjamin Blanton a clergyman residing in Oglethorpe County State of Georgia, and Daniel Deupree residing in the same county, hereby certify that we are well acquainted with James F. Gordon who has subscribed & sworn to the above declaration, that we believe him to be of the age therein stated; that he is reputed & believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution, & that we concur in that opinion.

S/ Benjn. Blanton, MP

S/ Daniel Deupree

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & year above mentioned before me

S/ John Landrum, Clerk

State of Georgia, Oglethorpe County

Before the undersigned Justices of the Inferior Court of the County & State aforesaid now sitting James F. Gordon of said County petitioned to make his declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 in the following is the result of his examination taken in pursuance of the regulations adopted by the Secretary of War for carrying into effect the above mentioned Act.

Interrogatory 1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. In Brunswick County, Virginia on the 22nd of January 1766.

Interrogatory 2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer. The only record he has of his age is a transcript made by himself from the family Bible & which he has now in Court.

Interrogatory 3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the

Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. In Warren County North Carolina after the war in Mecklenburg County of the same State & he now lives in Oglethorpe County Georgia.

Interrogatory 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer. In the first place he was a substitute for one William Ballard & afterwards he was drafted.

Interrogatory 5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer. There were no regular officers with the Troops where he served nor was his situation such as to bring him acquainted with any Continental or Militia regiments – he served six months & three weeks partly in North Carolina & partly in Virginia in manner & form particularly described in his declaration this day tendered for the consideration of the Court to which he begs leave to refer & all the time as a private soldier in the militia.

Interrogatory 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Answer. He did received discharges from his Captains; he left them with his stepfather & they were destroyed.

Interrogatory 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer. The Rev. Miller Bledsoe, Benjamin Blanton, George Lumpkin and Thomas Amy [could be Thomas Army]

Answered & subscribed before us this 15th day of January 1834.

S/ Jas F. Gordon

S/ Britton Stamps, JIC

S/ Hay T. Lundrum, JIC

S/ George Tuggle, JIC

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$22.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months and 21 days in North Carolina militia.]