

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Gordon S37953

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

District of Columbia, SS.

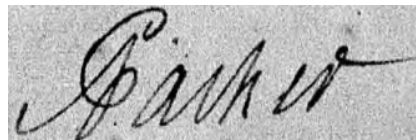
On this ninth day of November 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Circuit Court of the United States for the said district, personally appears James Gordon aged 86 years, resident in Georgia (but now in said district,) who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war:" That he the said James Gordon enlisted in Williamsburg in the state of Virginia in the year 1776 in the company commanded by Captain Everard Mead [sic: Everard Meade] of the 2 Reg't. Virg'a. line; that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States until after the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], when from a grievous wound received in the said battle he was incapable of farther service during the war that he was in the battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777] and Monmouth and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services, except the annexed certificate.

[The following four certificates were written on two sides of one sheet in different handwritings.]

Westm[orelan]d County October 17, 1818

I am perfectly convinced that the Bearer James Gordon was a Soldier in the revolutionary war That he was in the action at the Great Bridge, near Norfolk, in the year 1775 [9 Dec 1775] That he afterward marched with a detachmant of the Virg'a line to the North to join the Army, That he was in the action at German Town, Pensilvania, and when I left the Northern Army, by Command, to go to the South in Seventy seven, Eight, I think the s'd. Gordon was left behind in the Hospital

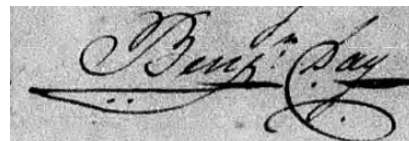
[Alexander Parker]



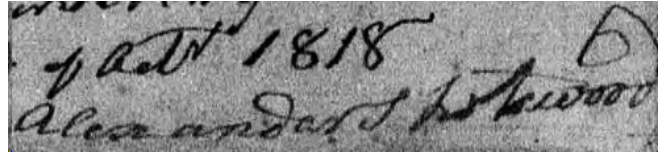
From a Conversation I have had with the abovenamed Mr. James Gordon in which he reminds me of Circumstances which occurred at the Actions of Brandywine and German Town, and also in Relation to the second Virginia Regiment, as well as from the above Certificate of General Alexander Parker, I have no Doubt of his having been a Soldier in the second Virginia Regiment in the years 1776 & 1777, then under the Command of Colo. Alex'r. Spotswood [Alexander Spotswood]; but the Lapse of Time, since the Revolutionary War is such as to have obliterated my Recollection of his Person, or any Remembrance of him that might now justify my pronouncing more positively as to his Identity.

Fredericksburg Oct'r. 24<sup>th</sup> 1818

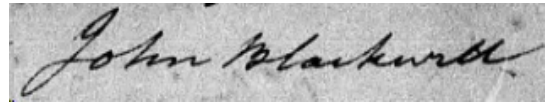
[Benjamin Day]



From the above Certificates signed Alexander Parker Capt of the 2<sup>d</sup> Va Regiment under my Command and Benj<sup>a</sup> Day serving in the same Regiment and from many well known circumstances Related to me by the bearer James Gordon I am convinced that he was a soldier in the 2<sup>d</sup> V<sup>a</sup>. Reg<sup>t</sup> under my Command in the Revolutionary war given under my hand this 25 day of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1818  
Alexander Spotswood



Fauquier County Virginia 2<sup>d</sup> Nov<sup>r</sup>. 1818  
I have no personal knowledge of the within named James Gordon (not having served in the same Regiment with him,) I have examined him very strictly, and from various circumstances which occurred during the Revolutionary War which he appears well acquainted with induces me to have no doubt of his having served a considerable length of time in the Virginia Line on Continental establishment in the War of the Revolution  
John Blackwell



STATE OF GEORGIA, } In the Superior Court of said County  
Oglethorpe COUNTY. }

ON this nineteenth (19) day of October 1820 Personally appeared in open Court, (being a Court of Record for the said County,) James Gordon aged eighty eight years—resident in Oglethorpe County, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he has served in the Revolutionary War—That he is the same person to whom the following Certificate was originally granted, of which the following is a true copy—

“WAR DEPARTMENT,/ REVOLUTIONARY CLAIM

I CERTIFY, that in conformity with the Law of the United States of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March, 1818, James Gordon late a Private in the Army of the Revolution, is inscribed on the Pension List, Roll of the Georgia Agency, at the rate of eight Dollars per month, to commence on the ninth day of November one thousand eight hundred and eighteen

GIVEN at the War-Office of the United States, this tenth day of November one thousand eight hundred and eighteen (Signed) J C Calhoun/ Sec’y of War”

[A note in the margin signed “J.L.E.” (James L. Edwards, Chief Pension Clerk) reads as follows: “I presume from the dates that this cert is not copied correctly.”]

And I, the said James Gordon doth further solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

Sworn to and Declared, on this nineteenth day of October 1820 Before me,  
A. J. Clayton Judge James his Xmark Gordon

[The following schedule is almost illegible.]

Schedule of property

One old stage waggon, one blind horse, one mare with one eye & old feather bed, & furniture, one mould to cast still worms & a few tools to mend stills. The occupation of the Declarant is a still

minder – he has had both legs broke twice but is now able to walk without crutches, he also at Gates's defeat [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] had a bayonet run through his right seed or nut. He has no family of any kind [two or three illegible words] he has no other securities, contracts or debts due to him except the sum of four dollars                      James hisXmark Gordon

NOTES:

Gordon may have been at the Battle of Great Bridge and at Gates's Defeat in the militia and not mentioned it because only service in the Continental Line counted under the pension laws of 1818 and 1820.

A document in the file states that Gordon died on 26 Feb 1823.