

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of John Bodine S42628
Transcribed by J Richards

Punctuation, grammar and spelling have been maintained from the original; no modifications have been made.

[Cautionary note to Researchers: There are two separate John Bodines from Virginia that have caused confusion in the Footnote.com database. This database has merged all the records for both individuals into both applications S42624 and S42628. For a clear picture of what is correct see the HeritageQuest Revolutionary War pension database as they have properly separated the abbreviated records packets for the two individuals.

If using the Footnote.com database to view the original records in file S42624 (John Bodine of General Washington's Life Guard; of Ross County, Ohio when he made his application), you should only consider pages 1-42 as a part of this file. Pages 43 onward have been mistakenly included and apply to John Bodine of Colonel Armand's Legion (of Warren County, Ohio when he made his application). Likewise, for file S42628, please disregard pages 1-42 as this pension file should only contain the records for the John Bodine of Colonel Armand's Legion's found on pages 43 onward. That specific file is addressed below]

[fn44] Original Claim -- The State of Ohio, Warren County Court of Common Pleas, Seventh judicial circuit

On this 24th day of December 1825 personally appeared in open court for the Seventh circuit in the county aforesaid John Bodine of the county of Warren and State of Ohio aged sixty one years in September next ensuing who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order obtain provision made by acts of Congress that he the said John Bodine enlisted for the term of during the War sometime about the last of the year 1780 or the beginning of the year 1781 and some time afterwards perhaps about the month of March by the special interference of Capt. John Kearney, who was personally acquainted with the deponent, he was exchanged and transferred to the said Capt. Kearney's company in the Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Crocket where the Deponent served near one year when the term of Service of the Soldier expired whose place he had taken by the exchange and transfer he was discharged, and afterward on or about the 28th day of March 1782 in Berkley [sic, Berkeley] County, Va. He again enlisted in the Independent Corps or Legion on the Continental establishment commanded by Gen. Armong [sic, Armand] for the term of three years and was attached to a Company commanded by Captains Lee-Bart [sic, a likely reference to Captain Claudius de Bert] and Brevia [sic, a likely reference to Captain Augustine Briffault] and served in said Legionary's Corps until about the 4th November 1783 when he was discharged at Little York in the state of Pa., that he placed an honorable discharge into the hands of Moses Hunter of Virginia to obtain his land Warrant and which Warrant he never did obtain, that he has no other written evidence of his service.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18th 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 the 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 18th 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 whatever other than what is contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed & by me subscribed viz
A mare, \$40; two beds and bedding \$20; one tub \$1.50; knives and forks, \$.50; plates and dishes, \$.75; one old axe, \$.50; one pair of horse gears, \$2.00; two kettles, \$2.00; one pot, \$.50; five sheep, \$5.00; six old chairs \$2.00; one corner cupboard, \$4.00; one saddle, \$2.00. Total value of assets: \$80.75.

The reason I did not make an earlier application for the allowance of a pension was owing to my ability to support myself and family with the means which I had acquired while in the prime of Life the following changes have taken place in my property since the 18th March 1818 to wit: one hundred and twenty acres in Virginia Bartley [sic, Berkeley] County sold to Joseph Grantam June 1818 for \$5400.00 in the following payments viz \$2500.00 June 1818 and paid in hand \$968 to be paid in 16 months \$966 first Nov 1821 and \$966 on the first of March 1823 the two first payments amounting to \$3468 have been recd. however a part of the \$968 was recovered by due course of Law, and was paid by his Security entered into during the progress of the suit, the ballance amounting to \$1932 is lost by the failure of insolvency of the said Grantam that in December 1818 I purchased a farm estimated at 100 acres of Jacob Fox of Warren County Ohio upon which I paid \$1000, the ballance of the purchase money amounted to \$1400, was to have been paid in 1821 but owing to the failure of Grantam and from the great depreciation in the price of property I was unable to meet the payment a suit was instituted against me for its recovery. Judgt obtained Execution issued and no property being found and suit was about to commenced in chancery to sell the Interest in said farm. I being convinced that the Land with the incumberances would not sell for one half of the Judgt by agreement I surrendered the interest I had in the said farm in discharge of said Judgt the balance of the money I recd for the Land and other property I sold in Virginia I expended in payment of Legacies and various other small debts in Virginia in removing my family to Ohio in prosecuting suits at law in Virginia and defending them in Ohio and in making improvements on the farm I purchased in Warren County, Ohio which was disposed of as aforesaid the legacy I last paid was in 1821 to Peter Bordine which was discharged by giving a Wagon & two horses estimated at \$250. The land sold in Virginia was a legacy bequested by Abraham Marlatt, my wife's father, one third to my Wife absolute and the balance to her children a part of the legacies were purchased by me previous to the sale I am much afflicted with Rheumatic pains and am unable to labour. I have a wife living Jane Bodine who is about 65 years of age and more infirm that myself. We have had ten children to wit Abraham, Hannah, Ann, John, William, Catherine, Margaret, Polly, Peter and Lydia, all of whom except Polly who is of age and is yet living with us.

John Bodine

Sworn and Subscribed in open Court 24th Dec 1825

J. K. Wild Clerk

The following is a summary of a lengthy deposition in the application packet:

[fn85] In a deposition of 26 May 1826 taken in Wayne County, Indiana, Abraham Marlatt declared that he has known John Bodine of Warren County, Ohio, formerly of Berkeley County, Virginia, since about 1782. Marlatt attested that both he and Bodine both served in the Corps or Legion commanded by Colonel Armong [sic, Armand] and that Bodine was in the company of Capt. Brefo [sic, a likely reference to Captain Briffault]. Marlatt stated that they were discharged at the same time at York, Pennsylvania, in the fall of 1783 and returned to Virginia in company. [Transcriber's note: Abraham Marlatt, brother of John Bodine's wife, Jane Marlatt, enlisted with John Bodine in Winchester, Virginia, probably during a recruiting drive by Colonel Armand.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing on 15 Dec 1827 for service for one year from 1782 to 4 November 1783 in the Continental Line as a private in Colonel Armand's Legion. Bodine's depositions also indicate that prior to this he enlisted in a probable

militia unit in late 1780 or early 1781 and was subsequently transferred to Captain Kearney's company in the Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Crocket. Following discharge from this unit he re-enlisted in Armand's Legion.]

Supporting documentation from other sources:

Virginia Soldiers of 1776 compiled from documents on file in the Virginia Land Office together with material found in the Archives Dept of the Virginia State Library, and other sources, compiled by Louis Burgess, Volume III, 1929, reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1994, provided confirmation of information in pension application of John Bodine: p.1252 states "In Congress, 18 Feb 1779. Resolved that all the men, inhabitants of the United States, show shall be recruited in the corps of Colonel Armand in any of the United States, shall be credited to the quota of the state in which they shall be enlisted, they not being inhabitants of any other of the U.S. War Office. Pursuant to the foregoing resolution, the following return was made to Va., to wit: A return of the men belonging to the State of Virginia, who served in the first partisan legion commanded by Brig Gen Armand, Marquis de la Rouerie, discharged 15 Nov 1783. Note: All the men whose names are in the list are entitled to 200 acres from Virginia: [included on the list is]

Bourdoin, John [Bodine, John]

Morlat, Abraham [Marlatt, Abraham, who attested in above deposition to having served in the same unit as his brother-in-law, John Bodine]"

Overview of Armand's Legion

After serving in Captain Kearney's company in the Virginia State Regiment commanded by Col. Joseph Crocket as indicated in his application, John Bodine re-enlisted in the Continental Army about March 1782 in Armand's Legion whose history is outlined in *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774-1787* by E.M. Sanchez-Saavedra, 1978, reprint, Westminster, MD:Heritage Books, 2007. Pages 93-95 state:

"Armand's Legion, 1777-1783 (also designated at various times: Armand's Partizan Corps, 1st Partizan Corps, Free and Independent Chasseurs)

Field Officers

Colonel Charles Armand Tuffin, Marquis de la Rouerie, May 10, 1777-November 25, 1783; promoted to brigadier general.

Charles Armand Tuffin, Marquis de la Rouerie, was one of the more colorful characters of the Revolution. Born in Brittany in 1756, Armand came to America as a volunteer in 1777. Commissioned as a colonel at the age of 21, he was permitted by Washington to raise a partisan, or guerrilla, force of 200 men. On June 11 he was given command of 3 companies from Ottendorff's Independent Corps. Major Nicholas Dietrich, Baron von Ottendorff, had inherited the command of an independent Pennsylvania company raised by John Paul Schott in Sep 1776. Ottendorff's freikorps was a failure, and Ottendorff himself resigned, ultimately to desert to the British and join Benedict Arnold in 1780.

By June 1777 Armand's corps numbered about 80. On the 26th of that month, his men were defending a gun emplacement at Short Hills, NJ, against great odds. Thirty-two enlisted men were killed or wounded, and by November, Armand's force consisted of only 42 privates. The small size of the unit prompted Congress to consider scrapping the partisan corps and "to throw the Men into some Regiment." In an effort to save his unit Armand recruited prisoners, deserters, and other undesirables to swell his ranks. With Washington's personal support Armand got Congress to countermand its resolve, and on June 25, 1778, he was authorized to raise three companies of infantry (Free and Independent Chasseurs) with 14 officers and 438 men. Later in

the year a company of mounted troops was joined to the corps. Slightly over half the quota was actually raised, enough to satisfy Congress.

In 1780 the partizan corps was attached to Gate's army in the Southern Department. Both Armand's and Lee's legions were engaged at Camden on August 15, 1780, when Gate's army was roundly defeated by Cornwallis. Lighthorse Harry Lee blamed Armand for much of the confusion and panic but admitted that the poor quality of his recruits was more responsible than any want of bravery on the part of the officers.

By 1781 Armand's corps was again down to forty light dragoons (soldier trained to fight on foot but who transports himself on horseback). In May the remnant was attached to Lafayette's light infantry on the James River station. Under Lafayette the partizan legion served at Jamestown and Yorktown from July to October. After the surrender of Cornwallis' army at Yorktown, Armand remained in Virginia where he conducted a vigorous recruiting effort. The Continental War Office on December 11 authorized him to enlist "free men between the ages of 16 and 40 (but)...no deserters...or Seaman." George Washington allowed him to recover any and all horses "that become public property by the Capitulation of the 19th..."

Armand took his instructions so seriously that complaints of civilian oppression flooded Governor Benjamin Harrison's office from late 1782 to 1783. Horses and forage were impressed on suspicion of having once been British property. After being transferred from Yorktown to the James River station to Staunton, Armand's force, now grown to 300, was ordered disbanded in October 1783. Toward the end, it was feared that Armand and his private army of foreigners might attempt a coup d'état against Congress. To placate him, Congress appointed Armand a brigadier general on March 26, 1783.

Companies, 1777-1783

[Eleven companies are listed, but the following are the likely units to which John Bodine was assigned:]

Captain Claudius de Bert, 1778-1783

Captain Augustine Briffault, 1779 -1783"

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

Amended 8/17/12

Discharge papers of John Bodine (S42628) record him as John Burdoin:

This is to certify that John Burdoin a Private in the fusiliers in the First Partizan Legion, under my Command, has served Faithfully and Bravely to this Day, is hereby discharged from the Service of the *United States*, in Pursuance of Orders received from the Commander in Chief, bearing Date the third instant.

I further certify that John Burdoin a Private in the fusiliers, having been enlisted in the State of Virginia is intituled by the Resolution of Congress, of the 13th *February*, 1779, to the Benefits that have been, or hereafter shall be, granted by the said State to the Noncommissioned Officers and Soldiers of the said line.

Given under my Hand and Seal at York Town, this fifteenth Day of November, 1783.

(signed) C. Armand, Marquis de la Rouerie Brigadier General

Entered in the Book of the Legion.

Attest

(signed) Godfried Swartz

Adjutant of the Legion

(signed) The above soldier was enlisted for the war I believe. Henry Bedinger, Capt., 5th Virginia Regt

(Note: In John Bodine's Revolutionary War pension application he states he placed an honorable discharge into the hands of Moses Hunter of Virginia to obtain his land warrant and which warrant he never did obtain, that he has no other written evidence of his service. This is that missing discharge.)