

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Howell Hedgbeth VAS1476

[vsl 24](#)

Jethro Gould

John Watson

Josiah Jones

John Rawls

Moses Rawls

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/9/14

[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 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.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

The heirs at law (all of whom live in Nansemond County) of the following named soldiers, to wit: Jethro Gould, Howell Hedgbeth, John Watson, Josiah Jones, John Rawls and Moses Rawls pray an allowance of bounty land for their services in the Revolutionary War. They file the depositions of three revolutionary soldiers & pensioners, who are men of credibility and good standing in Nansemond, proving that the above named soldiers did enlist under Jason Riddick for three years during the Revolutionary War, and that all of them were killed or died in service as was stated by Timothy Langston and John March, who enlisted with them and returned home from the service, and have received their bounty land.

Richard D Webb

Agent for the heirs

March 10, 1835

His Excellency
Governor Tazewell

I William Boyt of the County of Nansemond & State of Virginia, aged seventy-six (born June 25th, 1758) being a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States, do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted during the revolutionary war with Howell Hedgbeth, and John Watson, and Jethro Gould, and Josiah Jones, and John Rawls and Moses Rawls of this County, that they were all near neighbors of mine, and that all of them enlisted in the Virginia Continental Army in this County about the year 1777 or '78 under Jason Riddick for three years and went away to the North under that officer, and all six of them were killed or died in Service – And it has always been understood and believed in the neighborhood where these men resided that they were either killed or died in service. – The above named Howell Hedgbeth, John Watson, Jethro Gould, Josiah Jones, John Rawls and Moses Rawls [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]

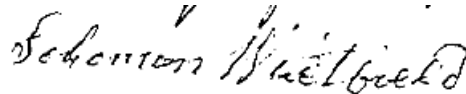
[attested in Nansemond County June 7th, 1834]

The deposition of Solomon Whitfield of Nansemond County, Virginia, who is a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States, says he was well acquainted before and during a part of the Revolutionary War with Howell Hedgbeth and John Watson and Jethro Gould and John Rawls and Moses Rawls of this County & State – that they were all near neighbors of his, none of them lived more than 8 or 10 miles from South Quay – and that all of them enlisted in the Virginia Continental Army in the early part of the war, as well as I recollect in the year 1777 under Jason Riddick and marched away to the north, to join General Washington, under that officer – and that all five of them were either killed or died in service, as was understood from those who returned, Timothy Langston, John March &c: and this has [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]

[next page]

...named Howell Hedgbeth, John Watson, Jethro Gould, John Rawls & Moses Rawls enlisted as soldiers – and I understood from them, after they had enlisted, that they had enlisted for a tour of 3 years. – Sworn to and subscribed this 5th day of September 1834

S/ Solomon Whitfield



Report upon the Claims of the heirs of Jethro Gould –
Howell Hedgbeth – John Watson – Josiah Jones – John
Rawls – and Moses Rawls – Soldiers of the Continental
line, for bounty land, for their services

To the Governor

Sir,

The names of none of these soldiers appear on the Army Register except of John Watson – and John Rolls

A certificate issued April 30, 1785 for £15.17 point for the balance of 4 pay &c due to John Watson, which certificate was delivered to Colonel Cropper.

The name of John Roll (not Rawls) occurs twice on the Army register of the Continental line.

A certificate issued in the name of John Rolls for £18.16 the balance of his full pay &c which certificate was delivered to Colonel Strother, April 2nd, 1783.

A Certificate issued in the name of John Rolls Soldier of Infantry of the Continental line, for £18.12.5 the balance of his full pay &c, which certificate was delivered to Mr Rolls February 17, 1784 (see Army Register of the Continental line.)

The affidavits of three witnesses have been filed, in support of these claims – the witnesses were soldiers of the Revolution, and have been proved to be credible. They are William Boyt – Solomon Whitfield [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]

[next page]

...were neighbors of the heirs, and well known to them – that they enlisted, all about the same time, in the year 1777 or 1778 in the Virginia Continental Army for 3 years, under Jason Riddick, and marched with him to join the northern Army – that they were residents of Nansemond County, enlisted in that County, and were all killed, or died, in the service – (see the affidavits of the witnesses)

The death of these soldiers, in the service, may account for the nonappearance of their

names on the Continental Army register.

The above are all the facts, which it is in my power to report.

Respectfully submitted
John H Smith, Commissioner &c
June 2nd, 1835

The deposition of Elijah Jones of the County of Nansemond & State of Virginia, who is a Revolutionary pensioner of the United States says that he was well acquainted before and during a part of the Revolutionary War with Howell Hedgbeth, John Watson, Jethro Gould, Josiah Jones, John Rawls and Moses Rawls of this County; that they all lived in the upper part of this County, in the neighborhood of South Quay, where I lived before the Revolution and still live – that all of the above named men enlisted in the Virginia Continental Army, as soldiers, in the early part of the war, I think about the year 1777, and at the same time and under the same officer that Timothy Langston & John March enlisted under, and that all six of them died or were killed in Service, as I have heard John March & Timothy Langston say who returned from the Army after they [the image of this document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]

[next page]

I do not know of my own knowledge that the soldiers enlisted for 3 years because I was not in the same service with them, but I have heard John March & Timothy Langston, who were in the same service and who returned from the war, say that they all enlisted for 3 years.

Sworn to & subscribed this 10th day of September 1832

S/ Elijah Jones



State of Virginia in Nansemond County to wit

I certify that I was acquainted with Howell Hedgbeth, Jethro Gould, John Rawls, John Watson and Moses Rawls who enlisted as soldiers in the early part of the Revolutionary War under Jason Riddick for 3 years and that all five of them marched away to join to the Northern Army, and were all either killed in battle or died in service, and that this was the universal belief in the neighborhood where these men lived, because John March and Timothy Langston who enlisted in the same service and returned home after serving 3 years, said that the above five men were killed or died in service.

S/ Henry Harrison



[Attested in Nansemond County August 13, 1835]

[p 15: The actual petition of the heirs is illegible as posted online: the document is dated Nansemond August 30th, 1835 and is signed by Howell Hedgbeth heir at law of Howell Hedgbeth, Sally Gould heir at law of Jethro Gould; Rutland Watson heir at law of John Watson

and Amos Rawls heir at law of John and Moses Rawls, all with their marks]

[Note: on page 17, the documents relate to the claims of the heirs of Frederick Heimberger