

JAMES POTTER

SERVICE		NUMBER
Va.	Potter, James	S. 17023
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No. 25. 280
 East Tennessee
 James Potter
 of Cocke Co. in the State of Tennessee
 who was a private in the Company commanded by
 Captain Evans of the regt. commanded by
 Genl. G. R. Blake in the King's State
 from 1776 to 1779

Paid at the Treasury on the 23^d of April 1838
 from the 4th Sept 1838 to the 4th March
 1839 age 70. Notice 20. April 1840
 To Miss Evans to March
 1839 20 April 40. Modification
 to Hon. J. Wilson. H. R. S.

Found on the Roll of East Tennessee
 at the rate of 140 Dollars — Cash per annum
 to commence on the 1st day of March, 1834.

Certificate of Pension issued the 20 day of Decr
 1833 and sent to 76 on job
 Blair. H. R.

Amount to the 1st of Sept 1833 \$ 100. —
 Terminal allowance ending 24th Oct 34 20. —
 \$ 120. —

{ Revolutionary War. }
 { Act June 7, 1832. }
 Recorded by *J. M. Allison* Clerk.
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James Potter was in Greene County by 1796 when he was appointed by the Greene County Court to mark a road. Other appointees were Henry, Samuel, and Robert Gregg; James McMurtry, and Samuel McKemy. All of these men lived in the Caney Branch area, which infers so too did James Potter. James filed for Pension in Cocke County and appears on the Pension Rolls in Cocke County in 1835, age 75.

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Cocke County: Cocke County Court August Sessions 1833

On this 28th day of August 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for Cocke County the same being a Court of Record – James Potter aged seventy-four years – and made oath in due form of law that he is a citizen of the State of Tennessee Cocke County – And further on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 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 the state of Connecticut on the 6th day of July 1759 – And entered the service of the United States as an Enlisted Soldier under Captain Jesse Evans at the Long Islands of Holston [River] then North Carolina as he believes – and served in the __ Regiment commanded by Colonel Clark [George Rogers Clark] Lieutenant Colonel John Montgomery – And rendezvoused sometime in September 1779 as near as he can recollect – And from the Long Islands they marched by water down the Holston to Tennessee River and down said River to the Junction with the Ohio and down the Ohio to the Mississippi and up the Mississippi to the Kaskaskia and Stationed about two months from whence he moved by water down the Mississippi to the mouth of the Ohio and up the Ohio to Fort Vanzant [Fort Vincennes] – where they were stationed during the winter of 1779 – And were marched from thence down to the mouth of the Ohio and from thence to Fort Yellow Bank on the Mississippi during all which service they had no engagement except as the [they] went down the Tennessee some Indians fired on them in their canoes in what is now called the suck [?]¹ in said River – but did no execution nor were they able to find them on pursuit – but some miles below the [they] found six Indians and after a hard row caught them – kept them as prisoners. And after being stationed at Fort Yellow Bank during the summer of '80 they were ordered to Kaskaskia where he was honorably discharged by Colonel Montgomery sometime in September as he believes – making a term of twelve months during his term of enlistment.

Declarant does not now recollect the member [number?] of the Regiment to which he belonged nor does he know whether it was considered as belonging to the Virginia or North Carolina line. – As he was young and inexperienced. He states that the Regulars in company amounted to about 150 men – he also recollects that Captain Thomas Shibley & Captain Quick commanded companies in the Regiment – during this campaign he messed with Leonard

James Potter

Shoemaker, John Slaughter & others. He states that he kept his discharge many years – but finally lost it he knows not how nor where. Since the Revolutionary War he has resided part of the time in Virginia part of the time in the State of Tennessee for the last 30 years he has lived in Coke [sic, Cocks] County where he now resides.

He states there is no clergyman in the neighborhood where he resides; but that John Henderson, William W Hancock are acquainted with him and can state as to his character for veracity –

He has no documentary evidence by which to substantiate his claim nor does he now know of any living by whom he can prove his service except such as he here with transmits. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and states that his name is not on the roll of any agency of any state.

S/ James Potter, X his mark

[William W Hancock and John Henderson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories propounded by the court –1st Where and in what year were you born? Answer in the State of Connecticut on the 6th day of July 1759.

2nd have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans. I have a record of my age in my possession.

3rd How were you called into service

Ans. I enlisted for 12 months under Captain Jesse Evans. –

4th did you receive a discharge from the service by whom and what has become of it? – Answer I received a discharge from the service from Colonel Montgomery and afterwards lost it. Other questions answered in the body.

S/ James Potter, X his mark

[f p. 8: On March 7, 1840 in Clay County Missouri, the veteran applied for a transfer of his pension benefit to the Missouri agency giving as his reason for moving to Missouri as being that most of his children had moved to Missouri "with the hope of bettering their pecuniary situation, and most of them had emigrated to Missouri and he was old and infirm and thought it more suitable and more agreeable to spend the remainder of his days in the enjoyment of their society."]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia State troops.]

Family information gives James' date and place of birth as July 6, 1795 in Connecticut. James is said to have died about 1842 in Platte County, Missouri.

James' son, Eldridge Potter (1791-1870) served under Greene County's Captain Joseph Hale's Company during the War of 1812. On October 27, 1813, Eldridge Potter married Polly Hixson. The Potter Family left Tennessee sometime after 1835 and migrated to Missouri.

Eldridge Potter is buried in Round Prairie Cemetery in Clinton County, Missouri.

1835 Pension Rolls

Statement, &c. of Cocke county, Tennessee.

NAMES.	Rank.	Annual allow- ance.	Sums re- ceived.	Description of ser- vice.	When placed on the pen- sion roll.	Commencement of pension.	Ag'es.
Wm. Boydston	Private	46 66	116 65	Virginia militia	June 13, 1833	Mar. 4, 1831	81
Wm. Bragg	do	20 00	60 00	do	Oct. 18, 1833	do	69
Joseph Brnk	do	20 00	60 00	N. C. militia	Jan. 18, 1834	do	72
Thomas Bibee	do	56 66	-	Virginia line	Mar. 31, 1834	do	100
John Carmichal	do	40 00	-	Penn. line	Nov. 29, 1832	do	77
Wm. Coleman	do	20 00	60 00	N. Carolina militia	Dec. 20, 1833	do	72
John Campbell	do	21 55	64 65	Virginia line	Dec. 8, 1833	do	69
Wm. Davis, 2d	do	60 00	180 00	Virginia militia	Aug. 26, 1833	do	72
John Fogat	do	23 33	69 99	Virginia line	June 13, 1833	do	71
John Henry	do	36 66	109 98	do	Oct. 18, 1833	do	81
William Lofty	do	20 00	60 00	N. Carolina line	May 16, 1834	do	72
James Milliken	do	54 66	163 98	do	June 13, 1833	do	80
Samuel Martin	do	81 66	244 98	S. Carolina line	Jan. 8, 1834	do	89
Thomas Palmer	do	40 00	120 00	Virginia militia	Aug. 3, 1833	do	73
James Potter	do	40 00	100 00	Va. State troops	Dec. 20, 1833	do	75
Lewis Sawyer	do	40 00	120 00	N. Carolina militia	Aug. 16, 1833	do	87
Wm. Smallwood	do	20 00	60 00	Penn. line.	June 7, 1833	do	74
Allen S. Smallwood	do	40 00	120 00	S. Carolina line	June 13, 1833	do	71
Bart	do	23 33	69 99	N. Carolina line	Sep. 18, 1833	do	75
Peter	do	30 00	90 00	Penn. line	Ap'l. 18, 1834	do	81
Samuel Yates	do	30 00	90 00	N. C. militia	Aug. 26, 1833	do	77

Note how few men are recorded in Cocke Co. as opposed to Greene Co.

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MEMORIAL AT FIND-A-GRAVE

James Potter

BIRTH 6 Jul 1759
Connecticut, USA

DEATH 1842 (aged 82-83)
Platte County, Missouri, USA

BURIAL Unknown

MEMORIAL ID 150871325 · [View Source](#)

James Potter was a Revolutionary War soldier who served as a private in the Army under the overall command of Colonel George Rogers Clark. He was born July 6, 1759 in Connecticut; resided in Virginia at the close of the Revolutionary War; then lived in Cocke County, Tennessee, until about 1840 when he moved to Missouri to be near his children. James was married to Susan or Sarah Wilson who lived from about 1750 to about 1810. His exact date of death is unknown, but his last pension payment was issued on November 29, 1842 in Platte County, Missouri.

March 27, 1939.

R. E. Seaton
3206 Highland
Kansas City, Missouri.

RA-J/ILL
James Potter
S. 17023

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of James Potter, who was a pensioner of Missouri in 1840.

The data which follow are shown in the papers on file in pension claim, S. 17023, based upon service of James Potter in the Revolutionary War.

James Potter was born July 6, 1759 in the State of Connecticut; the exact place of his birth and the names of his parents are not shown.

James Potter enlisted at the Long Islands of the Holston River, then in North Carolina, rendezvoused in September 1779, served in Captain Jesse Evans' company, Colonel Clark's Virginia regiment, went by water down the Tennessee and Ohio Rivers and up the Mississippi to Kaskaskia, where he was stationed two months, then went to Fort Vansant on the Ohio River, where he remained during the winter, returned to the Mississippi River in the spring and remained during the summer at Fort Yellow Bank on that river, returned then to Kaskaskia, where he was discharged in September of that year by Colonel John Montgomery.

The soldier resided in Virginia at the close of the Revolutionary War, then lived in Tennessee.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 28, 1833, at which time he resided in Cooke County, Tennessee; he had resided there about thirty years. About October 1, 1838, he moved to Clay County, Missouri, to be near his children, most of whom had moved to that state. The name of the wife of James Potter and the date and

place of their marriage are not shown, nor the names of said children.

In 1839, one Samuel Potter stated that he had been acquainted with the soldier, James Potter, in Cooke County, Tennessee, and moved with him to Clay County, Missouri, but did not state any relationship between them. There are no further data in regard to the family of this soldier.

In order to obtain the date of last payment of pension, name and address of person paid and, possibly, the date of death of this pensioner, you should address The Comptroller General, General Accounting Office, this city, and furnish the following data-

James Potter
Certificate #25280
Issued December 20, 1833
Rate \$40 per annum
Commenced March 4, 1831
Act of June 7, 1833
Missouri Agency, transferred from East Tennessee

Very truly yours,

A. D. HILLER,
Executive Assistant
to the Administrator.