

James Hampton – Cadet Application

Page from Cadet Application

IOR/L/MIL/9/110/398 Season 1799-1800 (lds 1951683) (one page only)

Greatly overexposed microfilm record.

Transcription:

I James Hampton late of Fort William in Bengal, but now of London Gentleman make Oath and say that I have caused search to be made at the Secretary's Office at the East India House in London where Parish Registers are deposited when transmitted from India in order to ascertain my age but am unable to produce another being none to be found.

And further make Oath and say that I am at this time I am above the age of fifteen years and under the age of twenty five years.

Sworn before me this
20th day of May 1800

Sgd: John Boydell

Sgd James Hampton

Lord Mayor

notes:

James Hampton was in fact born on 18 August 1784, which made him 15 years 9 months old when he signed this declaration (from the Hampton Family Bible Register).

John Boydell (1720-1804) was an artist entrepreneur who built up a very successful publishing business with particular emphasis on reproductions of engravings and their sale in France. He was a philanthropist and supporter of civic projects. We think that he was Lord Mayor of London in 1790, which maybe explains why the words "Lord Mayor" are in a different handwriting – added later to impress? He has an entry in Wikipedia.

There are two other James Hampton Cadet Register entries at the UK National Archives IOR/L/MIL/9/255/152v (one page) 1775-1799 IOR/L/MIL/9/257/76v-77 (two pages) 1799-1802 which we have not reviewed – the earlier one may relate to the "Minor Cadet" scheme.

James Hampton is shown as a Fort St George (Madras) Cadet in the 1802 New Oriental Directory & East India Directory (page 151).

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 this 20th Day of May 1800

John Boydell James Hampton
 Lord Mayor