

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Charles Harrison VAS1411

vsl 2VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/22/14

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

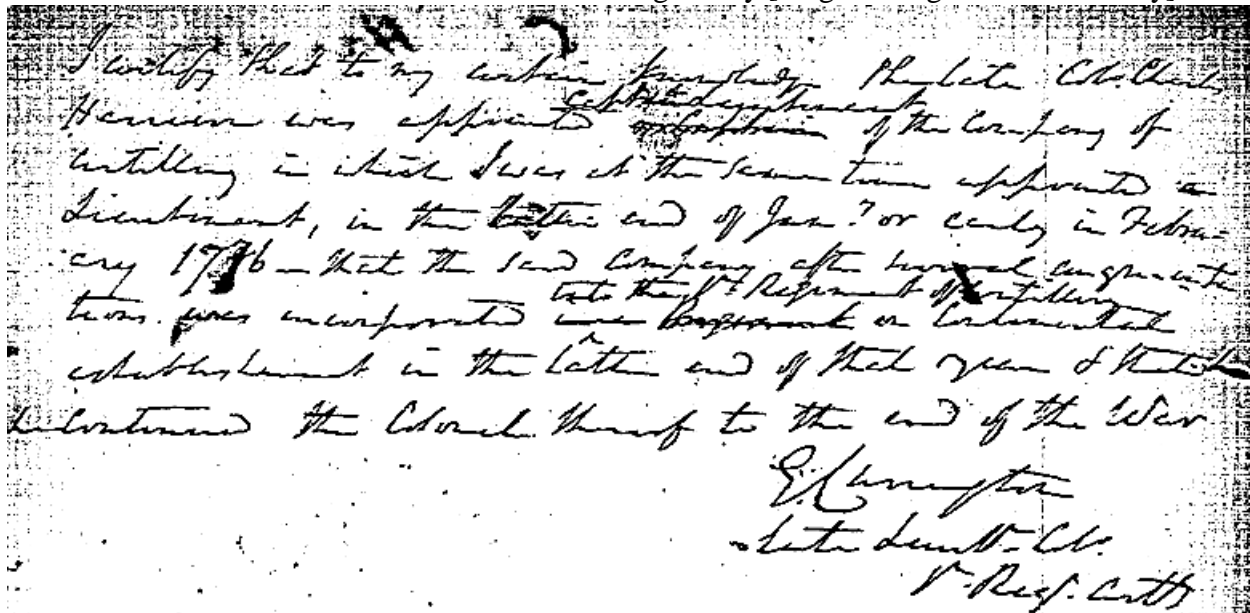
[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I certify that to my certain knowledge the late Colonel Charles Harrison was appointed Captain Lieutenant of the Company of Artillery in which I was at the same time appointed a Lieutenant, in the latter end of January or early in February 1776 – that the said company after several [indecipherable word] was incorporated late the Virginia Regiment of Artillery on Continental establishment in the latter in of that year and that he continued the Colonel thereof to the end of the War.

S/ E. Carrington [Edward Carrington]

Late Lieutenant Colonel

V. Regt. Arty [Virginia Regiment of Artillery]



I certify that to my certain knowledge the late Colonel Charles Harrison was appointed Captain Lieutenant of the Company of Artillery in which I was at the same time appointed a Lieutenant, in the latter end of Jan<sup>y</sup> or early in February 1776 – that the said Company after several [indecipherable word] was incorporated late the Virginia Regiment of Artillery on Continental establishment in the latter end of that year & that he continued the Colonel thereof to the end of the War

E. Carrington  
Late Lieut. Col.  
V. Regt. Arty

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 22-page file

Report of John H Smith Commissioner of Revolutionary claims on the Claim of General Charles Harrison

"This officer has received Bounty Land for a service of 7 years & 10 months as Colonel of

artillery. The Commissioner of Revolutionary Claims made a report on this claim to the Executive on the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 1835 which see & the documents & evidence accompanying it – since that report was made it has been ascertained that Charles Harrison is named on the Rolls of the Cincinnati Society of the State of Virginia as Brigadier General & in service from '76 to the end of the war. It appears that this officers' heirs are entitled to the difference between the Bounty Land allowed by law to a Brigadier General & to a Colonel and (according to the decision of the Executive) for a service of 7 years & 10 months."

To his Excellency the Governor of Virginia

Your memorialists John A Peterson & other heirs of General Charles Harrison beg leave respectfully to state – that their ancestor the late Charles Harrison soon after the commencement of hostilities between America and Great Britain in the year 1776 in entered the service of the former and was soon promoted to the rank of colonel of artillery, and afterwards whilst at the South to the rank of Brigadier General and continued to hold that rank until the end of the War. Soon after the war terminated their ancestor went to England and did not return until the year 1786. During his absence from America, say in February 1784 someone without the consent of said General Harrison so far as they had been able to learn, applied for and received a Warrant in his name for 6666 acres for his services as Colonel. They have succeeded in obtaining the most unquestionable evidence to prove that he was a Brigadier General in the battle of Camden and remained such to the end of the war.

Judge Brooke was a Lieutenant in one of the Companies belonging to that Regiment and knew General Harrison well and served two Campaigns under him in the South – and knows he had the rank of Brigadier General.

Colonel John Nicholas served with General Harrison in the South also and is positive that he was a Brigadier General.

Mr. J. H. Claiborne new General Harrison well when he was a Captain of artillery & was promoted he says to Colonel in 1777 and in 1779 or 80 promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. He also states that General Harrison sailed the latter part of 1783 for London and did not return until the year 1786.

They herewith exhibit a letter by the said General Charles Harrison soon after  
[The image of this document is cut off at the bottom thereof at this point]  
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They will ever pray. The statements contained in the within Memorial are made upon information received from others. Your memorialist, being too young to have any personal knowledge of the facts therein stated.

S/ Jno A. Peterson

S/ Mary H Peterson formerly Mary H Harrison

S/ Daniel C Butts, who intermarried with Betsey Randolph  
youngest daughter of General Charles Harrison

*In witness whereof I have signed this Memorial  
Mary H Peterson formerly  
Mary H Harrison  
Daniel C Butts, who intermarried  
with Betsey Randolph  
youngest daughter of Genl.  
Charles Harrison*

Report upon the claim of the heirs of General Charles Harrison, for additional bounty land for his services

To the Governor

Sir;

The facts, in this case, or that Charles Harrison settled his accounts as Colonel of Artillery for a service from January first 1777 to December 31<sup>st</sup> 1781, with State Auditors, and received a certificate for £2139.6.2 the balance of his full pay &c (see settlements of Continental Officers accounts by State Auditors on file in first Auditors Office." – That he settled his accounts, as Colonel Commandant of Artillery in the southern Army, with Andrew Duncomb, Esquire, and on the 31<sup>st</sup> October 1785, for a service during the year 1782, and received \$1493.59 and \$6000 for his commutation of five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life. (See A. Duncomb's book of Settlements) – that, on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 1783, he received as Colonel from Edward Carrington, two horses & one [indecipherable word or words]<sup>1</sup> – amount \$115 in specie; and from, John Hamilton, clothing to the amount of \$52.25 (See List of advances &c to Continental officers &c on file in my office.)

It appears further that on the 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1784, 6666 2/3 acres of land were allowed for the services of Colonel Charles Harrison, for three years = and that on the 18<sup>th</sup> of January 1808, the additional quantity of 2036 acres of land was allowed for a service of twenty-two months over six years, as Colonel of Artillery (see [several indecipherable words]<sup>2</sup> Book in the Land Office) [the image of this page is cut off at the bottom thereof at this point]

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at the close of the war – Judge Brooke says that he served as first Lieutenant of Artillery in a company belonging to the Regiment called Harrison's Regiment – that he knew General Harrison, the last 3 years of the Revolutionary War – that he served under his command, the 2 last Campaigns in the South – that he, the said Harrison, Hill will rank of Brigadier General, and commanded the parts of Artillery of the Army under the command of General Green [Nathanael Greene], consisting of the Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania Artillery. Colonel Nicholas says, that he knew General Charles Harrison very well & served with him at the South, in the year 1780 – that he knows perfectly well, that the said Harrison held the rank of Brigadier General &c. J. H. Claiborne says – that he knew General Harrison well – that in 1777 he was commissioned Colonel, being then in service in the northern Army – that in 1779 or 1780 he was promoted Brigadier General – that he was then sent to the South to join the Army of General Greene; in which he served until the proclamation of the cessation of hostilities – April 19<sup>th</sup> – 1783 – and that in the latter part of the year 1783, he, the said Harrison sailed for London [the bottom of the image of this page is cut off at this point]

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I have not found any proof in the Journals of Congress, (which I have examined) that Colonel Charles Harrison was promoted, and that he held the Commission of Brigadier General, before the close of the revolutionary war.

Respectfully submitted

S/ John H Smith, Commissioner &c

June 2, 1835

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<sup>1</sup>  Team drill??

<sup>2</sup> 

I have examined the claim of the heirs of General Charles Harrison with the greatest care and attention: –

It appears from the settlement of General Harrison's accounts which he made himself in October 1785 that he commanded the Artillery to the South and that he received additional pay during that service, but he settled as a Colonel. In this that can be no mistake. I have no doubt he acted as a Brigadier General or held that rank, as Judge Brooke states who served under him, but this might also be so, by the command given him, and yet he might not hold a higher commission than Colonel.

The claim is rejected

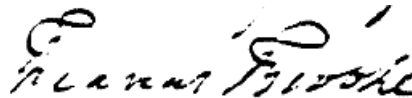
S/ David Campbell



Richmond November 26, 1834

I do hereby certify that I knew General Charles Harrison, the last three years of the revolutionary War. I served under him the last two Campaigns in the South. He held the rate of Brigadier General and commanded the [indecipherable word]<sup>3</sup> of Artillery of the Army under the command of General Green consisting of the Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania artillery. I served as a first Lieutenant in the company of artillery commanded by Captain Singleton, belonging to the Regiment that had been commanded by General Harrison, called Harrison's Regiment, whether he received all that was due to him in the rank of Brigadier General, I do not know.

S/ Francis Brooke<sup>4</sup>



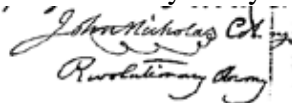
[Attested in Henrico County Virginia November 27, 1834]

City of Richmond November 27, 1834

I do hereby certify that I knew General Charles Harrison perfectly well during the Revolutionary War, I served with him, in the South in the year 1780 and know perfectly well that he held the Rank of Brigadier General, His Brigade was in the remarkable & disastrous battle of Camden [battle of Camden, or Gates defeat, August 15-16, 1780] & the pieces of his Corps & they Officers & men engaged in said action, distinguished themselves for great gallantry & usefulness as is recorded in history, General Harrison himself was a highly meritorious Officer

S/ John Nicholas,<sup>5</sup> Colonel

Revolutionary Army



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<sup>3</sup>

<sup>4</sup> [Francis Brooke S8093](#)

<sup>5</sup> [John Nicholas S46397](#)

[Attested in the City of Richmond November 27, 1834]

I do hereby certify I was well acquainted with Brigadier General Charles Harrison when he was Captain Commander of a company of artillery and marched with a Virginia Regiment 1777 to the Army of General Washington in the North where he was promoted to the Rank of Colonel and in the year 1779 or 1780 – He was promoted a Brigadier General and after the unfortunate battle at Camden August 16<sup>th</sup> 1780 Congress removed General Gates [Horatio Gates] and appointed General Green [Nathanael Greene] in his place, when General Harrison was detached to the Army of General Green in the South where he continued until a formal proclamation of the cessation of hostilities was made through the Army's on the 19<sup>th</sup> of April 1783 and General Charles Harrison sailed the latter part of that same year 1783 for London and returned to his native state of Virginia the year 1786 – given under my hand this 19<sup>th</sup> December 1834.

S/ J. H. Claiborne



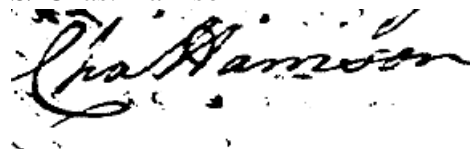
London November 12<sup>th</sup>, 1783

My Dr. Herbert

I have not the smallest doubt of the surprise you'll be under at hearing of my being in this quarter of the World, my reasons for this sudden trip, event must prove, should fortune favor my scheme (of which there can be very little doubt) shall consider myself in a very comfortable situation for the few years I have this day in this troublesome world.

I wrote you from ChasTown the 26<sup>th</sup> of August last advising you of my wish that you would ship me one hundred pounds of tobacco by the first ship that sails for this part; This must be of my own tobacco [indecipherable word] my Dr. Sir that it be the best James River, as it is already contracted for, and must command a very high price; you'll be pleased immediately on having engaged a ship to take it writ [?] for insurance: Addressed to Messrs. William & Jas. Douglass and Company for that purpose, as the price here is much lower than it can be with you, however the that matter rests with you; all letters addressed [to] me may be enclosed to Messrs. Douglass & Co. Merchants London Minione's No. 1. If it should happen that I do not return in the spring, shall consign you a number of the first blooded Horses, mares & Colts in England, which I flatter myself must command a price: Be assured my friend, that, I have not taken this trip with a view of spending money, but with a determined resolution of making a fortune, which have no doubt of provided yourself & my worthy friend Ben assist me. I only to request that you will command me in any manner that I can serve you. My love and best wishes &c attend you Lady of family & believe me

Dr. Herbert  
yours sincerely  
S/ Chas. Harrison



NB

Least my letters to B. H.

should be pleased in form  
[?] The contents of yours  
& my wishes to serve you.

S/ C. H.

Herbert Claiborne, Esqr.