

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Joseph Holliday VAS1574

[vsl 27](#)

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/12/14

[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.]

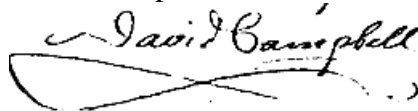
[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Heirs of Lieutenant Joseph Holliday

Registered 30th March 1838

This claim is allowed for a service as Lieutenant in the Continental line from January 1776 to the 3rd November 1783

David Campbell [Governor of Virginia]

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David Campbell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and is enclosed within a simple rectangular border.

March 31, 1838

To the Honorable L. W. Tazewell, Governor of Virginia

The undersigned the sole Heirs of Lieutenant Joseph Holliday beg leave respectfully to present full consideration our claim for land Bounty of their deceased ancestor and to present to the Executive additional evidence of their right thereto. Joseph Holliday was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary Army and as such served from the beginning of the year 1776 to the fall of 1781 or siege of York which will fully appear by the additional proof now [several indecipherable he faint words]

S/ Frances A. Burke

S/ Margaret L Burke

Spotsylvania County to wit

This day Robert Crutchfield Guardian of Frances Ann & Margaret L Burke, the sole heirs of Lieutenant Joseph Holladay [sic] of Spotsylvania County who was a Lieutenant in the revolutionary War appeared before me a justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that he believes the said Holladay was a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary Army and in service from the year 1776 to the fall of the year 1781.

Given under my hand and seal this 7th day of April 1835

S/ C. M. Crutchfield, JP

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and

received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 21st day of December 1784, in the name of Joseph Holliday, as a Lieutenant of Infantry for £27.19.5 [?], which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colonel Quarles [? name is very faint] and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

To wit pay as Lieutenant from first January 1777 to 23rd of July following

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
10th day of June 1834.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

Report upon the Petition of the Heirs of Lieutenant Joseph Holliday of the Continental line for a reconsideration of their Claim for bounty land for his services

To Governor Tazewell

Sir

This claim was before me in the year 1834, and was then fully examined. On the 10th of June in that year I made a Report upon it; to which, and to the evidence on which it was founded, I beg leave to refer your Excellency. The conclusion of that Report is in the following words – "I report this claim good, for a service as Lieutenant, to the end of the war." The claim was rejected on the 13th of August 1834 on the 13th of this present month (April 1835) the Executive decided to reconsider it, and have referred it to me for examination, & report thereon.

It is not thought necessary to call the attention of your Excellency particularly to the evidence which was filed with the original petition for bounty land. That evidence will be referred to and examined by you. I will, however, submit a few general remarks upon it.

Three witnesses, of undoubted respectability, proved that Lieutenant Holladay served to the end of the war – two of them were soldiers, and served with him, one of them served with him from 1777 to the end of the war. The settlements of all of them are so plain & positive, that I cannot doubt their truth.

The additional proof, which the Petitioners now offer, is the affidavit of John Stears a Soldier of the Revolution under the command of Lieutenant Holliday, and said to be "entitled to full and entire credit." This witness says – that he enlisted in Captain Oliver Towles Company, under Lieutenant Joseph Holliday, in the month of January 1776 – and that, "to his personal knowledge Lieutenant Holliday continued in the Army & in service, until the fall of the year 1781; when he obtained a furlough, at the Siege of York, in consequence of sickness" – And that he, the said witness was at York, and under Lieutenant Holliday's command, when he obtained said furlough. The testimony of this witness corroborates that of the three first mentioned witnesses. He proves, in one respect more than they did. They proved that they knew Lieutenant Holliday in service, in 1777, and that he served to the end of the war. He proves, that in January 1776 Joseph Holliday was a commissioned officer, and was in constant service from that time until the fall of 1781, when he obtained a furlough on account of sickness &c. The testimony taken together appears to me to establish the fact, beyond question or doubt, that Lieutenant Holliday was in service from January 1776 to the end of the war. (See the affidavit of John Stears, &c)

Since this claim was first before me for examination &c, many of the Army papers of Colonel Oliver Towles deceased have been placed in my hands; and are now in my possession. Amongst them there are a few Pay rolls of his Company of Infantry of the 6th Regiment, in 1776 and 1777, when he was Captain. They throw some light upon this claim, and in some respects

sustained the testimony of the above mentioned witnesses.

Among other papers, I find a copy of a pay roll of Captain Towles' Company of Regulars of the 6th Virginia Regiment from the 28th February to the 28th of March 1776 – Joseph Holliday there appears as Ensign, and John Stears (the witness who says he enlisted under him in January 1776 and served with him until the fall of 1781) as private. There is also a list of cash paid Captain Powell's Company in March 1776, which is endorsed "examined & charged" – on this list Joseph Holliday is named as Ensign, and John Stears private.

There are also Pay rolls, from the 28th April 1776 to the 28th of June 1776 – from the 28th of June to the 28th August 1776 – from 28th August 228 September 1776 – on all which Joseph Holliday appears, either as Ensign or Lieutenant and John Stears as private. It appears that he (Holliday) was promoted in June of that year. In a list of balances due from the Company of Captain Towles to him, for advances &c to the 28th October 1776, Joseph Holliday is again named as Lieutenant, and John Stears as private.

Pay rolls of Captain Towles Company, for the year 1777 show the same facts. From January to February 1777 – from February to March – from April to May 1777, they exhibit Joseph Holliday as Lieutenant, and John Stears as private. These Pay rolls, as before stated, are now in my possession, and may be inspected by your Excellency, if you desire it.

The evidence, which is above referred to of documents & witnesses, seems to leave no ground for a reasonable doubt, that the claim of the heirs of Lieutenant Holloway is good, and ought to be allowed.

I would respectfully call the attention of your Excellency to the case of Garrett Turnisson¹ [??]² a Surgeon of the Continental line in which the claim was allowed by your Excellency in the year 1834; on evidence not so strong as that now offered in support of this Claim. Garrett Tunisson produced his Commission; but did not prove a service for even one month, by any other evidence than that of one witness, Lieutenant Bedinger. His name was not found on any of the Rolls of Officers, or records of the Army. The present claimant's show, that there and sister, under whom they claim, was in the Army in 1776 and 1777, by pay rolls of the Company to which he belonged – that his name is on the Army Register of the Continental line – and that he served as Ensign and Lieutenant, from January 1777 to the end of the war, by four credible witnesses, 3 of whom served with him, in the same Company.

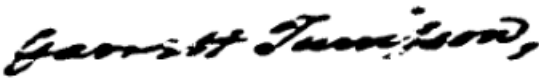
The original & additional evidence filed in support of this claim, authorizes and requires me to report it to your Excellency as good for bounty lands for a service as Lieutenant of the Continental line from January 1776 to the end of the war.

Respectfully Submitted
John H Smith, Commissioner &c
24th of April 1835

Corporation of Fredericksburg to wit

This day personally appeared before [me] a justice of the peace for the Corporation aforesaid John Pierce³ a Revolutionary Soldier and United States Pensioner a credible witness aged 82 years and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joseph Holliday from Spotsylvania

¹ [Garret \(Garrit\) Tunison W1099](#)

² 

³ Perhaps the same man as [John Pierce S5933](#)

County a Lieutenant in the Army of the Revolution, that he entered the Army as a Lieutenant about the year 1777 – that he the said Pierce delivered a drove of beeves at the public pasture near Williamsburg in the year 1781 and went from there to the American Army at York, that the said Lieutenant Holliday was there sick, and obtained a furlough in consequence of his sickness and that he the said Pierce brought him to a public house about 20 miles this side of York where he left him and informed his friends of his sickness on his way home. He further states that the said Holliday recovered from his indisposition and continued in service to the end of the war.

S/ Jno. Pierce

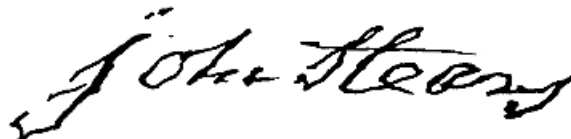
Sworn & subscribed to before me the 4th day of April 1834

S/ Thomas Godwin, Mayor

Spotsylvania County to wit

John Stears a soldier of the Revolutionary War, and Pensioner of the United States in the Eightieth year of his age this day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joseph Holliday of Spotsylvania County who was a Lieutenant in the Virginia line on Continental establishment during the Revolutionary War – the deponent further states that he was not quite 21 years of age when he wished to enter the service and had to obtain the consent of his Father before his enlistment, that he enlisted in Captain Oliver Towles' Company under Lieutenant Joseph Holliday in the month of January 1776 – and that to the personal knowledge of this deponent the said Lieutenant Joseph Holliday continued in the Army and in service until the fall of the year 1781 when he obtained a furlough at the siege of York in consequence of sickness – that this deponent was at York and under Lieutenant Holliday's command when he obtained said furlough.

S/ John Stears⁴



Spotsylvania County to wit

John Stears a Soldier of the Revolutionary War and Pensioner of the United States this day personally appeared before me a Justice of the County aforesaid, and made oath that in a former deposition given by him in April last relative to the revolutionary services of the late Lieutenant Joseph Holliday in which he states that he enlisted in Captain Oliver Towles Company under Lieutenant Joseph Holliday he did not mean thereby to say that the said Holliday was second in command of said Company and at the time the said deposition was given he stated and here repeats that the officers in said Company were Captain Oliver Towles, Lieutenant Tutt (whose Christian name he thinks was Charles), and the said Joseph Holliday who was 2nd Lieutenant or Ensign. He confidently states that the said officers ranked in the manner they are now placed in this deposition and that the said Holliday was promoted a full Lieutenant early in the war. He repeats the declaration made in his former affidavit of the Revolutionary Services of the said Joseph Holliday.

Spotsylvania County, to wit

Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid William

⁴ [John Stears S6168](#)

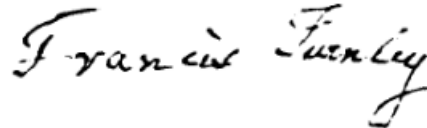
Mitchell a revolutionary soldier and United States Pensioner a credible witness aged eighty years and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joseph Holliday from Spotsylvania County as he thinks – knew him in service to the North in the year 1777 and served with him in the Army, until the end of the war.

S/ William Mitchell, X his mark

Corporation of Fredericksburg to wit

Personally appeared before me a justice of the Peace for the Corps aforesaid, Francis Turnley⁵ a Revolutionary Soldier, a Pensioner of the United States and a credible witness, and made oath that he was well acquainted with Joseph Holliday of Spotsylvania County that he entered the revolutionary Army as a Lieutenant about the year 1777, that he the said Turnley was under the command of Lieutenant Holliday in Captain Tankersley's Company at the siege of York – that the said Holliday in consequence of sickness left the Army at York, but that he lived and continued as Lieutenant in the Army to the end of the war.

S/ Francis Turnley

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francis Turnley". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Francis Turnley".

⁵ [Francis Turnley S6281](#)