

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of John Humplit VAS1674

[vsl 6](#)

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/20/14

[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](#)]

I Jeremiah Caine of the County of Norfolk do hereby certify that I knew John Humplit of Elizabeth City County. I was born in St. Mary's County in the State of Maryland but removed by my parents when I was a suckling baby, as they informed me, to Elizabeth City County in this state, on back river, where I lived till the year after the siege of York shortly after which I came to Norfolk to learn the trade of a ship carpenter, and have continued to live in Norfolk County ever since: the said John Humplit was a midshipmen on one of the Navy vessels in the Revolutionary War, but I do not remember which of them, for I saw so many different vessels during the war, that I cannot at this distance of time be certain of the name of the one that John Humplit belonged to: I had a brother-in-law named Matthew Lewis,¹ who was a carpenter on board of the *Liberty*;² He frequently came on shore to my father's when the vessel to which he belonged was in that neighborhood, and John Humplit sometimes came with him, though I am not certain that he & my brother-in-law were on board the same vessel, for sometimes there would be 2 or 3 of the Navy vessels lying in the neighborhood not far from each other, and the officers would come off together for the purpose of supplying themselves with fresh provisions and walking about. My brother-in-law went into the service very early in the war, and I have often heard him speak of midshipman Humplit, whom he was very proud of, and being in service about the same time, and I am sure he continued in service until the close of the war. As [the image of this document as posted online cuts off at this point]

¹ [Matthew Lewis W7909](#)

² *Liberty*. ND1:410, Eller:174, 181, 184, ship, Capt Outram, loaded in York River with tobacco from VA merchants to go to Europe, 1775, later purchased for defense of the York River, Capt Thomas Lilly.ND4:204, 569, 672, ND6:1409, VA cruizer for York River, Capts George Goosley, Thomas Lilly, active in 1776.Eller:201, disposition unknown. Eller shows a sloop, a schooner, and a brig, all named *Liberty*, in the VA Navy, plus the sloop re-rigged as a schooner and named *Hornet*. There is one extra vessel below.Silverstone:20.

OR

Liberty.

Coggins:102, ND4:672, ND5:1298, ND6:245, 728, 1227, 1409, ND7:994, brig in VA Navy, 1776, Capt George Goosley, and Capt Thomas Lilly, brig remained in commission until 1787.ND9:210, ND10:728, 917, in 1777 Capt Thomas Herbert.VANavy:154, it captured British ship *Jane*, armed vessel *Ida and Ann*, ship *Portland*, and vessel from Ireland *Liberty*. Coggins:100, VANavy:163, ND7:850, 1053, sloop in VA Navy, 1776-77, Capts Walter Brooke and William Ivey. It captured the British vessels, *Lark*, *Oliver*, *Susannah*, and the sloop *Speedwell*. The *Liberty* was re-rigged as the schooner *Hornet*. C34.Silverstone:20.Coggins:102

<http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20L.html>

[next page]

[Attested in Norfolk County May 30, 1823 by William Cocke, JP]

I certify that I was well and intimately acquainted with John Humplit . I knew him in the revolutionary war, he was from Elizabeth City County, where I was born and raised at, I knew him to be a Midshipmen in the Virginia Navy, he wore a Short-Coat when he used to come ashore, he frequently came ashore in Hampton where I often times seen him, he was in service a long time, and he did not quit the service until the war ended. I saw him when he came home after the war was at an end, he was in service about four years. I am now sixty-six years of age, As witness my hand and seal this 13th day of May in the year 1833

S/ David C. Hicks {Seal}

[Attested in Elizabeth City County May 13th, 1833 by a justice of the peace who signature is illegibly faint.]