

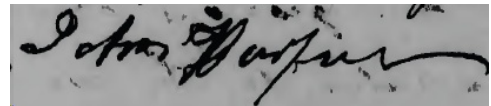
[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to John Harper VAS1723

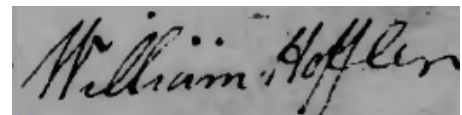
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 21 April 2020.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Elizabeth City County]

You Petitioner John Harper of Elizabeth City begs leave respectfully to represent That a private in the Company of Capt. William Hoffler [S38047] of the first Virginia Regiment under the Command of Colo'l. George Gibson [BLWt1985-500] he fought three years under the Banner of Liberty in the late Revolution which freed America from British oppression. That in the war memorable Capture of Stony Point [Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779] it was your Petitioner's misfortune to receive a wound in the thigh. Upon the return of peace your Petitioner, dependent upon his own manual labour for a maintenance, returned to an honest Course of Industry. And altho' his active powers were considerably impaired by his wounds, yet whilst youth and health continued, his labours were adequate to the exigencies of Life and the wants of Nature being supplied – the sweet reflection of having suffer'd in the great and glorious Cause of Liberty constituted a balm to the wound he had received, and he ever esteemed himself more happy than him upon whom the God of Gold had shower'd his Bounties, – But Alas Age has succeeded Youth, Vigour and health have fled at the approach of weakness and disease; and Poverty with her haggard train seem impatient for the victim against want alone a poor Solider asks aid, a scanty pittance to satisfy the cravings of Nature and sustain his declining age is all he asks. Let it be recollected that he has suffered in the Cause of his Country, in her defence he was disabled. Let it be recollected that whilst he was able he laboured, and thought not of the benevolence of his Country. But at length unnerved by the effects of patriotic wounds and unavoidable old age, he is forced to seek in the Charity of his Country an asylum from the pinching gripe of necessity – and it is in the last which os this disabled Soldier that his Country for whom he has Bled, will not withhold her Bounty in the hour of his distress

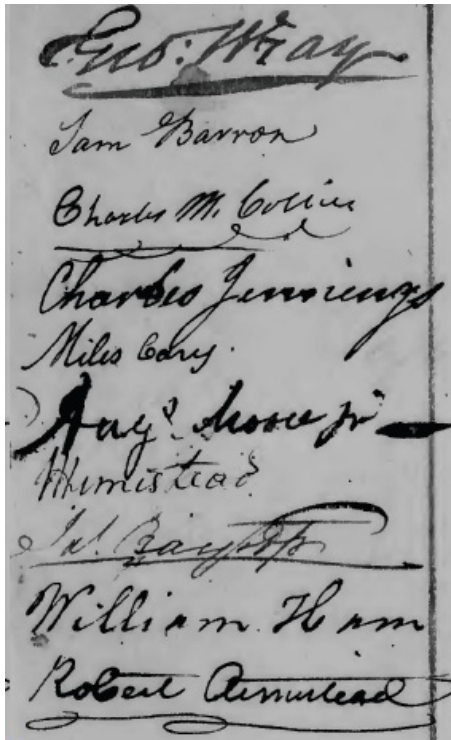


This is to Certify that John Harper did serve for the Term of three years as a true and faithfull soalger in My Company in the first Virginia State Ridgment Unde the Command Colonel George Gibson and that he was wounded In takeing stoney Point – Given from Under My hand this Twelveth day of November 1809  
William Hoffler Capt



To Claims Dec'r 5<sup>th</sup> 1809/ Rejected Dec'r 11<sup>th</sup> 1809/ Reported 12 D'r 1809

[The following signatures appear without explanation:]



Geo. Wray [George Wray R111]  
Sam Barron [Samuel Barron R6]  
Charles M. Collier  
Charles Jennings  
Miles Cary  
Aug'e Moore jr [Augustine Moore Jr]  
H Armistead  
Jas Baytop [James Baytop S37701]  
William Ham [VAS1364]  
Robert Armistead

[Revolutionary pension records in the Library of Virginia](#) include a power of attorney to collect a pension, signed by John Harper as shown, in Hampton VA on 26 Nov 1810, but this and other online images are fragmented, incomplete, or illegible. The document was witnessed by John Harper. The last pension payment was received on 7 Jan 1814.]

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The images are poor. It is possible that the last two records pertain to a different John Harper.]

John Harper a Soldier in Colo Poseys [Thomas Posey BLWt1733-450] Detatch[men]t Continential troops having serv'd the time for which he was engaged is hereby Discharged the Service – Given at Cum'd old Chouse [Cumberland Old Courthouse] Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1782 [illegible signature]  
This is to Certify that John Harper served [illegible] years as asolder in the Rigler army this given under my hand Aporl 3 1783

Wm Hoffer Capt [William Hoffer S38047]

[other side]

I do hereby Certify that ye within Mentioned Soldier has Not Rec'd any Pay from ye first of Nov'r one thousand seven hundred & Eighty One.

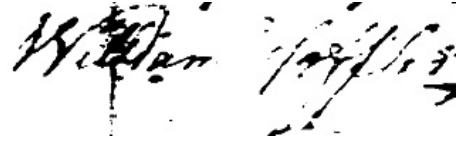
Given at Comb'ld old C house

this 5<sup>th</sup> of Nov'r 1782

[several undeciphered words]

I hereby Certify that John Harper inlisted as a Corporal in the [illegible] Virginia [several undeciphered words] in Colo George Gibson's [BLWt1985-500] Regiment the 26 day of Decem 1776 and served as a Corporal until the 22 day of January 1779[?] Given under my hand this 17 day [undeciphered] 1783.

Capt William Hoffler

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "William Hoffler", with a vertical line extending downwards from the end of the signature.

Sir [two undeciphered words] the Certificate for the Balance of my pay and Gratuity and all the perquisites due me for my services in the Virginia continental line under the Command of Col [several undeciphered words] the 3<sup>d</sup> Nov'r 1782 [undeciphered word] Capt David Gray and youl Oblige your  
Humble Servt John hislmark Harper

March 1<sup>st</sup> 1785

Mr Andrew Desmond[?]/Richmond

Witness/ Henry Bedinger [S8059] late

Capt 5<sup>th</sup> Virg'a Reg't

I hearby Certify that John Harper is intitled to the Land Allow'd him By the State for three years Serves as a Corporal in the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia State Regment [several words cut off at bottom]