

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

Virginia documents pertaining to Francis Eppes VAS1942
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Dinwiddie County – Woodliff, Thomas]

To the Honorable the General Assembly of the State of Virginia

The Petition of Thomas Woodliff of the County of Dinwiddie humbly represents – That Francis Eppes Esq'r. of the County aforesaid was by a resolution of the Continental Congress (as may be seen by a reference to their Journals) passed the 13th of Feby. 1776 appointed a Major in the Forces directed to be raised in the Collony of Virginia, and served in that Capacity untill the 18th March following when he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in which station he continued to serve untill his death. That for the services so render'd as Major and Lieutenant Colonel no compensation except the bounty land lately granted by the Executive of this State has ever made to the said Francis Eppes The said Eppes moreover was in advance to the state of Virginia to the amount of £254.4.1 for money actually disbursed by him on account of the state for the use of the Troops of the said State then in actual service – as will appear by an account taken from the regular Book kept by the said Eppes and certified to be a true Copy by Gray Briggs Esq'r. which your Petitioner prays to be taken as part of this Petition. The said Francis Eppes died leaving only one Child a daughter with whom your Petitioner afterwards intermarried. Your Petitioner begs leave to state to the Honorable Legislature that no part of the said claims of compensation for services or for the money disbursed (as has been stated) by the said Eppes has ever been paid to your Petitioner who is justly entitled to it in right of his wife, or to any other Person or Persons whatsoever. Your Petitioner, fully relying on the justice of his Country convinced that their Representatives of a free People will never suffer a meritorious Officer who was ever ready to sacrafice his life in the service of his Country – or his legal representatives and descendants of such officer to go unrewarded humbly begs leave thus to address himself to Legislature of his Country praying that a Law may pass making an appropriation of a sum sufficient to satisfy these the just and equitable Claims of your Petitioner or to take such other steps in the Premises as to your Honorable Body may seem just and proper. And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever Pray.

Thomas Woodliff [16 Dec 1806]

Dinwiddie County Sct.

Gray Briggs personally appeared before me John Verell a Justice of the Peace of the County aforesaid & made Oath that the annexed account was drawn up by him, at the request and desire of Colo. Fran's. Eppes Dec'd. which acc't. he believes to be the original itself. That the acc't. was drawn when the Deceased was in his last illness and on his Dying bed & that the said Eppes then complained to this Deponent that he never had received of the Colony of Virginia or from any other sorce any kind of compensation for his services as an Officer in the Army, or the advances made by him in behalf of the State. That at the time the account was drawn up it was taken from the regular kept Book of the s'd. Deceased & some vouchers were also produced. That he, this Deponent was left Executor by the will of Fran's. Eppes & on his refusal to qualify, a certain Thos. Scott was permitted to take the Administration of s'd estate; who some time after departed this life & left his affairs much in confusion and that some time after the administration, a certain Thos. Woodleif Intermarried with the Daughter & only Child of the aforesaid Fran's. Eppes Dec'd. (To wit: Elizabeth Hill Eppes)

Given under my hand this 16th day of December 1806 Jno. Verell

D'r.
1776

The Colony of Virginia
To Frank Eppes

April 1 st	To cash paid Maj'r. James for a gun.	£3. 0.0
	To cash paid Terry Galloway for a gun.	2.10.0
	To cash paid Goldsbury Hacket for a gun & bayonet.	2.10.0
	To cash paid for 2 gall's rum for a scouting party.	0.12.0
9 th	To cash paid Ch's Sawyers for 3 weeding hoes & a spade.	0.18.0
10 th	To cash paid Goldsbury Hacket for a gun.	2.10.0
15 th	To cash paid for leather to refit belts, geer &c for waggons.	0. 7.6
	To cash paid for candles as a comander for public use.	1. 2.2
	To cash given to 2 deserters to travel on to Wmsburgh.	0. 6.0
	To cash p'd D. Dudley for waggon mending at sundry times.	3. 1.3
	To cash paid for bringing wood by water.	0. 2.6
	To cash paid for Smith's work.	15. 5.0
	To cash paid for finding some lost waggon horses.	1. 1.3
	To cash paid the soldiers to buy rum while driving cattle & sheep.	0. 5.0
	To cash p'd Wm Robertson for 18 chord of wood.	6.15.0
	To cash p'd Wm Robertson for 29 chord of Wood; as by certificate from Capt. Ballard.	10.17.6
	To cash paid Goldsbury Hacket for two guns.	6. 0.0
	To cash paid for mending a gun.	0. 7.6
	To cash paid John Thorogood for 54 bushels of corn.	5. 8.0
	To cash paid Bolling Hall for smith's work.	1. 5.0
	To cash paid John Moody for smith's work.	4. 0.0
	To cash paid Caleb Lamount for a gun.	1.10.0
	To cash paid for 3 horse collars for Robt. Allen.	0. 2.9
	To cash paid Rich'd Edwards for 2000lb oats in the straw.	4. 0.0
	To cash paid Mr. Smith for 18 quire paper.	1. 7.0
	To cash paid Mrs. Carrell for 2 sails.	8. 0.0
	To cash paid Sam'l. Elam for bushel corn.	0. 3.0
	To cash paid Sam'l. Elam for 3 collars.	0. 3.0
	To cash paid Capt. Williams for 100lb brimstone.	2. 0.0
	To cash paid Edw'd. James for 5 barrels of corn.	3. 2.6
	To cash paid Joseph White for 6 barrels of corn.	3.15.0
	To cash paid Goldsbury Hacket for Gun & Bayonet.	3.10.0
	To cash paid Paul Lyall for corn & Oats.	1.19.0
	To cash paid for finding some waggon horses.	0. 2.0
	To cash paid Matt. Phripp for 37 barrels of corn.	23. 3.9
	To cash paid Daniel Dudley for mending waggons.	2. 1.8
	To cash paid Wm. McClanaham for corn.	1. 5.0
	To cash paid Bratworth for Smith's work.	17.16.3
	To cash paid James Lamb for waggon mending at times.	1. 0.6
	To cash paid for provision for Serj & 12 men weather bound.	1. 0.0
	To cash paid Anthony Walke as p account for Wood &c.	28. 7.4
	To cash paid Antho. Walke for 4 bottles of wine.	0.10.0
	To cash paid Ditto for paper & thread.	0.15.0
	To cash paid James Williams for Carpenter's work.	0. 8.0
	To cash paid James Lamb – case for a clock sent to Wmsburg.	0.16.0
	To cash paid Ditto for Surgeon's chest.	0.15.6
	To cash paid F. Haggard for corn.	5. 3.6

To cash paid Colo. [Robert] Lawson for ditto.	7.10.0
To cash paid for scouting party at Norfolk as p acc.	2.17.0
To cash paid provision for a guard with the bagage at Jas.town.	0.10.0
To cash paid for corn for the country's use.	1.4.0
To 4 guns and Bayonets well fixed.	20. 0.0
To paid for 8 days hire of a waggon.	4. 0.0
To 50 barrels of corn for the waggon horses @ 15/ Cash paid.	37. 5.0
	254. 4.1

To Claims Ref'd 22^d Dec'r 1806/ Reasonable Decr 27th 1806/ Reported Jan'y 1st 1807
 Rej[ecte]d in the House

To the General Assembly of Virginia, the Petition of Thomas Woodlief Representative of Francis Eppes late of the County of Dinwiddie deceased humbly sheweth that, in the year 1776, your Petitioner's Testator who was then a Colonel commanding a Regiment of the Virginia line on Continental establishment made sundry advances of money, for the use of the men under his command and for the public benefit, amounting in all to the sum of £254.4.1, which sum ought justly now to be paid to your Petitioner, the said Francis Eppes having died before the end of the Revolutionary War, without ever receiving any compensation, and our Petitioner as his legal Representative has never received any. Your Petitioner has heretofore exhibited a claim before this Hon'ble Assembly for the said sum, but the said claim, tho' referred to a Committee, and voted reasonable by that Committee, was rejected by the House, as your Petitioner presumes for the want of sufficient documents to convince the House at that time of it's being just. But since the said rejection your Petitioner procured additional evidence, and trusts he can now prove to the satisfaction of the Legislature that his claim aforesaid is just and ought to be paid by the Commonwealth. Your Petitioner therefore prays that this his Petition may be received and allowed, & he will ever pray &c

Inventory of colo Francis Eppes estate on August 4th 1777.

One Negro man named Will[?] one Negro woman Bridgett one powder horn & shot bag, one single Chair One stud horse called Parrott, one horse called Toby one sorrel horse one Yoke Oxen, one Copper Kettle a parcel old nails 6^d thirty four head sheep 1 stud horse called Mercury one Cart and wheels one pair cart wheels one pair hand irons Two whip saws files one whip saw a parcel nails another parcel nails one pair steel-yards one dressing glass, one hair shear, a parcel old iron eight broad hoes one spind[?], a parcel iron four broad hinges one Janus Cott.
 returned by Thomas Seale administrator.

This inventory was examined in Court & ordered to be Recorded Test Nicholas CDC

To Claims Dec'r. 22^d 1808/ Rejected Dec'r 30th 1898/ reported Jan'y 2nd 1809

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do hereby Certify that Francis Epes was appointed a Major in the first Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment, after which he was Entitled to the Rank of Lieutenant Colonal, and served as such In the aforesaid Regiment after which it was said he was appointed a full Colo. to the 2nd Reg't. but Died before he took Command therein

John Crawford Lieut.
 2nd Virg'a. Reg't.



I do hereby certify that the late Colo. Francis Eppes of Dinwiddie County was elected by a Majority (of a Volunteer Company) as Captain of the said Company some time of the spring 1775 and that he performed a tour of duty as Captain in Wallers grove of the same & I do verily believe and have always understood that he continued in the service of the United States until his death

Given under my hand this 23^d day of March 1803

[John Nicholas S46397]



I do certify that Francis Epps, was appointed Major to the 1st Virginia regiment Commanded by Colo. [Patrick] Henry – and myself Maj'r. to the Second regt commanded by Colo Woodford in 1775 (Epps the oldest) In 1776 both of us was advanced to the Rank of Lt Colonels – in which Rank Colo Epps died – soon after I was advanced to Rank of full Colonel, which Rank Lt Colo Epps would have Taken, had he been liveing at the time – given under my hand this 23^d day of April 1803.

Alex'r Spotswood [Alexander Spotswood] full Colonel of the 2^d Virg'a Regt. in the Revolutionary war – see Journals of Congress in 1776 page 95 – for Eppes vire – see A Spotswoods d'o d'o page 308

Dinwiddie County To wit.

John Cole personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace of the aforesaid County and made Oath that Francis Eppes performed a Tower of Duty to Wallers grove: after which he was appointed Major of the 1st Virginia Regiment & served in that Capacity 'till he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colo. That after the first years service, he recruited his men for three years, or during the war; under Continental establishment & that he understood from superior Officers in the Regiment to which he belonged, that the said Fran's. Eppes was promoted to the rank of Colo. Commandant of the second Virginia Regiment (under Continental establishment) & further that the said Eppes died in the service of his Country

Given under my hand this 1st day of April 1803. Jno. Verell

To the Governor & Council of Virginia

Your memorialist humbly represents that she is the mother and natural guardian of her infant daughter Martha F. Lanier who is one of the heirs of Lieut. Col Francis Eppes who was an officer in the war of the revolution; your petitioner has been informed that Col Eppes entered in service early in the war and died a short time thereafter while in service, that his then representatives in 1803 drew a warrant for 6000 acres of land for the war, that your petitioner has been informed that additional land bounty should have been allowed; therefore she humbly asks that you will take this application under consideration and direct the Register of the land office to issue a warrant for such additional allowance as you may think just and proper & you petitioner will ever pray &c Elizabeth E. Lanier
Dinwiddie County Va [16 July 1839]

I Peter Eppes [S8424] of the County of Dinwiddie and State of Virginia, aged eighty years & upwards do certify, in relation to the services of Lt. Colo. Francis Eppes in the Revolutionary War, to the following facts to wit – That the said Francis Eppes entered the service sometime in the year 1775 in the Regiment (the 1st Virginia Regiment as he believes) which was commanded by Colo. [Charles] Scott. That he is of the opinion he entered the service as Lt. Colo. of said Regiment but is not positively certain of the fact. That the said Eppes continued in actual service (somewhere he believes in the Lower part of Virginia) until November 1776 – That he then returned to his home in the County of Dinwiddie incapacitated by sickness from discharging the active duties of this service, that he continued sick until the month of December 1776. He also testifies that the said Eppes was at the time of his death Lieut. Colo. of the aforesaid Regiment.

Given under my hand & seal this 20th day of October 1839



Heirs of Lieut Col Francis Epps

In place of the order entered the 23^d of this month, enter the following – It appears from the Journal of the Convention, that Francis Epps was elected Major in the 1st Virginia regiment on 17th August 1775 and from evidence filed that he died in the service. His heirs under the laws of the State would therefore be entitled to bounty land as for a service of eight years two and one half months But this claim having been by a former Executive allowed for the war, no additional allowance can be made DC

March 28, 1840 Special order iss'd.

My Dear Sir [Gov. David Campbell]

My friend Mr. Mosley has just informed me that the Executive have rejected the application of the heirs of Lt. Col Francis Eppes for additional land bounty. The case is so plain to my mind that I apprehend that some of the papers has been mislaid or overlooked. acting as agent for the heirs and feeling a deep interest in the matters I hope you will not consider me importunate in asking that you will take the case under your special advisement and if there should be any further evidence wanted I think it probably it can be supplied if made known to me I should have waited on you in person but have been extremely Ill and confined to my room upwards of four weeks. This case is so perfectly clear at Washington that I have sent you the enclosed letter upon that very case. The evidence I filed proves that Col Eppes entered the service some time in 1775 and died in 1776. application has been made to Congress for the seven years half pay and the Comm'r. has reported it twice reasonable and no further action as yet had on it.

I am Dear Sir Your Obed't Humb. S't. Jno. Armistead
Richmond March 25th 1850

Extract from a paper headed a List of Field Officers in the Service of Virginia,” and certified by “J. Nousse Clk.” to be “a true copy from the original Lists in the War Office,” which paper is contained in a volume of the Washington Papers labelled “Arrangements of Officers, &c. vol. 7 Virg’a.” and now in the Department of State.

Bat'ns	Names	Date of Commissions	Promoted or Declined
	Colonels	Au. 1776	
	Lieut. Colonels		
	Francis Eppes		Dead

Extract from a paper endorsed “Schedule of Promotions in Genls. [George] Weedon & [William] Woodford's Brigades” and contained in the same volume as that from which the preceding extract was made

“Lt. Colo. [George] Baylor's Promotion 13th Dec'r 1776

{Major [John] Green } to be {Lt. Colo.
{Capt. R. K. [Richard Kidder] Meade } {Major

Eppe's Death

D'o. 23^d D'o

{Major Markam [John Markham] } to be {Lt. Colo.
{Capt. [Morgan] Alexander } {Major”