

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to William Spiller VAS2171

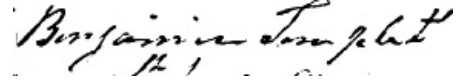
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 19 Oct 2016.

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

I do Certify that Capt William Spiller has been a Commissioned Officer in the State Service Colo. Marshals [sic: Thomas Marshall VAS494] Reg't. of Artillery for upwards of three yeares and was returned as Supenury [sic: supernumerary: with insufficient troops for a command] the 6th day of Jany 1781.

Jany. 17th 1783

Benjamin Temple Lt Col [BLWt2214-450]
4th Light Dragoons



Land Office Virginia

I certify that a Land Warrant No. 95 for four thousand acres in favor of William Spiller of the State line, issued from this office, bearing date on the 21st January 1783, and that no other Warrant has been issued for the same services

Given under my hand the 30th Nov. 1830.

W Selden R L Off

To the Honorable Governor & Council of Virginia

You petitioner George A Spiller son & heir of the late William Spiller of King William County begs leave respectfully to invite your attention to his claim as the representative of his late father to additional land for service rendered by the said Wm Spiller as an office in the service of Virginia for a period beyond six years and also in a higher rank than that for which he obtained a land warrant. Your petitioner conceives that the accompanying affidavit &c abundantly shew that Wm Spiller entered the service of Virginia at a very early period of the war & that he continued to render [several illegible words] untill the very close of it or at least untill the enemy had retired discomfited from the conflict. The concurrent testimony of Morriss [Claiborne Morriss, pension application S5776] & Figg – the first of whom speaks from his own personal knowledge & is proved to be man of irreproachable character – conclusively shews that William Spiller entered the service as early as 1775. Their evidence is strongly corroborated by the affidavit of William Burns who states that Spiller was several years in service at the North. The strong probability is that he was attached to Temple's corps of cavalry which was part of a Virginia State Regiment & rendered [undeciphered word] services at the North. It is also irrefragably [?] [undeciphered word] that William Spiller was [several undeciphered words] a Lieutenant in Col. Marshall's Regiment of State Artillery in 1778 from which the inference is irresistible that he entered the service at the very commencement of the War. The enclosed evidence to wit: the affidavit of Woolard [John Woolard or John Woollard] Morriss & Foster [Peter Foster S46443], leaves no room to doubt that Major Spiller retained his commission & was at all times ready to render service untill the final ratification of peace in November 1783. Your petitioner further shews that his father was promoted to the rank of Major during the year 1780 & so continued untill the end of the war. See the affidavits of Morriss & Woolard. The certificate of the Regiser shews that Major Spiller has obtained a warrant for only 4000 acres of land. Your petitioner then prays that he may allowed a warrant for the difference between the [illegible word] of land allowed a Captain & that allowed viz: 1335¹/₃ acres and also to land for a period extending beyond six years somewhat exceeding, it is believed, two years.

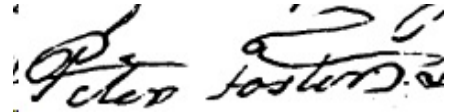
George A Spiller/ son & one of the heirs of
the late Wm. Spiller of King Wm County.

I William Burns of King William, in the sixty second year of my age, at the request of Geo A Spiller hereby certify – that I knew his Father the late Major William Spiller of King Wm. That During the revolutionary War I resided at [undeciphered word] Ware House in King William County. That I recollect

distinctly that the said Spiller was an officer in the revolutionary army – that he, to the best of my recollection and from other circumstances, he enter'd the Army in the early part of the War. That he served several years in the North – and then went to the South – and finally that he was at the Siege at York Town and continued therein until the Capitulation thereof by Lord Cornwallis [The rest illegible]

I do hereby declare that I was well acquainted with Wm Spiller in the Revolutionary Army, he was a Capt. in the Artillery, we served together in the Southern Campaign, and was in Gates's defeat, and to my Certain knowledge he continued in actual service to the end of the War. I have every reason to believe he was promoted to the rank of Major, but living in different Counties prevents me from proving the fact.

Peter Foster Lieut



Hanover County October 23^d 1830

This day came Capt. Peter Foster, before me Laney Jones a Justice of the peace for said County and made oath to the above certificate given under my hand this day and date above

Dear Sir

I remember Capt. Spiller perfectly well. I saw him frequently while he belonged to the service and believe he continued in it to a late period but cannot speak particularly as I did not march to the south. I do not remember Lieutenants Lipscomb and Turner. A report of the state officers entitled to half pay which was made by a board of officers is in possession of the Auditor.

I am dear sir with great respect and esteem/ Your Obed't
[John Marshall S5731, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court]



King Wm. County towit,

This day, personally appeared before me a justice of the peace, for said county, John Woollard, aged 70, & made oath to the following facts: that he entered the army, in the Virginia line, state artillery, in 1777, under Capt. Henry Quarles [R17253] of King William county and was carried to York, Hampton & its neighborhood at which time, Capt Wm. Spiller commanded a company of State artillery, that the said Capt. Quarles & Capt. Spiller remained at York & Hampton from October or November 1777 untill sometime in February or March 1780 when we were ordered to the south, at which time Capt. Spiller was promoted to a Major's commission & marched with them to North & South Carolina. And that the said Major Spiller & myself were in the battle near Camden called Gate's defeat, in South Carolina, which took place on the 17th day of August 1780 early in the morning [sic: defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780]. After this battle, we rallied at a place, in North Carolina, called Hillsborough. Where we remained, untill I was marched to Richmond in Virginia & discharged. This took place in September 1780. When I left Hillsborough, I left Major Spiller with the Army, with which he remained until the end of the war. These fact, I distinctly know, having lived in the neighborhood with Major Spiller, all my life. Given under my hand this 28th day of Oct. 1830

Jno. C. Taliaferro

King William County to wit.

This day personally appear'd before me a justice of the peace for said County, Claiborne Morris – 77 years old – and made oath to the following facts. that he enlisted under Captain Pannel [Pannell?] of King William County, in the year seventeen hundred and seventy eight and went to York and Hampton. At

that time he found the late Major William Spiller of King William then a Lieutenant in the artillery of the Virginia State Line. Shortly afterwards he was promoted to a Captains commission and remain'd at York and Hampton, until February or March 1780 when he was order'd to the South. About this time he was promoted to a Majors Commission – and went on to the South. Major Spiller enter'd the army some time before he, Morriss, did, in the early part of the war some time in the year seventeen hundred and seventy five – and remained in the army until the end of the war – he thinks seventeen hundred and eighty three. These facts he recollects because he served a part of the time he was at York and Hampton under Major Spiller. Knew him well before and after the war & lived in the same county and neighbourhood with him, the greater part of his life – Given under my hand this 25th day of November 1831.

John C. Taliaferro

I hereby certify that I was intimate with the late Major William Spiller of King William County – having lived in the said county all my life. I was not in the revolutionary war myself – but recollect distinctly that Major Spiller was an officer in the artillery of the Virginia State line. He entered the army in the early part of the war – some time – I think in the year seventeen hundred and seventy five. I was frequently with Major Spiller after the war and frequently heard him speak of the circumstances of the war & the time he enter'd the army. Given under my hand this 20th day of Nov. 1830.

Benjamin Figg