

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

Pension application of Joseph Staples VAS35

[VSL7VA](#)

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/16/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Among the bounty land claim documents displayed on the [Virginia State Library's](#) online digital collection are the following documents:

I do hereby Certify that Joseph Staples enlisted as a Soldier in my Company of Riflemen the 17th of January 1777 was appointed Sergeant the 6th day of January 1778 & continued as such till the 17 day of January 1780 when he was discharged having faithfully served the term of his enlistment. Given under my hand this 26 November 1783

A Copy

S/ Sam J. Cabell, Lt. Colo.
a Virga Regt. & ? Inf.

S/ Phil Southall

Among the rejected pension claim documents displayed on the [Virginia State Library's](#) online digital collection are the following documents:

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 11th day of May 1784, in the name of Joseph Staples, as a Soldier of Infantry for £75.3.9, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Col. S. Cabell and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
19th day of August 1847.

S/ Allen N. Morton, Sr. Clk
Acting in the absence of the Auditor

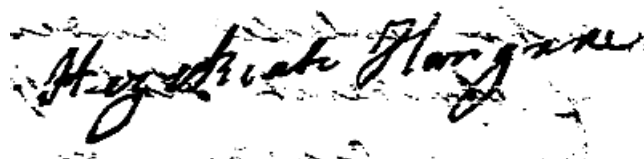
On the 31st December 1784, a Warrant for 200 acres issued to Joseph Staples for his service as a Sergeant in the Continental line for 3 years. No. 3658

The affidavit of Hezekiah Hargrove¹ who is a native Virginian and resides in the County of Nelson

This affiant saith that he was well acquainted with Joseph Staples who enlisted under Colonel Samuel J. Cabell in the County of Amherst State of Virginia – That Colonel Cabell was then a Captain in the Regular Army. The said Staples enlisted early in the commencement of the

¹ [Hezekiah Hargrove S5481](#)

Revolutionary War. His enlistment was for three years. He saw the company of Colonel Cabell, then Captain Cabell in James Town not long after it was raised – he does not recollect distinctly in what year but recollects that it was in the month of June the said Joseph Staples was then doing duty in the company and he saw him exercise and drill it every day while he the said Affiant remained with them at Jamestown which was 3 or 4 days. That he the affiant at that time belonged to a company called minute men commanded by Captain Nicholas Cabell. The company of Captain Samuel J Cabell was ordered to the North – when the affiant met with it in Jamestown it had been ordered as he understood to Charleston South Carolina. It was arrested in its march at Jamestown by an order directing it northwardly. The said Staples marched from Jamestown with the company. The Affiant never saw him afterwards until after the expiration of his term of enlistment. Staples then returned home – He always understood that Staples was a brave Soldier and throughout his term of service acted honorably – That he was in several actions – among them the one at Brandywine [September 11, 1777]; in all the actions where he was engaged that he acted courageously & soldierlike. Colonel Samuel J Cabell [one or more indecipherable words] resided in the same County before & after the war in which Staples resided. He has seen Colonel Cabell meet frequently with Staples after the war. He always met him cordially & seemed to set a great deal of store by him as one of the old fellow comrades in the war. Staples is now dead – Has been dead some considerable time.



[Attested May 29, 1834]

The Affidavit of George Purvis² who is a native Virginian.

This affiant says that he was well acquainted with Joseph Staples and knew him when he enlisted under Colonel Samuel J Cabell then Captain Samuel J Cabell of the Revolutionary Army, belonging to the regular Service. He resided then in the same County Amherst, with us Staples, he knows the fact of his enlisting for the tour of 3 years before he was with him on the very day of his enlistment. He was at the Court House of the County of Amherst in the company of Captain Cabell marched for the North – Staples marched with the Company – He saw him not afterward until the expiration of his term of service when he returned home. He always understood that Staples was a brave and honorable soldier. He has frequently heard Colonel Cabell speak of him and this character. After Staples served his term in the regular Army this affiant served a tour with him in the militia when he, Staples, held the office of an Ensign. His standing was high and honorable in the Army in the office of Ensign. Staples has been dead something like 21 or 22 years.

S/ George Purvis



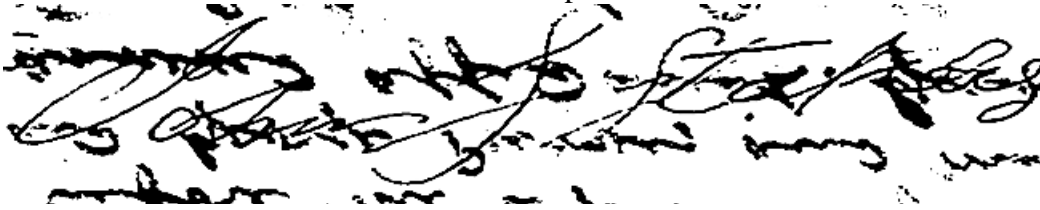
[Attested May 29, 1834]

Amherst Court House 8 June 1847

² FPA W2691

John Thompson Junior of Amherst will please present to the Executive of Virginia the within evidence in support of the claim of my deceased father Joseph Staples for land bounty from the Commonwealth of Virginia for his Revolutionary Services – his name will be found in the Auditors Office amongst those who received certificates for depreciation for his pay and he is a [word written over and illegible] as belonging to the Virginia Continental line.

S/ John S. Staples

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John S. Staples". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background and is somewhat stylized and overlapping.