


Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to John Payne VAS4106  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I certify that I was well acquainted and Intimate with Mr John Payne I knew him to be from Elizabeth City County where I was borne and raised at. I knew him to be in the Virginia navy. I have seen him come ashore with the men and officers frequently and land in Hampton and sometimes on Mill Creak I have herd him say often times in his life time he was Master which I took to be sailing Master and I also understood from others he was Sailing Master, and I knew him to be in the sirvis for three or four years in the revolutionary war and knew him to die in actual serrvis I was in Hampton when he was brought ashore Dead & the vessel he died on [several illegible words] Hampton Bars, I do not recollect her name I was frequently in Hampton and at different places During the war I have seen the navy vessels laying frequently off Hampton. I am now sixty six years of age  
As witness my Hand and seal this the 13<sup>th</sup> Day May 1833 [signed] David C Hicks  
[Elizabeth City County]

I Certify that I was well and intimately aquainted with John Payne he was an apprentice at the same time and to the same man I was and we both served our time out together as Pilots. I knew John Payne to enter the Virginia Navy at an early Period of the revolutionary war as a Sailing Master I knew him to serve in that Capasaty for three or four years before his death I know he died in actual Service after the siege of york [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. he was brought ashore in hampton and buried I was at his funeral. I am now in my eighty first year of age I was in the navy service my self As Witness my hand and seal this the seventeenth day of May in the year 1833 [in Elizabeth City County]  
Wm. Jennings [William Jennings S5615]



I Jeremiah Caine of the county of Norfolk, do hereby certify that I knew John Payne of Elizabeth City County. I was born in St. marys county in the state of Maryland, but removed by my parents when I was a sucking 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 learne the trade of a ship carpenter, and have continued to live in Norfolk County ever since. Whilst I lived in Elizabeth city county John Payne and the whole of his family lived on mill creek in that County which five or six miles of my Fathers; I frequently saw the said John Payne who was a Sailing Master on board of one of the navy vessels in the Revolutionary war, but cannot now remember which of them; many times when his Vessel would be laying off back river he would come on shore at my Fathers for the purpose of getting fresh butter, eggs &c. I also saw him very often in Hampton whilst he was in service, as a sailing Master, and believe he died whilst in service, shortly after the siege of York, and was brought on shore and buried in the old church yard at Hampton; I was not in Hampton myself, at the time the said Payne was brought on shore & buried there, but it was a matter so much talked of in the Neighbourhood that I have a distinct recollection of it, for it was a matter that made a lasting impression on my mind. as witness my hand and seal this 30<sup>th</sup> day of May AD one thousand eight hundred and thirty three  
Jeremiah hisXmark Cane

I Elizabeth Jones of the town of Hampton in the State of Virginia and now on a visit to the City of Rich[mon]d Do hereby certify that I was born on Mill creek in Elizabeth City County and lived there until

about the year 1792 when I moved to Back river where I resided until seven or eight years ago when I moved to Hampton. That about the year 1780 or 1781 and during my residence on Mill creek I was well acquainted with Mr. John Payne who was at that time engaged in the Naval service of the state and belonged to a vessel which frequently lay off Hampton. That during the said Payne's continuance in said service he was in the habit of frequently visiting his parents who lived very near my fathers house That I frequently saw him while visiting his parents and know from his dress and manners that he was an officer but of which grade I do not know nor do I know to what vessel he belonged That I distingly remember that said Payne died of the Small Pox while in service and that his body was brought on shore from the vessel on which he died and was carried up to Hampton and buried in the Old church yard the vessel from which he was brought lay at the time off Hampton bars.

As witness my hand and seal this 6<sup>th</sup> day of June in the year 1833. [signed] Elizabeth Jones

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State 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 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 1784, in the name of John Payne as Master Navy for £79.7.2, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Jno Saunders and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of July 1833.

Jas E. Heath AUDITOR.