

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Virginia Pension Application of John Cornwell (Cornhill) VAS529
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Mary Cornwell

[The first two items were kindly provided by Scott D. Kendall:]

July Court 1778. On the petition of Ann Cornwell widow of John Cornwell deceased soldier said service in the Continental Army. Ordered that she be allowed the sum of twelve pounds for the support of herself and two small children and that the same be certified to the treasurer. Court Order Book 1778-1784, Page 9, Prince William County, Va.

Printed in Shepherd, Statutes, I: 415. Bill no. 73. Received from House no. 51. Different readings, commitments, amendments, conferences, etc.: no. 51, 55. Signed by Speaker of the Senate: no. 68. Passed without Senate amendment(s). ["Senate Actions on Bills, 1795," Journal of the Senate of Virginia, November Session 1795 (Richmond: Va. State Library, 1976), 90]

Chap. 59. -- An ACT for placing Mary Cornhill on the list of pensioners. (Passed December 23, 1795.)

1. Be it enacted by the general assembly, That Mary Cornhill, widow of John Cornhill, who served as a private in the American army, in the course of the late war, and died while in such service, shall be placed on the list of pensioners, and be allowed the sum of forty dollars yearly.

2. And be it further enacted, That the auditor of public accounts, on application to him made in person, or by attorney, shall be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to issue to the said Mary Cornhill, a warrant on the treasurer, for the sum of forty dollars by way of immediate relief, which warrant so issued shall be paid by the treasurer in like manner with other pension warrants.

3. This act shall commence and be in force from and after the passing thereof.

[Samuel Shepherd, The Statutes at Large of Virginia, from October session 1792, to December session 1806, inclusive, vol. 1 (Richmond: 1835; reprinted, New York: AMS Press, 1970): 415]

[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#) misfiled with the records of Richard Corbett (VAS528). The Library of Virginia file is indexed as "____ Cornhill." It is evident from the above that the surname "Cornhill" originated as a copying error. It was also used on the power of attorney and the first receipt below, probably because that was how the name was spelled on the first pension warrant. The spelling was later corrected to Cornwell.]

I do hereby constitute and appoint the bearer Anthony Buckner my Attorney to Receive for me a pension allowed to me by an Act of the last session of the general assembly of Virginia In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 12th day of October 1796

Mary Cornhill

Witness John Sanders Thomas Brown

Received warrant for Forty Dollars Anthony Buckner

I do with the advice of the Council hereby certify, that Mary Cornhill is put on the List of Pensioners in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly passed the 23rd of December 1795, for that purpose, with an allowance of forty Dollars yearly, commencing on the said 23^d day of December 1795.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond, this 30th day of May 1797.

Sam'l. Coleman.

[signed] James Wood

Prince Wm [Prince William] County Court Aug't 9th 1798

A certificate was present to the court signed by John Brown gent. certifying that Mary Cornhill made oath before him that she was the same person to whom a pension of Forty dollars annually commencing on the 23^d of December 1795 was allowed by warrant from the Governor and the Court having compared the said certificate with the Governor's warrant and finding it to be right, It is ordered that the Sheriff of this County pay the said Mary Cornhill Eighty dollars being for Two years pension due her on the 23^d of Decem'r. 1797

pension 95 & 96 A Copy Test John William CIPW
Fauquier
'97 & 80

26th Nov'r 1798

I have rec'd. the within of [?] Blackwell [first name illegible: probably Samuel Blackwell, Sheriff of Fauquier County] the above day
Peyton Cornhill Mary Cornhill

Pay the within to Thomas Chapman
Feb'y 3^d 1801
witness Mary herXmark Cornwell
Peyton Cornwell
Benja. Wells

For Value receiv'd pay the within to Thomas Chapman
Sep'r 2^d 1816
witness Mary Cornwell
Peyton B. Cornwell
For Value recev'd I assign the within to P Linton/ Thomas Chapman



The image shows two handwritten signatures in cursive. The top signature is 'Mary Cornwell' and the bottom signature is 'Peyton B. Cornwell'. There is a small 'v' mark above the top signature, likely indicating a 'versus' or 'in witness whereof'.

NOTE:

The file contains many documents similar to the above, the last one dated 20 Sep 1817.

I could find no other reference to John Cornwell except in the pension application of Charles Fierer (Fuerer; R22811), where his cousin, Mrs. Jane Haney, mentioned him.

The death certificate of Peyton B. Cornwell lists his parents as John and Ann Cornwell (http://search.ancestry.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?indiv=1&db=FSVirginiaDeath%2c&rank=0&gsfn=peyton&gsln=cornwell&sx=y&gs1co=2%2cUSA&gs1pl=49%2cVirginia&year=&yearend=&sbo=1&sbor=&ufr=0&wp=4%3b_80000002%3b_80000003&srchb=r&prox=1&ti=0&ti.si=0&gss=angs-d&o_iid=21416&o_lid=21416&o_sch=Web+Property&pcat=34&fh=0&h=356290&recoff=6+8). Online genealogy sources (for example, boards.ancestry.co.uk/surnames.buckner/603/mb.ashx) state that the parents of Peyton B. Cornwell of Prince William County was John Cornwell and Mary Ann Buckner. (Note that Anthony Buckner was the attorney in the first document.)

In March 1756 a John Cornwell was listed as a trooper (cavalryman) of the Prince William County Militia (http://vagenweb.org/hening/vol07-01.htm#page_24).