

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Coffman R2106

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Virginia

County of Marshall

I on this 7th day of January in the year of Our Lord 1851 personally appeared before me one of the Commonwealths Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Joseph Coffman resident in said County aged ninety three years who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. that he entered the service of the United States under the following officers named, and served as herein stated. That he was drafted for the term of five years in Essex County Va. in or about the month of September in the year 1781 in the eastern part of the state of Virginia in the Company commanded by "Captain John Dix" in the Regiment commanded by "Col William Bear" {in the line of the state of Virginia} for the Continental Establishmet) he is not certain) That he served in the said Corps for the space of eighteen months next preceding the close of the War and that he was honorably discharged at the close of the war on the Rappahannoc [sic: Rappahannock] river in the state of Virginia which said certificat of discharge was lost by the burning of his House many years since. That he does not know of any one now living who served with him to whom he may refer as living witnesses. That he was present in several battles of the Revolution and aided in boarding and capturing the last prize ship taken at the close of the war on the Rapahnoc River. That his Father Joseph Coffman was a Captain in the Revolutionary service and killed in battle at Stony point [storming of fort at Stony Point NY, 16 Jul 1779] That two of his brothers also were in the service and one of them Benjamin Coffman killed by his side in battle at Stony Point. That he was in the battle at Stony Point. that he was in the battle at West Point. That during a principal part of the said eighteen months service he was engaged with his detachment in guarding the Coast on the Rapahanoc River against the inroads of the enemy That his reason for not making earlier application was the loss of his certificate by accident and not knowing until within the last month that any govermental provision ever had been made for soldiers in their Coutry service. That he was drafted at the age of sixteen years in his Country service. That the names of some of his messmates were Clark, Ward, Colman, Moody John Smith & Ambrose Smith. That he was born in Essex County within five miles of Hobbs Hole Va [near Tappahannock].

That the record of his age his papers generally and certificate were all lost by the burning of his house

He states that his regular officers were Capt John Dix and Col William Roan

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or if any only that of the state of Virginia

Joseph hisXmark Coffman

NOTE: Several of Coffman's neighbors signed a supporting statement, which added that Coffman had also served six months in the War of 1812.