

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Drewry R4314 Martha Griffin VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia }
County of Southampton } SS

On this 7th day of April in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty six personally appeared before me the Subscriber [Irvin Griffin] a Justice of the Court for and said County Martha Griffin who is to me known as a resident of Southampton County in the State of Virginia aged Sixty four 64 years who being first duly Sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress approved February 3rd 1853

That she was married to John Drewry at Southampton County Virginia on the Forth (4th) day of February in the year of Eighteen hundred and Twenty five (1825) Who was a private Soldier in the Company Commanded by Captain Rogers in the Regiment Commanded by Cornal Russel in the Virginia State Line [see endnote] of the war of the Revolution that he volunteerd at Southampton Virginia on or about the year AD 1777 and continued in actual servis for the term of nearly 18 monts and was honorably discharged at little York in the later part of 1779 all of which will more fully appear by Record That her said husband John Drewry Died at Southampton County Virginia on the Thirteenth 13th day of June, in the year of Eighteen hundred and Twenty Seven (1827) That she afterwords married John Griffin on the 20th Day of September AD 1829 who Died on the 9th day of March AD 1830 and that she is still a widow and has remaind unmarried ever sence the death of her las namd husband John Griffin She further Declares that this is the first and onley application She has ever made under aney act of Congress She states that from bodily infirmity that she can not appear in Court to make her Declaration
Martha herXmark Griffin

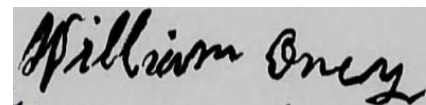
State of Virginia } SS
County of Southampton }

on this 12 day of December in thear year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty six Personally appeard before me [Irvin Griffin] a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid James Griffin and John Lewis to me knowind as Residents of Southampton County in the State of Virginia and who being first duly Swors according to law declare that Martha Griffin is the IDenical widow of John Drewry Deceasd who was a Revolutionary Soldier and that She married him in 1824 and afterwords John Griffin Decasd they further Sware that they knew the said Martha Grifin and her first husband John Drewry in there life time for a great nomber of years tey say from the Date of the Revolution that they have hird him Relate his Service in said war and speake of his Receiving about \$75.00 for said service and they Do ware that they do believe that the said John Drewry is the Idenical person who Received the £19.11.5 from the State of Virginia as is mentiond in a Certificate of Suspension from the Pension office witnesses State that they ware not older enuff to be in the war of the Revolution but they ware about 15 years old at that time and live in the same nighbourhood with the said John Drewry and they have no Doubt of his being the Same Person [signed] James Griffin
John hisXmark Lewis

State of Virginia }
County of Southampton } SS

On this 28th day of May in the year of our lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty Seven personally appeard before me a justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid William Oney [pension application S18147] aged 94 a Resident of Southampton County in the State of Virginia and who is a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States at the Rate of \$33.33⅓ per annum

and who being first duly sworn according to law declare that John Drewry mentiond in a letter of Suspencion [from the Pension Office requiring further proof of service] baring date January 27 1857 is the idenical John Drewry who served in Revolutionary War under Captain Elias Herring in 3rd division under Cornal Samuel Kello as private in the Virginia Militia that he was drafted fore times and served six weakes at each term and that the said John Drewry afterwords enlisted in the Virginia State line and served as he believes for the term of fifteen monts or thereboutes that he Oney ofen hird him say that he enlisted for the purpoes of obtaining beter wages Land &c he declares that he was in the batle at hog llat [sic: Hog Island on James River, battle unknown] and hope [helped] kill Beeves with the said Drewry and in the battle at Petersburg [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781] Sandy point [on James River, battle unknown] and Yorktown [Siege of Yorktown, 28 sep - 19 Oct 1781] the later place was after he enlisted under Captain James Johnson in the Regiment or division Commande by Genal or Major Boykin [see endnote] the dates of his entring service he is unable to give but believes that his enlistment was in Seventeen hundred Eighty and his discharge was in the later part of Seven hundred Eighty one and he served as private before that time and that he is a disintereste Witness



State of Virginia } ss
Southampton County }

On this 9th day of July AD 1857 Personally appeard before me a Justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid Sarah Joyner [widow of Joshua Joyner, pension application W7924] aged 89 years and who is a Revolutionary Pensioner at the Rate \$22.88 per annum and who being first duly Sworn according to law declare that she was bornd within one half mile of John Drewry mentiond in the foregoing affidavit by Oney and was Raised in the same nighbourhood with said Drewry that She Recolects distinctly of the men coming as meny as four times and caring him and all the res away and of there being absent for full six weakes and hird him and the rest of the Soldiers speak of Captain Herring & Cornal Kello as being their Officers and that she hird the said Drewry say the next time he went in service he did not expect to see us or return in two year but she thinks that he returnd home in about fifteen monts and that she hird him say that he enlisted and had money and land dew him and some two years afterword he Received some twenty pounds and him and her farther and the Rest of the naighbours say that he Drewry had got his money for enlisting in the Virginia State Service and that he was still Entitled to a Negro and land or its value in gold but she dont believe he ever obtaind it as he hird him speak of it for some twenty or thirty years afterds She further Swars that he above containes what She knows in in Regard to his service and nothing more and that she is a disinterested Witness

Sarah herXmark Joyner

NOTES:

The only "Cornal Russel" I could identify was Col. William Russell of the Continental Army. I could find no Captain Rogers in his regiment.

Maj. Francis Boykin was in the Militia of Isle of Wight County.

The Pension Office rejected Martha Griffin's claim for lack of proof of John Drewry's service, noting that there were at least two Virginia soldiers named John Drewry, one in the State Line and one in the Continental Line. (See John Drewry VAS1049.) It also cited the contradictions in the supporting statements by William Oney and Sarah Joyner. On 23 Oct 1857 Edwin Bradshaw appealed to the Pension Office on her behalf, stating that "there is considerable Excitement amongst her naighbours in regard to her clame being suspended one man has been surporting of her for the last 12 monte with the expectation of he geting something sometime."