

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Phillips (Philips) S38303

f13VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/18/12 supp'd 5/11/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the pension list under the act of Congress of the 18th of March 1818

State of Virginia Halifax County to wit

On this 28th day of May 1827 personally appeared in Open Court being a Court of record for the County of Halifax aforesaid John Phillips a resident of said County aged seventy-one years old the 3rd day of October 1826 who being first sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st May 1820. That he the said John Phillips enlisted in the revolutionary Army for the term of three years, in the month of August 1777 in the County of Amelia and State of Virginia under Captain William Taylor of the 2nd Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel Febigger [Christian Febiger] which Regiment in service was attached to General Woodford's brigade, that shortly after enlisting he was promoted to the rank of Corporal which grade he held to the end of his enlistment that he continued to serve in the said Corps the full term of three years for which he enlisted with the exception of but a very short time near the close, when he was taken prisoner of war at Charlestown [Charleston, South Carolina, May 12, 1780]. That he remained in custody of the British until sometime in the month of June 1780 when he made his escape from them and was afterwards regularly discharged by Colonel Febiger at Cumberland Old Court house in the State of Virginia, but owing to the great lapse of time, carelessness, or some other cause the discharge is lost or mislaid so that it cannot be found. Said Phillips further states, that he was at the taking of Stony Point [July 16, 1779] and at the battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] in which latter engagement he received a Wound in the leg, the effects of which even to this day contributes much to his disability that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on any pension role whatever of this or any other State in the union and that the reason he did not make earlier application for a pension is that he never was apprised of any provisions being made by law for the relief of revolutionary Soldiers until within the last two years and since then he never has been able until a recent period to procure the necessary evidence of his enlistment and service that after much labor, travel fatigue and expense he has at length obtained the Certificates of two of his Companions in arms; that these Certificates are hereto annexed and contain all the evidence which he has it in his power to procure. And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, said John Phillips solemnly swears that he was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that

time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that he has not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed at bottom. Said Phillips further states that he is by occupation a planter and farmer that his family now living with him consist of three females, neither or any of whom can render him any assistance in his vocation. Consequently he is deprived of every aid from that quarter, one of these females is his wife Priscilla, and aged, infirm old woman, sixty-three years old, sometime in December 1826. The other 2 are daughters, one named Nancy and aged 24 years sometime in March 1827 the other named Frances and was 19 years old the 19th of October 1826. That in consequence of his poverty and the disabilities produced by old age a stroke of the palsy and the wound aforesaid which has almost deprived him of the use of the leg in which it was received he is deprived of the ability to support by his labors or in any other manner himself, and family and that he is compelled though reluctantly to asked the assistance of his Country for support; that he has no estate real or personal nor has the acquired any in any manner whatever since the 18th of March 1818 other than is contained in the following Schedule and by him subscribed, which is as follows to wit

1 Bond on James Bennett Kentucky due in year 1814	\$70.00
1 Ditto on Isaac Motley Georgia due in 1804	13.60
2 poll axes	3.00
1 Broad ax	2.50
2 Hilling hoes 4/6	1.50
1 Grub hoe	0.75
1 Drawing knife	0.50
1 hand saw	1.50
1 Doz earthan plates	1.00
1 Sett knives & forks	1.00
3 E Dishes	1.00
1 pine table	0.75
½ Doz Chairs 3/	<u>3.00</u>
	\$100.10

S/ John Phillips

Virginia Halifax County to wit William Singleton¹ a respectable person, this day came before me William Faulkner one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid & made Oath that he was well acquainted with John Phillips who was in the Revolutionary War & who was with him in the said War in the 2nd Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Febegger or Febecker or some Colonel of a name somewhat alike that.

That the said Phillips, as he was told, was enlisted for 3 years & that he was further informed that the said John Phillips was taken a prisoner of War at Charleston by the British & that he well remembers that he was a Corporal in the above named Regiment. Given under my hand & seal the 16th of April 1827

¹ I cannot find it a veteran by this name in either the Virginia state or the federal pension records. Consequently, I believe this may be the only evidence of this veteran's service in the public record.

S/ William Faulkner

Chesterfield County to wit

The affidavit of Hamblin Cole² of Chesterfield County Virginia taken at his own house on the 22nd February 1827

I know that John Phillips enlisted in the Continental Army in the year 1777 for 3 years he was with me at the siege of Charleston, and surrendered a prisoner of war 12th day of May 1780. Said Phillips & myself remained there as prisoners of war until the 28th of June of the same year, and on that day made our escape, and made our way to Virginia through many dangerous difficulties through a Tory Country. The said Phillips was a Corporal in Captain William Taylor's Company in the 2nd Virginia Regiment commanded by Febiger.

Signed the day and year above written.

S/ Hamlin Cole



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June one, 18 to 27, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Halifax County Legislative Petitions

To the Honorable the General Assembly of Virginia

The petition of John Philips now of the County of Halifax formally of the County of Amelia respectfully represents that he enlisted as a soldier in the revolutionary war under Captain William Taylor in the Second Virginia Regiment commanded by Colonel Febiger – that he was appointed and served as a noncommissioned officer the term of service for which he enlisted commenced the 1st day of August 1777 and ended the 1st day of August 1780. That he has fought in the Battle of Monmouth Court-house, in which he was wounded, and served throughout that campaign in the North. That he fought afterwards at the Storming of Stony Point. That in the year 1779, he thinks in the month of November he was marched from the North to Charleston South Carolina. That on the 12th day of May 1780, he was taken prisoner at Charleston. That he was held as a prisoner until November of that year, the term of his enlistment having expired in August of the same year – so that he could not get his discharge for several months after his term had expired. That for these services he was paid in nothing but the old Continental paper money which became so depreciated that it was almost worthless – and your petitioner is informed that others who served with him have been paid the sum of Eighty pounds each in consideration of the depreciated currency in which they, like himself, had been paid – and being old (in his 84th year), decrepit, and poor – unable to labor – having a wife in like situation and being unable to support themselves comfortably upon the pension which he draws from the United States, amounting only to \$96 per annum – he humbly ask for your hands, that he be paid as his brother soldiers have been paid, for the losses which he sustained in the depreciated paper in which he was paid and also for the seven last months of his service for which he has never received one cent of pay of any sort – but for which he ought to have

² FPA S39342 –Hamlin Cole or Hamblin Cole

received seventy dollars – the wages of a Sergeant which office he held, being ten dollars per month. Your petitioner further states, that after the expiration of his term of service aforesaid to wit, the 1st March 1781 he again entered the service as a Lieutenant in the Militia, first under General Lawson [Robert Lawson], and afterwards under General Lafayette and served until after the capture of Cornwallis [Siege of Yorktown ending October 19, 1781] – the whole term of his Militia service being about eight months – for these latter services your petitioner has never petition for nor received any pension – he now refers to those services to show to your Honorable body the claims which he has upon his country for aid in his declining years of poverty and decrepitude.

S/ John Philips, X his mark

[Reverse]

John Philips' Petition

Praying the Legislature to take into consideration of his claims as a Soldier of the Revolution

Presented by P. Taylor

January 9th, 1839

Referred to C^{ms} [Claims?]

rejected 14 January 39