

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Solomon Collins S39331

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 Jan 2019.

Virginia Sct. Lewis County Towit

Be It Remembered that at a Court held for said County of Lewis on Monday the 4th day of May 1818 Consisting of David Smith Jas Allen, David W Sleeth [pension application S6111] & W. Peterson Majastrates Composing the County Court of said County Personally appeared before said Court Solomon Collins who filed an affidavit in the words and figures following Viz, Lewis County Towit Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County in the State of Virginia, Solomon Collins and made oath that he Enlisted in the Regular service of the United States as a private soldier under the Command of Captain Mucklehattan [sic: McElhatton] in a Regiment Commanded by Col Rich'd Butler [Richard Butler] (as well as he can recollect) in the Pennsylvania line and that he Enlisted for the Term of Three years unless sooner discharged and that he cannot precisely recollect the time of his Enlistment But it was some short time before the Battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] in which Battle he was and Received a wound in his left Ankle and that he continued in said service untill the revolt of the said Pennsylvania line [see endnote] at or about which time he was regularly discharged from said service having served for upwards of Three years But that the said discharge has been lost and that he cannot procure any other Testimony of his said services and that he has been afflicted with the Palsey for about six years during which time he has not been able to perform any business by which he could support himself but has depended on his friends for support, and that his disease has impaired his memory and so affected his speech that he cannot precisely state the circumstances of the case and that from his reduced circumstances he needs the assistance of his country for support, Sworn to before me

Jas. Allen/ May 4th 1818

At a Court held for the County of Lewis on Monday the 3^d day of May in the year 1819, Composed of Thomas Cunningham James Allen William Peterson and David W Sleeth Justices of the peace for said County, whereupon Sam'l. Z Jones Esq [S18474], a Justice of the peace for said County personally appeared in Court and after being duly sworn deposeseth and saith that he was personally acquainted with Solomon Collins, above named whose affidavit is hereto annexed and certified at May Term 1818 at of said Court by David Smith, James Allen, David W Sleeth, William Peterson & Abner Abbott then seting Justices of the peace for said County and that he believes the allegations in said affidavit is true so far as respects the services of said Solomon Collins that he the said Samuel Z. Jones does know that the said Solomon Collins did serve in the Revolutionary war against the Common enemy upwards of nine months that he did not see him enlist nor does he recollect the names of his officers but being acquainted with said Solomon Collins before his enlistment he became acquainted that he was in the service, that he saw said Collins during the time of his said service and the said Sam'l Z Jones thinks he recollects seeing said Solomon Collins on his way to join his Regement after geting over a wound in his face which he believes he received in the service that he did not see him in any actual engagement but has every reason to believe he was at the Battle of Brandywine as set forth in said affidavit and that he thinks the said Collins situation does require the assistance of his Government for support It is therefore ordered that the said affidavit of said Collins and the said Certificate of the last May Court be returned to the secretary of war together with the affidavit of the said Sammuel Z Jones it appearing to the Court from the endorsement made by the secretary on the back of said affidavit & certificate that Evidence of the service of said Collins was required which service is sufficiently proven by the affidavit of the said Samuel Z Jones to the satisfaction of the Court – In Testimony & in full satisfaction of the truth of the declaration above set forth as well of the truth of the declaration of said Solomon Collins & of his reduced circumstances we the subscribers now seting Justices of the peace for said County have hereunto set our hands & seals this said 3^d day of May 1819

[signed]

Virginia Sct. Lewis County Towit

On this 10th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of Record for said county Solomon Collins aged about 60 years resident in the said county of Lewis & State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows he enlisted in the regular service of the United States as a private Soldier under the command of Captain McElhattan in a Regiment commanded by Col Richard Butler as well as he recollects in the Pennsylvania Line and that he enlisted for the Term of three years unless sooner discharged that he cannot precisely recollect the time of his enlistment but it was some short time before the Battle of Brandy Wine which Battle he was in and received a wound in his left ancle and that he continued in said service untill the revolt of the said Pennsylvania Line at or about which time he was regularly discharged from said service haveing served upwards of three years but that the said discharge has been lost and that he has no other Evidence of his services that the Evidence of Samuel Z Jones which is annexed to his former declaration dated the 4th May 1818 on which Declaration and Evidence he has received a Pension certificate dated the 9th July 1819 No 12557

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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 I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income whatever or any property real or personal whatever and my occupation was a Stone Mason and brick layer when I was able to Labour but having the Palsy in my right side I am unable to perform any kind of Labour or business and have been so for many years and now entirely depend on my friends for Support Except the Pension received on the above mentioned certificate

I have no family to support. I have no property real or personal Solomon hisXmark Collins

Sworn to and declared on the 10th day of October 1820 before Jacob Lorentz Joseph McCoy William Hacker and George Bush Justices of the peace composing said court Teste D. Stringer CLC

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

State of Virginia }
County of Harrison }

I Solomon Collins aged seventy four years do upon oath testify and declare that I entered the service of the united states on the [illegible] day of January 1776 under Capt Muckelhattin for the term of three years as a Regular Soldier of the Pennsylvania line I enlisted in Cumberland County State of Pennsylvania on the Juniata River march'd from thence to amboy [in NJ] I have not a perfect recollection of all the marches we made. But recollect of guarding the Regulars[?] to Redding [Reading?], and immediately returning to the Battle of Princetown [Princeton NJ, 3 Jan 1777]; In the year 1777 was at the Battle of Brandywine where I was wounded and was taken to a large Brick Meeting house that was occupied as a hospital where I remained untill I was cured; after which I continued in the service untill the expiration of the term of my Enlistment when I was honorably discharged from the Regiment Commanded by Col Butler. In the summer of 1779 I went with a company of Volunteers under general [James] Potter to [two undeciphered words] fort &c In the latter part of the year 1779 I enlisted in the Regular Continental line under Capt Killbreath (A recruiting officer) for five years or during war, was enlisted in the town of [undeciphered] in the Count of Northumberland state of Penn'a march'd from thence to Carlisle in Cumberland County where I was put under the command of a Capt (or Lieutenant) Allen and march'd from thence to the County of Albemarle in the state of Virginia where I received my uniform and Equipment for the light horse service[?], was march'd from there through Virginia and North Carolina to South Carolina under the command of a Capt (or major) Triplet [Francis Triplett] Mach'd to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Wm Washington [William Washington] I was alternately commanded by different captains whose names

I cannot now speak but continued in the Regmt commanded by Colonel Washington until the close of the war. I was at the Battle of the Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and sundry other skirmishes, and performed various marches and was march'd back into Virginia to Little York [Yorktown] and was at the taking of Little York or Cornwallis's defeat [19 Oct 1781] after which I was again march'd to South Carolina, where I continued until after the Enemy Evacuated Charleston [14 Dec 1782] when I was again march'd back to Virginia by Winchester to Richmond where (then no longer needed) was sent home or discharged by furlow and was never more called into service. I was discharged from the regiment commanded by Col Washington amongst the light horse men.

I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the Bounty land promised me on the part of the state of Virginia or the United States, nor have I ever assigned or transferred my claim in any manner whatsoever. Therefore know all men by these presents that I Solomon Collins aforesaid do hereby constitute and appoint George Collins to be my true and lawful Attorney for me and in my name to demand and receive from the Secretary of War of the United States a warrant for the quantity of land due to me for my service; as aforesaid and my said attorney is hereby authorized and empowered to constitute one or more substitutes or attorneys under him for the special purpose as above expressed.

Attest/ Sheldon Furr/ W. Huffman
Solomon his Xmark Collins

I Samuel Z Jones of the County of Lewis and State of Virginia aged seventy five years do upon oath declare that I have been long acquainted with Solomon Collins who has subscribed the above declaration in my presence and well know that he is the identical person he therein represents himself to be. I was well acquainted with him in 1776 and do know that he was a regular enlisted soldier in 1776 in the Pennsylvania line, and that in the early part of the year 1779 he was at home in Cumberland County, State of Penn'sy and that he had been wounded, but was then well of his wounds; I know that he went as a Volunteer under General Potter to [two undeciphered words] fort in the summer of 1779. I also know that he Solomon Collins Enlisted some time in the latter part of the year 1779 under Capt Killbreath for some term now which term I cannot be positive, But it is and has been my opinion that this Enlistment was during the war and in the Virginia Continental line. He then was march'd off to the south. I knew no more of him until the close of the war since which time I have frequently seen him and conversed with him on the subject of the Revolution and firmly believe he did render the services as set forth in the above declaration.

attest/ Shelton Furr/ W. Huffman
[23 Oct 1834]

Samuel Z Jones

NOTE:

Beginning at Mount Kimble NJ on 1 Jan 1781, Pennsylvania troops mutinied and marched on Philadelphia because they were kept beyond their terms of enlistment.

A Treasury-Department document states that the Administrator of Solomon Collins's estate received the final pension payment up to the date of his death, 8 Feb 1838.

Collins's application for bounty land from Virginia may have been rejected because he was not considered a soldier of the Virginia line, but possibly also because of suspicion regarding Samuel Z. Jones and many others in Lewis and Harrison counties. For details see the pension application of Samuel Z. Jones and my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.