

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Hamlin (Hamlen) Cole S39342

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

I Hamblin Cole of Chesterfield County and State of Virginia, do hereby certify, that I enlisted in the Continel Army for the term of three years under Lieutenant John Oglesby on the 1st day of August 1777; marched directly to the North and joined the main Army at White Marsh near Valley Forge, and was then put under the command of Capt. Wm. Taylor [William Taylor, pension application W6233] as orderly sergeant of his company of the 2nd Virginia Regiment, then under the command of Col. Alex'r. Spotswood [Alexander Spotswood]: then went into winter quarters at Valley Forge. In the spring of the year 1778 we followed Howe to New York, and on the 28th day of June I was in the Battle of Monmouth, the 2nd Regt. then commanded by Col. Christian Feebecker [sic: Christian Febiger]. After the Battle of Monmouth we went to the White plains [sic: White Plains NY], from thence we went to West point Fort; and from thence took up Winter Quarters at Morris Town [Morristown NJ]. In the Month of June 1779 we were put under the command of General [Anthony] Wayne and ordered against Stoney point [sic: Stony Point] Fort on the North River and in July [16th] we succeeded in Storming the Fort. I was also in the engagement at the Storming of the Fort at Powler's Hook [sic: Paulus Hook NJ, 19 Aug 1779]. In December 1779 the Virginia Troops, then under the command of Gen'l. Wm Woodford [William Woodford], were ordered to Charlestown in South Carolina; We arrived at Charlestown on the 10th day of April 1780, I was then under the command of Capt. Collin Cocke [Colin Cocke BLWt451-300] of the 2nd Va. Regt. commanded by Col. John Neville, the Army then under the command of Majr. General [Benjamin] Lincoln. The American Army was soon surrounded by Sea and Land by the British Forces then commanded by General Clinton. A constant fire between the armies ([except] only when a flag was passing) was kept up until the 12th day of May 1780, when Gen'l. Lincoln surrendered the American Army as prisoners. The American soldiers lived upon one pint of Rice pr day without a mouth-full of meat or bread for thirty days. On the 28th of June I (with three others) made my escape from the enemy and we had to travel by night one hundred miles through a Tory Country, and had to swim one River I arrived safe in Virginia and was discharged by Col. Davis [sic: William Davies] at Chesterfield Ct House and never was exchanged thereby saving one man. I then joined the Virginia Militia and was in an engagement at Shirly hundred [sic: Shirley Hundred] on the North side of James River, under the command of Col. Alex'r. Dick [Alexander Dick], and Majors [William] Boyce and Hofler [probably William Hoffler], I then acted as Sergeant Major in the month of May 1781 I afterwards was wounded dangerously by a horseman's sword and taken prisoner, at a place called Sudberry's in Chesterfield by Tarlton's Troops [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion at Sudbury's 3 mi NW of Chesterfield, 23 May 1781]; was not then able to march to Norfolk with the other prisoners; and was then permitted to return home — I am now upwards of sixty eight years old, and cannot walk one step without crutches

I will also mention that while to the North, Francis Cowherd [W6721] of Loudon [sic: Loudoun] County, was a Lieutenant in the same Company that I belonged to. [signed] Hamlen Cole
[Certified 12 Nov 1824.]

October the 29th 1824

We who Subscribe our names do Certify that we serv'd in the Revolutionary War with Hamblin Cole who belong'd to the 2nd Virg'a. Reg't he served faithfull and is now upon Crutches Given under our hands day & date as Above Jno L Crute [John L. Crute S24980] Lt. late of the Army
Dan'l. Verser [Daniel Verser W19575]

The affidavit of John Philips [John Phillips S38303] of Halifax County Virginia taken subscribed and sworn to on the 22nd February 1827 at the house of Hamlin Coles.

I know that Hamlin Cole Inlisted in the Continatal army in the year of 1777 for three years; He was with me at the seige at Charlestown and surrendered a prisoner of war on the 12th day of may 1780, the said Cole and myself remained there as prisoners of war until the 28th day of June of the same year and on that day made our excapes, and made our way to Virginia through many dangerous dificulties through a tory Country. The said Cole was a sergant in Capt. William Taylors Company in the 2nd Virginia Regiment Commanded by Col. Febegger. Signd by me the day and year above written
John hisXmark Philips

The affidavit of John Hill, and Francis Patram taken this 22nd day of November 1827. These affiants being sworn before me a Justice of the peace, Saith, That they have been aquainted with Mr Hamblin Cole for many years, and consider him a man of Strict integrity, and in all respects entitled to the confidence of all his neighbours, I have heard him spoken of in high terms, as a soldier and patriot of the revolution. He now is an applicant to his Country for some assistence, and in our opinion no person is more deserving than Hamblin Cole. He had the misfortune to have his hip dislocated a few years back & was confined to his bed for may months, and in consequence of the exspence of medical services and other misfortunes he is involved in debt beyond his ability to pay unless he sells his property which is but small. – I do not believe he would call on his goverment for anything unless compell'd. by necessity. He is also an old man, and now goes on his crutches, and in that situation labours daily for his liveing. Much more might be said in favour of this worthy ole patriot by us & every person that was ever aquainted if it was considered necessary.

Given under our hands the day above written John Hill Francis Patram

[The following are among [Revolutionary bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#). More legible copies are in the federal pension file.]

Head Quartres 22 May 1781

The Barer Hamdon Cole is a Prisoner of War to his Majestys Trowps on Parole
Henry Whittles/ P. Martial

I do hereby Certify that Hamblin Cole Sergt. in the 2nd Va Reg't. drew all (deficiency of clothing to the 1st Jan'y 1780 since which he has never drew any from Colin Cocke,/ Capt. Pay M. & Clothier,
2 Va Reg'nt

A Mil'y Land bounty warrant issued to Hamlin Cole in consideration of his services as a Sergeant for 3 years Cont'l. line – Executive Cert'e. dated May 31st 1783. No other warr't appears to have iss'd. to him in consideration of his services in the Revolutionary war. John Davenport Clk

I do heareby Certify that Hamlin Cole a serg't in 2^d virginia Regiment searve'd three years in the Continental army & was taken prisoner in Charleston in south Carolina 12th may 1780 Given under my hand this 10th day may 1822 William Cole [S39338]
a soldier in the said Regiment

Allen Whitworth [S6367] after being sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith that on the 22nd day of May 1781 He the said Whitworth was in the same company with Hamblin Cole sen'r. & others under the command of Col. Robert Goode, which said detachment was stationed at a camp called Sudsberry's in Chesterfield County, and were then attacked by a party of the British Army,

consisting of Dragoons and mounted infantry, commanded by colo Tarlton; in which attack the said Whitworth & Cole, with others to the number of fifty four men were made prisoners of war. And this deponant further states that the said Cole was so severely wounded that his life was despaired of. That when the said deponant with other prisoners were ordered on to the British Prison ship the said Cole with those who were dangerously wounded (and thought not capable of marching) were paroled, in consequence of the severity of their wounds. furthermore this deponant saith not

Given under my hand this 9th day of Nov'r. 1822.

Allen Whitworth