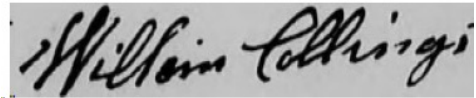


Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Collins (Collings) S46463      BLWt172-100  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 Jan 2019.

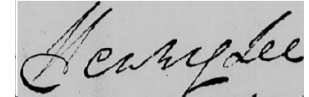
To the Honorable The Secretary at Warr of the United States

The subscriber, at present residing at Mount Holly in the County of Burlington and State of New Jersey, respectfully sheweth, that in the Spring of the year 1779 he enlisted as a private soldier in the "Infantry of the Partizan Legion," and served untill the close of the War under the Command of Col. Henry Lee, when he was regularly discharged, as will appear by the Certificate of Colo. Lee hereto annexed. That altho' the subscriber conceived himself entitled to a compensation for his services, yet being unacquainted with the forms necessary to be pursued to obtain it, and not having had an opportunity of obtaining Col. Lee's certificate untill the month of September last, he has omitted to apply for it untill the present time. That he has not by himself or Representative drawn a Warrant for any land whatever. He therefore respectfully requests that his case may be considered by the Secretary and that he may be allowed just compensation in Lands, as the Laws of the United States do or may authorize  
Mount Holly 24 Dec'r 1802

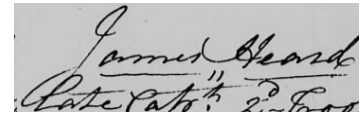


Burling[page torn] Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> 1802

I do certify that Wm Collins served during the revolutionary war in the infantry of the Partizan Legion & is consequently entitled to the continental land bounty.  
Henry Lee late Lt. Col. Com. [illegible abbreviation]



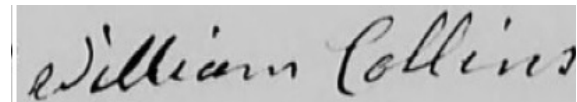
I Certify that William Collins enlisted as a private soldier in the year seventeen hundred & seventy eight, in the Legion commanded by Lt. Colo. Henry Lee and continued to serve as such until the conclusion of the revolutionary war      James Heard [S540]  
February 19<sup>th</sup> 1825      late Capt. 2<sup>d</sup> Troop of Dragoons Lee's Legion



For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the act entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving Officers and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution," approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1828. I William Collings of Chillicothe in the County of Ross, in the state of Ohio, do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in its service untill its termination; at which period, I was a Private in Captain Rodolph's [sic: Michael Rudolph BLWt945-300] Company, in Col'l. Henry Lee's legion, of the Virginia line. And I also declare, that I did not receive a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars; and did not know at that time that I was entitled thereto, under a resolve of Congress, passed the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1778, neither did I receive any regular discharge; being at the time when our troops were discharged, several miles distant from our camp, attending on Lieut Guthery who was sick.

And I further declare, that I was not, on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1828 or at any other time since the close of the Revolutionary war, on the Pension List of the United States.

Witness my hand, this thirteenth day of June in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.



[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Washington 12<sup>th</sup> Feb. 1811

Dear Sir [William Staughton (1770-1829), Baptist clergyman, educator, and music composer]

I have received your much respected favor of the 8<sup>th</sup> Cur't. nothing [undeciphered word] be done now in Collins's bussiness, he has located his warrant and if he has made a bad selection it is now too late to remedy it here.

I have shown his statement to Mr. Morrow, Chairman of the Committee on Public Lands, who knows more I believe, of that subject than all the [undeciphered word] of us, he says agreeably to the remark on his papers, That if he belonged to the virginia quota of Troops he is entitled to 200 acres of Land from that State, and it is to be got by applying to the Governor & Counsel, not to the Legislature & he says nothing Can be done in the Bussiness without proof of the material facts, such as his enlistment & Continueing to serve to the end of the war, Discharge &c he adds that perhaps H. Lees Certificate may Comprise all that is necessary in the way of evidence.

It would have given me much pleasure to have been servicable here to an old Soldier, and more particularly to any one who Came under the auspices of your recommendation, but nothing Can be done here in Collins's Case, the Land he has Located, is of his own choice

accept the assurance of my high Consideration and Regard, while I remain with esteem  
your obed't. Serv't.

A. McKim [Alexander McKim (1748-1832) R6758 Congressman from MD]

Philadelphia/ Feb'y 26 1811

Dear Sir, [Mr. Wm Collings]

I enclose you the answer I have obtained from Mr. McKim. You will perceive from it that your choice of the lands of Congress cannot be altered, but, the prospect of your obtaining your rights from Virginia is a fair one. You must apply to the governour of Virginia who has it in his power to award you your right. I would advise you to visit Trenton and state the case to Governor Bloomfield [Joseph Bloomfield W10418 (1753-1823) of New Jersey] – you know his readiness to every act of generosity and patriotism. I am confident he will assist you and have no doubt but that his assistance will prove effectual.

Wishing you, yr companion and family every blessing a requesting you to employ me in any way in which I can serve you. I am/ yr. friend & Bro'r/ W. Staughton

Trenton 3 Sepr 1811

Dear Sir [the Hon'ble George C Maxwell (1771-1816), US Congressman from NJ],

The case of Wm. Collins is committed to your attention. After you shall have read his Petition [see below under rejected claims] – Mr. McKims letter to D. Staughton & D. Staughton's to Collins, you will perceive the object of thus troubling you.

Collins finding he had been imposed upon in locating his Soldiers Warrant, made application to have his Location changed & for another patent. This could not be done, but he received the information through Mr. McKim, of his being entitled to 200 Acres in Virginia. This induced me to draw the petition for Collins & if Mr. McKim is correct the certificate of Gen'l Lee (which can be obtained from the War office) or if that cannot be taken from the office, a duplicate thereof can be procured of Gen'l Lee, who you will see at Washington; & the Certificate with Collins petition to be committed to some one of your acquaintance who will benevolently undertake to have the same laid before the Governor & Council of Virginia and obtain the desired object for Collins, & which you will communicate to me, that Collins may go on, or send a power of Attorney to receive whatever may be granted by the Governor & Council of the commonwealth of Virginia. I have only to add that I knew Wm Collins, to have been a Soldier in the revolutionary war – to have resided since the peace in the City of Burl. & esteemed a very industrious man, in full communion with the Baptist Society, which accounts for the interest which the Rev'd D. Staughton has taken to solicit in his behalf.

You will excuse the haste in which this is written & which I have done, together with the petition, whilst the facts are fresh in my memory.  
assure yourself of my friendship & esteem. Joseph Bloomfield

Washington 10<sup>th</sup> January 1812.

Dear Sir [Joseph Bloomfield Esq'r.],

I have made enquiry amongst the gentlemen from Virginia respecting the Claim of Collins for his Bounty Lands; and have been informed by them that he is entitled to them. But they state that Virginia in her cession of Lands to the United States did not reserve enough to satisfy the different claimants. In order to remedy this a Bill is now before Congress to allow the location of such claims. The Persons I have consulted have advised me not to forward the Papers until the fate of this Bill is known. You will be good enough therefore to inform me whether this course meets your ideas; and if any thing further is necessary to be done.

The Bill from the Senate for raising 25000 men [for the War of 1812] has passed both Houses. The Senate refused to concur in our Amendment, which postponed commissioning Officers for more than six Regiments. I endeavored by such arguments as occurred to me to shew the necessity of adhering to our amendment, but the House [undeciphered word], Ayes 67 noes 63.

As it will be the duty of the President to commission the officers as soon as possible, would it not be proper for Recommendations of proper characters to be sent on as soon as they conveniently can. As the Legislature are now in Session, no doubt but they will attend to this business. And you may be assured no exertion on my part shall be wanting to ensure the success of those recommended.

Please to present my best respects to enquiring friends and believe me to be with sincere respect for you, Dear Sir, Your obed't. Serv't. Geo. C. Maxwell

Philad. March 17, 1814

My dear Sir. [Rev'd Mr Bryce]

The claim of Mr. Collins for 200 acres of land I believe to be very fair and legitimate. He has suffered for want of a friend in Virginia to take up his case and act on his behalf. I understand you have kindly proposed to help him as much as is in your power. Permit me to assure you that he is a very worthy man – member of Dr. Ailison's[?] church and deservedly esteemed by all who know him. His situation in life does not enable him to look into this business himself. He has an afflicted wife and several children all of whom depend on his personal industry for their support. I understand that he bore the character of a good soldier during the revolutionary war. He received a wound in the service which has contributed much to his inconvenience. It is [undeciphered word] merit should lose its hard-earned reward.

Do for him what you can and the God of love will recompense you a hundred fold.

Mrs. S. joins in love to your whole self. I rejoice to hear of the success of the gospel among you. I wish you would drop me a line and inform me particulars. Remember me to Mr. Griff[?]. Believe me

[undeciphered] W. Staughton

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

To his excellency the Governor, and the honorable the Council, of the commonwealth of Virginia;

The Petition & representation of the subscriber respectfully sheweth

That in February 1771 (being then about nine years of age) arrived with his Uncle Edward Collins, at Portsmouth in Virginia: that in the year 1778 your Petitioner enlisted in the Legionary Corps then raised and commanded by Colonel Henry Lee, in which he served during the war, in South Carolina, Georgia & enduring very severe hardships at the taking of two forts in Georgia a British fort under Col. Brown [siege of Fort Cornwallis under Lt. Col. Thomas Brown, 24 May - 1 Jun 1781] & a Tory one under Col. Grison [Fort Grierson under Col. James Grierson, 23 May 1781], was wounded in his left Leg, which for at least four years, after his discharge remained unhealed and give great pain & expense.

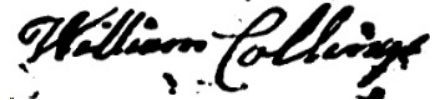
About the commencement of peace, your Petitioner, being incapable to do duty in the ranks, was sent on to Philadelphia in the capacity of a waiter to Lieutenant Gutry. It was not until the year 1804 that your petitioner obtained from ~~Colonel~~ General Henry Lee a certificate of the above facts,

The certificate of General Lee was transmitted to the war office and obtained a warrant for One hundred acres of Land with which your petitioner went into the state of Ohio, where he found a lot No. 15 in the 3<sup>d</sup> quarter of the 7<sup>th</sup> township, of the 9<sup>th</sup> range of the tract appropriated for satisfying warrants for military services, which he approved, having seen the plans of the survey in the possession of Mr. Wells Collector of the district and which your Petitioner supposed to be correct and obtained a Patent accordingly – but Your petitioner on going out to settle the Lot, in 1809 found he had been imposed upon, that the lot patented took in nothing, but a rugged Mountain of Rock & Stone, of which not a dozen beves [i.e. oxen] are capable of Tillage.

It was not until lately, that your Petitioner, (whose residence since the war, has been in Burlington, in New Jersey,) received information, that having served in Lee's Corps & as one of the quota of Virginia that your Petitioner is entitled to the land promised to the Officers & Soldiers of the Virginia line, & which your petitioner, most humbly prays may be granted by the governor & Council of Virginia. Your Petitioner being conscious, that by his faithful services and sufferings he entitle receive whatever was promised by the State of Virginia to their soldiers, during the time that tried mens Souls – and, having already been at great expense in first visiting & afterwards preparing to settle the said Lot, Your Petitioner humbly presumes, that your excellency & the honorable Council, will not permit your petitioner to receive so unworthy a retribution for the labors & sufferings he has undergone in contributing to the securing of the liberty, rights, and independence of the United States of America.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound will ever pray.

City of Burlington, / New Jersey  
Sept'r 9<sup>th</sup> 1811



The above petition is in the hand writing and was drawn up by General (late Governour)  
Bloomfield. He well knows the case and is anxious and ready to support it.  
March 17 1814  
Wm. Staughton

Rejected May 28<sup>th</sup> for want of Gen'l Lee's certificate &c.