

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Mason Colvin S9198

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
Culpeper County } S.S.

On this 16th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Court of Culpeper County now sitting, Mason Colvin aged seventy two years a resident of Culpeper County in the state of Virginia, who being first duly sworn agreeably to Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That he was drafted in the County of Culpeper in the state of Virginia, and served in Captain Francis Nalle's Company of Militia march to Richmond Virginia, and placed under the command of Majr D. Cluman a french officer [sic: Christian Charles de Klauman, a Dane] and served a three months tour of duty, and was discharged from the service after the same expired, the month and year of his going into service he does not now recollect; That he was again drafted and entered the militia service, the month and year not recollected in the company commanded by Capt. John Waugh of the County of Culpeper State of Virginia, and was marched to Richmond Virginia, and to Petersburg, General [Edward] Stevens the commanding officer; during this term he was engage in a skirmish with the enemy at the last named place, and after the expiration of his time of service ended, which was for three months, received a discharge signed by General Stevens. That he was again drafted in the militia service for a three months tour, of duty, and served the same in the Company commanded by Captain Lewis Yancey of Culpeper County Virginia, and Marched to Williamsburg Virginia, the service during this term he rendered in, and about that place and the lower part of Virginia and received a discharged after his term of service expired. That he was again drafted for a three months tour of duty in the fall of 1781 in the Company commanded by Capt. James Slaughter, and marched to Williamsburg Virginia where he joined the main Army, and retreated shortly after to upper Counties, Cornwallis being in pursuit, after crossing with a detachment of the army the Racoon ford in Culpeper County Virginia [sic: Raccoon Ford on Rapidan River, June 1781] was marched back in pursuit of the enemy and continued on to York Town. After arriving at York Town and during the siege at that place, he enlisted in Colonel [William] Washington's Regiment of Dragoons, under Capt James Garnett of that Regiment who was recruiting at that place, for and during the war; continued in the recruiting service from the time of his enlistment untill Cornwallis surrendered at York Town [19 Oct 1781] – when he was marched to Petersburg Virginia with the recruits about the 1st of November 1781 and continued at that place untill april of 1782, when he was discharged from the Regular service at that place. That he was born and raised in the County of Culpeper, and has ever continued to reside there. That the several discharges which he received, have all been lost or mislaid. That there is but one individual now living, that he knows of by whom he can prove his enlistment, that individual having belonged to the same Company in the Militia when he enlisted under Captain Garnett of the Dragoons.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and he declares his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State.

Mason hisXmark Colvin

The Court having propounded the following interrogatories to the said Mason Colvin – They were answered in the folling manner.

Quest 1 Where, in what year were you born?

Ans'r. I was born in the County of Culpeper, I know not in what year, but count myself about seventy two years old.

Quest Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?

Ans'r I have no such record.

Ques Where were you living when you were first called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Ans'r I was living in the County of Culpeper, when called into service. I have lived in Culpeper ever since the Revolutionary war, and am living in Culpeper at this time.

Quest How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Ans'r I was first drafted into service and did not volunteer and afterwards served one Tour as a substitute for a man by the name of John Colvin, and then enlisted during the war as heretofore stated

Quest State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troop where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service?

Ans'r. As I have heretofore in my Declaration mentioned the names of Captain Francis Nalle, Major D. Cloman, Captain John Waugh, General Edward Stevens, Capt Lewis Yancey, Captain James Slaughter, Col. Washington and Captain James Garrett. I recollect the names of those officers – and I have also stated the general circumstances of my service in my said Declaration.

Quest Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it.

Ans'r I did receive a discharge from the service, but do not recollect by whom it was signed and have long since lost it.

Quest State the names of person to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your service as a soldier of the Revolution.

Ans'r. My neighbour not being here generally, I can refer the Court at this time to Captain Zackariah Griffin, who is acquainted with me personally, but I do not know that he knows any thing of my Revolutionary service. There is no Clergyman acquainted with me sufficiently well to give me a Certificate

I Thomas Thornhill sen [S46518] of the County of Culpeper and State of Virginia do hereby certify that I have been acquainted with Mason Colvin, previous to, and since the Revolutionary war, that I believe, that he was a soldier in that war. And I further certify that I was at his Father's residence in the County of Culpeper, then on furlough myself from the southern army, and enquired after his son Mason, and was informed by his Father, that he had enlisted in the Regular army, and had not been at home since he went to the siege of York Town, that the last information which he had received respecting was, that he was in the hospital sick and that he feared that he was Dead. During the day that I was at his Father's, Mason Colvin came home, was dressed in Regimentals such as were worn by the Dragoons, with a knapsack upon his back, from which circumstance and his own statement of his service, I am and have been always of the opinion that he was a Regular Soldier in the army of the Revolution. As to the precise time of his return I cannot positively aver, but believe that it was in the Spring, or summer of 1782. Given under my hand this 8th day of August 1832
Thomas Thornhill
[James Clatterbuck (S9179) also certified that Colvin had enlisted into the regular service.]

NOTE: In a statement supporting the pension application W18951 of Sarah Colvin, widow of his brother, John Colvin, Mason Colvin stated that he and John Colvin had served a three-months tour together at Williamsburg, Norfolk, and Petersburg.