

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Rollins (Rawlings)¹ W10241 Nancy

f39VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/18/12 rev'd 3/18/15

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

Virginia to wit: At a Court held for the County of Harrison

On the 15th day of June 1818 & 42nd year of the Commonwealth Present John Davidson, Benjamin Robinson, Elias Sittwell, James Fleming & Daniel Morris Gentlemen Justices, Before the Court aforesaid personally appeared Moses Rollins and being duly sworn according to law upon his oath doth make the following Declaration in order to obtain the provision of the late 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" That he the said Moses Rollins enlisted in the year 1780 in Culpeper County in Virginia under the command of Captain Smith, attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Buford [probably Abraham Buford] of the regular Service and remained in the service of the United States until the Termination of the revolutionary War – that he was at the battle of Guilford Courthouse [March 15, 1781] and there received a wound, that from disease incurred during his service in the war he has since been compelled to have both his legs amputated that from his reduced circumstances he stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support and that he has no other evidence now of his said services –

a copy Test: S/ J. Wilson, C. H. C.

Virginia to wit

At a Court held for the County of Harrison on the 22nd day of June 1820 (being a Court of record established by an act of the General Assembly of this Commonwealth) Personally appeared before the Court aforesaid, Moses Rollins aged 57 years resident of Harrison County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows that he enlisted in the year 1780 in Culpeper County Virginia under the command of Captain Smith attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Buford of the regular Service & Virginia line his pension Certificate is No. 5973 Original Declaration made June 15th 1818 & he (said Moses Rollins) also took the following oath viz. 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself 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 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 other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed; viz. "the following is a Schedule of the real & personal estate of Moses Rollins to wit

¹ BLWt499-100

BLWt339-60-55

one horse & colt (not paid for) 2 cows & 1 calf one cow (not paid for) 1 hog my household furniture will not exceed in value \$20 and farming utensils of the value of \$10 I received from the State of Virginia a pension of \$160 per annum I have lost both my legs below the knees from disease incurred during my Service in the war. Debts due to me none I am indebted \$185

S/ Moses Rollins²

And the said Moses also declares as follows viz. I am by occupation a laborer but of course from the loss of my feet unable to work, have in my family seven viz. myself, my wife 25 years, my son Henry 10 years, Jeremiah 7 years, Sally 5 years, Edward 3 years, Rebecca 1 year, their joint labor would not support them"

Sworn to & declared 22nd June 1820 before said Court

[p 13: certificate from the Harrison County clerk of court stating that rights of matrimony were celebrated December 5, 1814 by Moses Rollins and Nancy Cove.]

[p 36: On February 18, 1857 in Ritchie County Virginia, Daniel Bougher, Jr., testified that Moses Rollins late husband of Nancy Rollins, died in Ritchie County Virginia February 5, 1856; that his means of knowing those facts is that in February 1856 he was a merchant in the town of Harrisville in said County and that one Wagner came to his store to buy burial clothes for Moses Rollins.]

[Note: Unfortunately, the widow's filings were all done on printed forms with the ink used to fill in the blanks being so faint on the digital images posted on Fold3.com that they cannot be read.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing June 15, 1818, for service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[From:

http://digitool1.lva.lib.va.us:8881/R/61MG4VCYPINT66MRAL7TV3E8RVMUFMDMIKJGH2EY9U7LJ4CXE9-01526?func=results-jump-full&set_entry=000047&set_number=016395&base=GEN01

The petition of Moses Rollins to the Hon. House of the Assembly of Virginia sheweth. That I enlisted as a Soldier in the revolutionary war, for during the contest. And Joined General Gates's Army at Hillsborough in October 1780. In the year that General Gates was defeated. And being poor, I was very bare for clothing, at least I had but the one suit and no blanket at all in this condition I remained the ensuing Winter, till a few days before the battle at Guilford Court house 1781 [March 15, 1781] (which battle I was in, General Greene commanding). I drew one shirt and no other Wearing apparel that year in this battle I received a ball through the flesh of my thigh which wound I recovered [from] in a few weeks and joined the Army again a week or so after the siege at Ninety Six [May 22-June 19, 1781], one of my officers then made me a present of a small blanket the only blanket I got whilst I was in the Army. A few days before the battle at the Eutaw Springs 1781 [September 8, 1781], I with others was sent to guard some British prisoners to Camden South Carolina. At that place I was taken sick, and continued unfit

² The handwriting of this signature is identical to the handwriting in the body of the document. Consequently, I do not believe it is the actual signature of the veteran.

for duty for about three months. After that spell, I remained in tolerable health till the next fall 1782. I then had another severe spell. In the course of the ensuing winter the British left Charleston and Col. Poaseys [Posey's] detachment marched into Charleston (which detachment I belonged to). And in the time of our being in Charleston I happened unluckily to get a small hurt in my leg, which immediately inflamed with a fever in it (though not so as to render me incapable of duty) and has continued to get worse till now. We continued in Charleston about two months, from thence (in the spring of 1783) we marched to Savannah town in Georgia. States from this place I was detached with others to guard a boat load of salt rum and sugar up the River to Augusta Town on this voyage I was taken with a desperate breaking out, which then went into a feverish State for a week or two. When we landed at Augusta our officers had sent a few lines that they had marched for Charleston again, and we must meet them there as quick as possible which I was not able to perform, therefore being flushed with the thought of coming to my native part of the World, I left Augusta and came the nearest way to my native parts, though I suffered a great deal for the want of necessities, having no money and being a long road to travel for a person in my situations, I never drew a cent of money while I was a soldier or since. After I got to the parts of my residence I was in a very low State of health for upwards of two years, and in about three months after I got home my other leg broke out and immediately got very bad, and past my doing anything with it to advantage. I was thus rendered incapable of doing anything laborious towards getting my living though I have made shift till now without being chargeable to the County.

In the year of 1785 (Being not able myself) I bound myself to a Mr. Benjamin Garr ~~for three years~~ of Madison County for three years to employ a Dr. to cure my legs, he did so, and the doctor cut the flesh off of both my legs and scraped the bones. I was under the doctor about 16 months and without any benefit. I still continued to get my living one way and another till the year 1807, my legs by this time got so very bad, that they laid me up quite useless, I concluded then that I would have them both cut off, which I was not able to pay for, but my neighbors, a good many of them, throwed in to my assistance & I had one cut off & cured thank God for it; the doctor not allowing it prudent to take both off at once, I could never make it convenient (through disability) afterwards & so it is the other remains on to the present day, and more is the pity for me – About 5 years I made shift to walk with a Wooden leg, but I have got so bad with my other leg, that I have not walked a step scarcely this six months.

I joined the United States Army in October 1780 with only one suit of half worn clothes, not even the second shirt, no blanket, I continued the ensuing winter in the above situation through all Weathers, and still did my duty as a soldier. The quality of clothing that I drew while in the service of the United States to the best of my remembrance (which I believe is correct to the best of my knowledge) was one hat, one regimental coat, one Round about, one waistcoat, 3 shirts, one pair linen overalls, one pair cloth ditto, one pair short breeches, one or 2 pair flannel socks and 3 pairs of shoes, and no Stockings. This, pleasing your honor is the whole amount of the clothing that I drew while in public duty and never one cent of pay.

In the year 1809, there came news into neighborhood that all the old soldiers was to be paid, and I being so great needy made an application to the board of War (through great difficulty) but when I came there, I had no personal proof, nor no way to authenticate anything at all, only by men's names, that was in Col. Posey's detachment, when I was: the men's names were these viz. Charles English, William Moody, John Brockus, Hensly Grubbs, Jonathan Tinsley, George Sayer, Samuel Shortgreen, Peter Sweeney and Isaac Fancher which was found on the roads, at the board of War, by the above proof high received one hundred acres of land

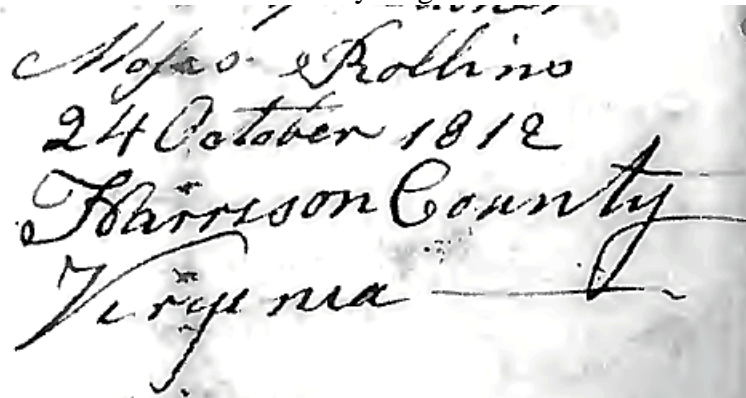
which necessity compelled me to sell. But I could not get any pay, my money being drawn by one Charles Jones, a man I never knew in all my life time. Mr. Charles Jones (if there be such a man) got 80 some odd dollars, on my account, pleasing your honors, this has been the way that I have been defrauded out of my right. I was informed in the War office that there was other 200 acres of land due to me from the State of Virginia that I might get by applying at the city of Richmond which journey I was not able to perform, therefore was obliged to remain without it. The above pleasing the honors of this Hon. body is a true statement of the sufferings that I have suffered and still must endure which was occasioned in the defense of my Country. I cheerfully enlisted in the defense of my Country for during the revolutionary War, and faithfully served until the conclusion of the War. I have endured all the hardships and toils of a soldier's life, and which has occasioned my ruin, to the end of my days. Under the above circumstances (which is the Almighty truth) I have made free to petition to the Hon. assembly of Virginia for a pension Which in all conscience I have undoubted right; to provided that Justice and equity could take place. Please your honor I have both fought and bled for the Independence of our Country and I still have an independent spirit (which I hope your honors will not blame for) therefore if I possibly could avoid it I never would wish to be any ways chargeable to the county or country further than what is my just right. I am now in my 50th year, and am heartly sorry that I am not able still to take up arms in the defense of my country at the present call; to hear of the Indians massacring our frontiers, it really stirs my ambitions to a very great heights, your most obedient and humble Petitioner

To the respectful house of the Assembly of Virginia

S/ Moses Rollins

24 October 1812

Harrison County Virginia



Moses Rollins
24 October 1812
Harrison County
Virginia

The Petition of Moses Rollins

December 4th, 1812

Referred to Claims

Reasonable

December 7th

Reported

Bill drawn 22nd of December

Moses Rollins enlisted during the war of the revolution and from the fatigues and privations he underwent his health was considerable impaired, he was wounded very severely in his lower extremity in the battle fought at Guilford Court house and was compelled to have one of his legs

amputated, and a year ago he was compelled from the cancerous ulcerated state of his legs in consequence of his wounds do have the other leg cut off he is a man of a large family and is destitute of property perhaps not worth fifty dollars he applied three years ago to the legislature & received a pension of sixty dollars which was anterior to the last amputation of his leg, he is advanced in life and wishes that the few days he has to live may be enjoyed without penury & distress therefore prays the legislature for an increase of ~~his~~^{their} pecuniary assistance in allowing him ^{increases} of pension, ^{yesterday} there was not a dissenting voice

S/ E. B. Jackson

Harrison County to wit

This day came James Taylor before me and made oath on the holy Evangelist of Almighty God that he saw Moses Rollin soon after his return from the Army at the close of the American revolutionary war at which time he was very much indisposed – appeared to be bloated all over his body and had very sore legs – That he bound himself to a Mr. Benjamin Gar for the term of three years for the purpose of defraying the expenses of curing his legs – but to no purpose – and further saith not.

Sworn to this 13th November 1812 before me

S/ W. A. Rogers, JPHC

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Addendum to Moses Rollins (Rawlings) W10241

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 28 Jan 2021.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Rawlins, Moses.]

I hereby Certify that Moses Rawlins Enlisted on the eighth day of October 1780 with William Hughs in Culpeper to release the said Hughs from bearing Arms and was Received by Capt Jno Steed [John Steed BLWt1919-300] of the Continental Army.

James Barbour then
Cty Lt. [County Lieutenant] of Culpepper.

the said Rollens enlisted for the war/ James Barbour

I do Certify that Moses Rawlins soldier in the Virg'a line served with me in the Southern Army untill the end of the War.

B Smith [?] V Reg't
Sep 6 1784

A Copy/ Markes Vamdewall

please to let James [undeciphered] have my Certificate [several illegible words] in the war and in so doing you will oblige your most obedient

Mosses Rolins March the 27 1784

James [undeciphered] test