

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Joseph Varner W1762

Molly Varner

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 24 June 2022

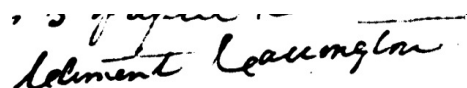
Halifax County Superior Court September Term 1820 —

On this 21st day of September 1820 personally appeared in Open Court (being a Court of Record for the Sixth Judicial Circuit of Virginia, Joseph Varner, aged sixty-two years resident in the County of Halifax aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, to wit, That he enlisted at Chesterfield Courthouse Virginia in the latter end of the year 1779 or first of the year 1780 under Colonel Davis [sic: William Davies BLWt597-500] during the War, that he marched from thence under command of Colonel Campbell [Richard Campbell BLWt347-450] to Guilford Courthouse on Continental establishment but to what particular Regiment he was attached, he does not now recollect, that after the battle of Eutaw Springs [8 Sep 1781], he was transferred to the Infantry attached to [Henry] Lee's Legion where he continued until the end of the war, when he was discharged by General [Nathanael] Greene in Charleston in June 1783 that he served upwards of three years that he was engaged in the battle at the White Bluff [possibly Tar Bluff, 27 Aug 1782] being then under the command of Colonel Lawrence [sic: John Laurens], Colonel Lee being absent, as he saith in his original declaration made on the 17th day of April 1820— 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 never since that time by gift, sale or in any manner, disposed of my property, or any part thereof, with the intent thereby 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 & 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 to wit, four head of Hogs worth seven dollars four head cattle worth twenty four dollars four chairs worth twelve shillings one Dutch oven & skillet worth nine shillings one table worth six shillings one half acre toll of land unimproved in the Town of Mendsville, a small village in the said County, worth thirty dollars. Joseph Varner. With which valuation the Court being satisfied; The declarant further states that he is by occupation a shoe maker & school master – that owing to debility and a wound which he received in battle during the War of the Revolution is unable to pursue either occupation constantly— That his family consists of himself & four others, to wit, Polly, his wife, about fifty years of age, Nancy a daughter about twenty one years of age, Polly another daughter about eighteen years of age, and Peggy another daughter about fourteen years of age; and that they are unable to contribute but little to their support.—

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#).]

I do certify that some time after the Battle of the Eutaw springs in South Carolina nearly the whole of the Virginia left the Army, the time of enlistment's having expired, a remnant 45 in number, remained, enlisted for the war, and were attached to the infantry of Lee's Legion in which I served as a subaltern. I well remember that Joseph Varner, the petitioner was one of that detachment & remained with Lee's infantry for more than a year I verily believe to the end of the war. I have no doubt but that the petitioner is the same person; for coming from the same State & county he often attracted my attention & was often under my immediate command. I know that the privations & suferings of that little Band was great, & feel much pleasure in having an oppertunity of serving any one of them given under my hand this 3^d of April 1820

Clement Carrington



NOTES:

The earlier declaration by Varner is less detailed and therefore not transcribed here.

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: Joseph Vernor/ 17/ height 5 4/ farmer/ said to have been born in New Castle County PA/ residing in Charlotte County/ black hair/ black eyes/ dark complexion/ enlisted 10 Aug 1780 for 18 months, then enlisted at Chesterfield Courthouse for the duration of the war.

On 4 Mar 1850 Molly Varner, 78, of Patrick County VA, applied for a pension stating that she married Joseph Varner on 7 Oct 1790, and he died 2 Nov 1848. The file includes a copy of the record of the marriage of Joseph Vernor to Molly McKenney by Rev. Henry Lester in Charlotte County.