

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Cobbs W18929 Ann G. Cobbs VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 Nov 2021.

State of Virginia: Campbell County to wit:

On this 26th day of January 1841, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Ann G. Cobbs, a resident of said County and State, aged 79 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed July 7th 1838, entitled “An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows.”

That she is the widow of Robert Cobbs, late of the said County and State, who was a Lieutenant in the Militia service of Virginia in the War of the Revolution – She declares, that she has no personal knowledge of the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary war, not having married him until after the Close of the War. She has often heard him in his life time say, and also others who served with him, that he was in actual service a considerable length of time; that he was engaged in some battles, and suffered severe hardships and privations – all of which, she honestly believes to be true and correct — That from bodily infirmity, old age, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot call to recollection the particulars of her husbands service as related by him: she therefore prefers to rely on the statement of soldiers who served with him, whose certificates accompany her Declaration, to any statement that she could possibly make on the subject – That for the same reason above stated, she cannot say with any degree of certainty, how long her husband was in actual service altogether, but would suppose he served at least 12 months, for which length of time she claims a pension – In support of her claim she refers to the Army Records of the period, and the accompanying Certificates of worthy and credible old soldiers—

She further declares, that she was married to the said Robert Cobbs, on the 19th day of November 1783; that her husband the aforesaid Robert Cobbs, died on the 2^d day of August 1829; that she was not married to him, prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, Seventeen hundred and ninety four: to wit, at the time above stated.

Ann G herXmark Cobbs

[Copies of two recommendations for commissions:]
Virginia

At a Court held for Bedford County the 28th day of September seventeen hundred and seventy eight (1778)

The Court doth recommend Robert Cobb to his Excellency the Governor as a proper person to be commissioned as Second Lieutenant of the militia.

At a Court held for Bedford County the 22nd day of November seventeen hundred and seventy nine (1779)

Robert Cobb is recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a proper person to act as first Lieutenant in the room of Dudley Callaway [S39282] who has removed from this County.

[The following document is in the file apparently as evidence of Cobbs’s service. The paper appears to be more recent than the Revolutionary War, and it may be Cobbs’s later recollection from engagements in which he participated. See endnotes for additional information. The single sheet is folded, and the following notations appear on the outside:]

Killed & taken of the Ininy [Enemy] to the South (1781) In all 1260 and 200 blacks with the loss of 400 men

Killed and Taken in the South

4¹/₂ lb of hemp Caryed to Mr Holley to spin the 1 of march

7¹/₂ 1 1 of April

Capt Bauer hatter in pitsylvania

Killed and taken

Loss 400

[Other side]

List of Prisoners taken at different Posts in South Carolina and Georgia since the Evacuation of Camden—

Forts. . . . Commission'd officers – British – Tories

Wattson. 7. 75.

Scotch Lake. 70

Motte. 7. 127. 40

Granville. 5. 70. 200

Golphine. 8. 140

Augusta. 8. 162

. Tories 7. 130 } 200 Negroes

Congree. 3. 49 Dragoons

Monks Corner 200 killed and 8 taken

Total Killed and Taken

Commissioned privates

. 38 893

Tories 7 370

Total 45 1263

200 Negroes taken at Augusta

Not more than 2 Officers and 100 privates Killed

Virginia Campbell County towit:

The deposition of Isham Hall [W7638] of lawful age, & sound and deposing mind, after being sworn, saith, that he entered the service of the United States under Capt. Adam Clement, he thinks in the year 1781, & marched South, was afterwards joined by Lieutenant Robert Cobbs who had been in service for some time previous at or near 96 in South Carolina, Capt. Clement was dismissed [at the Siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 June 1781] & the command of his men of whom I was one was given to Capt Cobbs who commanded well the whole of my Tour which was 3 months; what length of time Capt. Cobbs was in service he cannot say with certainty but knows that he was much in the service I think cannot fall short of one year —

April 13th 1841

Isham hisXmark Hall

State of Virginia: Appomattox County to wit:

I Bartholomew Cyrus [W25467], a soldier of the Revolution and pensioner of the United States, do hereby certify that I was acquainted with Capt Robert Cobbs, late of Bedford County, who was a Lieutenant and Captain in the Militia service in the War of the Revolution. I know the fact, that he was at the battle of Camden in 1780 [16 Aug 1780], in command of a company; that he was also at the Battle of Guilford in 1781 [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] in command of a company, acting either as Lieutenant or Captain in both instances – I have understood he was in other service besides the above mentioned. I feel no hesitation in saying he served six months as coming within my personal knowledge as Lieutenant and Captain in the War of the Revolution. The said Capt Cobbs was an efficient and gallant officer in the service. I am 91 years of age.

Bartholomew hisXmark Cyrus

[13 July 1849]

NOTES:

Notes pertaining to “Killed & taken of the Ininy to the South (1781)...,” with thanks for help with identification to James L. Lynch, Charles B. Baxley, and Patrick O’Kelley’s *Nothing But Blood and Slaughter*, Vol 3. The British under Lord Rawdon abandoned Camden SC on 9 May 1781.

“Wattson”: Fort Watson SC, siege by Gen. Francis Marion and Lt. Col. Henry Lee, 15-23 Apr
“Scotch Lake”: Scotts Lake = Fort Watson
“Motte”: Fort Motte SC, siege by Marion and Lee, 8-12 May
“Granville”: probably Fort Granby SC, siege by Lee, 2-15 May
“Golphine”: Fort Galphin SC, taken by Maj. Michael Rudolph [BLWr945-300] and Lee, 21 May
“Augusta”: Fort Cornwallis GA, siege by Gen. Andrew Pickens and Lee, 24 May-1 June
“Congree”: Fort Granby on Congaree River SC, where Royalist dragoons were captured, 3 July
“Monks Corner”: one or more of the following skirmishes near Moncks Corner SC referred to as the
“Raid of the Dog Days”
 Between Santee River and Charleston, by Lt. Col. William Washington, 9-18 July (50 captured)
 15-Mile House and 10-Mile House, by Col. Wade Hampton, 11-14 July (none killed)
 Quarter House, by Hampton, 15 July (150 captured)
 Lewisfield Landing, by Hampton, 16 July (30 captured)
 Biggin Church, by Gen. Thomas Sumter, 16 July
 Quinby Bridge and Shubrick’s Plantation, by Sumter, 17 July (6 killed, 100 captured)

The file includes a copy of a bond signed by Robert “Cobb” and John Poindexter in Louisa County VA on 19 Nov 1783 for the marriage of Cobbs to Ann Gizadge Poindexter.

On 1 Sep 1848 Elizabeth Ann Mottley applied for the pension of her mother, who died on 1 Feb 1842, in behalf of herself and the other surviving children: John P. Cobbs, Robert L. Cobbs, William Cobbs, Charles L. Cobbs, and Sarah W. Weaver.