

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jeffrey Coley (Cooley) W4160      Sally      fn34NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves      11/27/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Halifax County: On this 9th Day of July 1840 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County & State above written Mrs. Sally Coley a resident of Halifax County aged seventy-six 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 & pensions to certain widows. That she is the widow of Jeffrey Coley who was a private soldier in the North Carolina line in the War of the Revolution and served as such as will more fully appear by the annexed certificate of the Secretary of State of North Carolina, which she prays may be taken as evidence of his service.

She further declares that she was married by Eaton Pugh Esquire to the said Jeffrey Coley on the 15th day of May 1790. That she has a perfect recollection of it, but no record of the marriage was made as neither she nor her husband could write. She further declares that her husband the said Jeffrey Coley died on the 30th of November 1822. That she was not married to him previous to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 viz.: at the time above mentioned.

S/ Sally Coley, X her mark

[fn p. 5: on July 9, 1840 in Halifax County North Carolina, Nathan Baker and his wife Elizabeth Baker gave testimony in support of the application of Sally Coley for a widow's pension. They testified that "they lived in the same neighborhood with Jeffrey Coley during the War of the Revolution and well remember that he was repeatedly in service, he was at the defeat of General Gates and returned home in a short time after he was taken from home and made to serve in the Continental Service for three years, his returning home after the defeat being considered desertion." They also gave testimony in support of the marriage of Jeffrey Coley to Sally his widow in the middle of May 1790 which they recall because of the fact that their oldest son German Baker who is now in the 50th year of his age was at that time not more than one month old. They also know that Dolly Coley the oldest child of Jeffrey Cooley is now 48 years old and resides near them.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843 and

ending December 26, 1843 when she died.]

[fn p. 8: on February 17, 1844, in Halifax County North Carolina, Robin Coley gave testimony that Sally Coley, a pensioner under the 1838 act for the services of her husband in the revolution, died December 26, 1843; that he, Robin Cooley is her brother and nearest relation and consequently at her death her a heir and legal representative.]

[fn p. 16]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office 11th August 1840

Sir

Your letter of the 5th instant was received this morning, asking information respecting the services of Jeffrey Coley or Cooley who it appears he was a private Soldier in the line of this State in the revolutionary war. I am of opinion that he was brought first in the service and placed in the regular line as one of the nine months drafts. He may have been drafted on the 1st of June 1775, and not taken in the regular Army until the 20th of July and having deserted the next day, was taken and compelled to serve three years in consequence of his desertion. I have no doubt he is the person who was paid by this State in August 1779, and by the United States the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1786, and that he is the same person who name appears on the printed list of settlements made at Warrenton in 1786.

The Warrenton settlements are not to be relied on, there was much fraud said to have been committed by the Commissioners.

Very respectfully your Obedient Servant  
S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 17]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office December 22nd, 1840

Sir

Your letter of the 17th instant received and on examination of the case of Jeffrey Coley or Cooley I find he was placed on the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State on the 20th of July 1778 as a private Soldier for the term of 9 months, that he deserted on the 21st July same year, that he was mustered again on the \_\_ January 1779 for three years in the 5th Regiment (he was first in the 10th Regiment) that a warrant or bounty land issued for three years service on the 23rd of November 1797 drawn by a man that I know lived in Granville County his account was settled by a Board of Commissioners who sat in Warrenton in the year 1786, and this allowance drawn by a man who resided in Granville County, from which circumstances, and there being but one of that name on the rolls, I am induced to believe, that the same person mustered as above stated is the same who was allowed £41.15.1 by the Commissioners who sat at Warrenton in the year 1786. If in my letter of the 10th of August last, I said he was allowed up to the 1st of January 1786, it was an era, I only intended to say the allowance was made in the year 1786.

Very respectfully your Obedient Servant  
S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 31]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina, do hereby certify, that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war,

that Jeffrey Cooley a private Soldier in Captain Montford's Company of the 10th Regiment, enlisted 20th of July 1778, for the term of nine months and deserted on the 21st day of July 1778; That he was mustered again in January 1779 for the term of three years, and that nothing more is said of him on the rolls. I further certify, that it appears of record in this Office, that a Military Warrant for the services of the said Jeffrey Cooley was issued on the 23rd day of November 1797, for 274 acres of land, No. 4789, which warrant was issued on the certificate of a Field Officer, and for the quantity of Acres of land allowed by law for three years service as a private Soldier.

Given under my hand this 10th of July, 1840  
S/ Wm Hill

[fn p. 33]

State of North Carolina Halifax County This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County & State above written Colonel Joseph J Alston<sup>1</sup> of the said County; who being first duly sworn according to law testifies and says that he well knew Jeffrey Cooley and can testify to the fact that he was known & reputed to be a soldier of the Revolution. He also knows that he ran home from Gates defeat as did all the men then in service. This affiant was employed in taking and marching to Halifax the man who ran at the defeat and William Wood now a pensioner and living in this County was taken by this affiant and carried to Halifax he being one of Gates men.

It was not considered to be prejudice of anyone that they returned home at that time; only if they did not report themselves for duty they were liable to serve 12 months. I am confident that Jeffrey Cooley never deserted except when he returned home from Gates defeat; he was afterwards in service & served most faithfully. I well know Nathan Baker & his wife and can testify that they are to be credited as much as any persons and from my own recollection & knowledge of things of the children of Jeffrey Cooley, I know he was married to his wife now applying for a pension as early as 1790.

Given under my hand this 20th day of July 1840.

S/ J. J. Alston

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. J. Alston", written in a cursive style. The signature is contained within a rectangular grey box.

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<sup>1</sup> [Joseph John Alston S6498](#)