

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Foster William VA W4674
(Nancy)
Transcription by FA Weyler 24Oct2013

[p2] Virginia certificate 3489
Nancy Foster widow of
William Foster, pensioner under act of 15May1828
Died on 11Jan1837
Culpeper County
Private of Artillery two years
Captain Conⁿ Colonel Harrison
Issued 04Jan1841 @ \$100/annum

[p3]
Commonwealth of Virginia
Culpeper County to wit

This is to certify that I this day called upon ___ Mrs. Foster, who is the widow of William Foster.,
That she is about 80 years of age, very infirm and unable to attend court. I _____ to her credibility
and distinctly the foregoing declaration and after [etc.]

Richard H Field
Dec. 21st 1840

[p4 certification of the declaration on page 5]

[p5] -Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the _____ of the act of Congress approved the 3rd March 1837.

State of Virginia
Culpeper County Sct

On this 21st day of December 1840 personally appeared before the Judges of the Sixth district &
eleventh circuit in the state & county aforesaid (of which circuit the said county of Culpeper makes a
part) Mrs. Nancy Foster a resident of _____ Parish in the County of Culpeper & State of Virginia aged
about 80 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 of the Act of Congress passed March 3rd 1837.
That she is the widow of William Foster who was a soldier in the Revolutionary Army in Continental
establishment and was in the battles of Germantown, Brandywine, Monmouth & several other battles.

She further declares that she was married to said William Foster to the best of her recollection &
belief the 8th day of March 1778 (the eighth day

[p6] day of March in the year one thousand seven hundred & seventy eight and that her husband the
aforesaid William Foster died on the eleventh or twelfth day of January one thousand eight hundred &
thirty seven as she very believes. And that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more
fully appear by the proof hereto annexed. And she further declares that she was married to the said
William Foster whilst he was in the military service of the United States & in such service he continued to
the close of the war. That her the said Foster her decd husband was for his service a pensioner of the
United States under the act of Congress of May 18th 1828. That she thinks his enlistment in the regular
army was in the year 1776 or 1777 after having served a year in the Minute Service in Virginia. Further
that she was married to him whilst he was in the regular service of the United States in the Virginia line on
Continental establishment.

Nancy Foster x her mark

Test: R H Field [certification Richard H Field]

[Additions by C. Leon Harris, 24 Sep 2017.]

State of Virginia }
Culpeper County Sc }

This day the Reverend Griffin Read of the State & County aforesaid, made Oath before me a Justice of the peace for the County of Culpeper, that he knew well the late William Foster, who was a Soldier in the Continental line in the Revolutionary War: That he knew & now knows his wife Mrs Nancy Foster, both as the wife of said Foster, & as Miss Nancy Blackwell before her marriage with said William Foster. That they both lived in the neighborhood of his dec'd father, that he well knows & remembers their marriage, as he thinks & believes in the year 1778 [last digit unclear] That his recollection of their marriage is distinct & it took place during the war of the revolution. Said Foster had been from home in Service & as he understood & believes was in some of the hard battles to the north, with the British. He returned to Culpeper for a very short time, was married & then went back to the army again in the regular service. He has known them ever since; they have remained as man & wife until his death about three or four years ago, raised a large & reputable family of Children, & he believes they raised Eleven Children, two of whom are said to be dead & nine now alive. Said Mr Read also made Oath that three of his sisters were present at the marriage of said Foster & wife & he thinks he was himself, (his said sisters are now dead), if he did not see them when the marriage took place, (which he thinks he did, he knows he was present immediately after & they lived as such man & wife afterwards, until his death; & she (Mrs Nancy Foster,) his widow is now alive. He speaks with positive & absolute certainty, as to these facts for he has known this Mr Foster & wife more than sixty years, born & raised in the same neighbourhood, & the same County, & of the marriage during his service, as aforesaid, & his service afterwards, their remaining together as man & wife to the knowledge of the whole Country around them, & of his reporting raising[?] a large family, & his death & her widowhood he speaks with the certainty & distinctness of undoubting personal knowledge.

Given under my hand & seal this 18th day of December 1840

Catalpa Dec'r 24th 1840

The foregoing William Foster was whilst living the same William Foster who was on the pension roll, under the act of May 15th 1828, as a Matross (Private) of Artillery. I speak of the fact from personal knowledge. I knew Mr Foster 31 years ago. He has always been known & reputed, as one of the bravest & best soldiers of the revolution, & as fighting through the war. He was one of the "Culpeper Minute Men" in 75 who fought Fordyce at the Great Bridge [9 Dec 1775] J. S. Barbour[?]

[The following are among [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). The first document is apparently misfiled with records of a different William Foster (VAS1412).]

The William Foster I gave a Surtificate to, s[erv]ed under me in year 1775 & served in the first Virg[inia] Ridgment, until the year 1779 & then was disch[arged]

Given under my hand this 24th of August 1793

John Green Late Colo. 6th V. R.

It appears from the Book in this Office that four soldiers each by the name of William Foster have drawn certificates for services in the last War.

Aud[itor]s Office/ 18th Oct 1796

[illegible signature]

[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#).]

Culpeper County to Wit

Personaly appeared before us William Booten & Hugh M Thompson justices of the peace for the

county aforesaid Churchill Gibbs [S46002] of the County of Madison and made oath that he knows William Foster of the County of Culpeper who is now before us – that he knew him from September the 22^d 1775 on which day he and William Foster both enlisted under Capt John Green of the aforesaid county and who commanded a rifle company (the first rais'd in the sate of Virginia) That of his own knowledge said William Foster serv'd out the time for which he enlisted. And that he believes that he re-enlisted and served three years more in the Continental service. That he has known Foster ever since and lived not very distant from him. And moreover is of opinion that said William Foster is entitled to full credit for any statement he may make. Given under our hands & seals this 6th day of June 1832

[In the following, dark lines obscure some parts, which are inferred where possible in brackets.]
Culpeper County to Wit

Personally appear'd before us Reuben Moore and William Major justices for the said County and made oath John Freeman [W3798], that He the said John Freeman and William Foster of Culper enlisted together at Williamsburg for three years in the Continental Army. That they enlisted in the company commanded by Capt Richard Taylor [S46514] (the Lieutenant was John Easton) and that said William Foster served out the full term of service [returned] home – has lived here ever since [and is] the same person at whose inst[ance th]is deposition is taken Given [under my] hand and seal this ninth day [illegible 1]832

I hereby certify that William Foster now of Culpeper County enlisted in Sept 1775 in the Company of Capt John Green, after the expiration of which time he enlisted for three years and seved out the entire time. I do not mean to certify the fact that he did so serve out the whole time as a fact of my own positive knowledge but I have known Foster ever since and have been perfectly well acquainted with his character as an honest & honourable man and from himself and others I have allways understood that such was the fact And I believe implicitly that it is so. Given under my hand this [blank] day of March 1834.

Churchill Gibbs



Culpeper 24th March 1834

Dear Sir [Gov. John Floyd]

I send you the certificate of Capt Gibbs in relation to the Military services of Wm Foster. His case was considered in February or March 1832 or 3 & rejected by yourself – the Council having divided. The defect of evidence on which you rejected the claim is supplied by the enclos'd certificate A man nam'd Horde has I understand been recently at Foster's to speculate upon his claim. He is a poor man and very old (Foster) & I have attended to his case not only without fee but at my own expense in order to defend him from these speculators

You had told me upon the evidence now enclos'd that the claim would be allow'd – so that fact if he shall have succeeded in obtaining any agency or authority from Foster ([one or two illegible words] tells me he probably has) it is not proper that he should draw the warrant. Please give Richardson notice of this as a favour to myself personally. I will not permit him or any of them to take advantage of Foster in this case.

In regard to our election – “all's well We shall send sound men from Culpeper & Rappahannock.
With great respect Your sincere friend/ Jno. Pendleton

NOTES:

This file contains no indication that William Foster was pensioned under the act of 1828.

The present William Foster may be confused with William Foster W2986, who enlisted under a different John Green and also served in the artillery.