

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Zachariah Griffin W7585                      Clara Griffin                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia                      }  
Culpeper County s.s.                      }

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the justices of the court of Culpeper County, now sitting Zackariah Griffin a resident in said county and State aged seventy two years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath his oath, making the following Declaration, in order to obtain the Benefit of the Act of Congress passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. That he entered the service of the united states under the following named Officers and served as herein stated

That he entered the service first as drafted Militia man in the company commanded by Ensign Martin Johnson then but a subaltern's command called for from the County to make up the deficiency. That he went to Albemarle Barracks to guard the prisoners [captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks Jan 1779 - Feb 1781], that he remained there two months engaged in the above service, when he was discharged this service was in 1779 in the fall. That he acted whilst there as first Sergeant That whilst in said service Colonel [Francis] Taylor Commanded, Major Roberts [John Roberts pension application W2347] &c. were also there.

That in the year 1780 he was again drafted under Captain George Johnson and marched expecting to go to the lower part of Virginia, but near Fredericksburg was counter marched and returned to Culpeper. That when he returned he was considered to have served a tour, but does not recollect how long he was gone; that he did not serve again till the time of his Division so having a Credit for a full tour.

That about the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 1781, he was again drafted and marched under command of Captain Benjamin Littarel Subt's. [subalterns] John Triplett and William Jones, to Malvern Hills below Richmond, Thence to King William, thence to Williamsburg in the neighbourhood of which place, he was discharged, being in the service about three months. Col [Elias] Edmunds and Lieutenant Col John Slaughter Major Beale commanded the Regiment General Steven's [Edward Stevens's] Brigade

That he can prove the above service by William Lewis, Julius Hunt, William Liden[?] & John Brown

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or Territory.

Z Griffin

[William Lewis (pension application S8827), Isaiah Welsh (S7859), and John Brown (S6735) certified Griffin's service.]

And the Court then proceeded to propound the following interrogatories to the applicant, he being under oath, and which he answered as as is hereinafter recorded Viz:

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer In the County of Culpeper, on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of April 1760

Question Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?

Answer I have seen my age in a Bible belonging to the Family but it is now in Kentucky.

Question Where were you living when you were called into service where have you lived ever since, and where do you now live?

Answer I was living in Culpeper when I entered the service have done ever since and now do.

Question How were you called into service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute, and if a substitute for whom

Answer I was drafted every time I was in service

Question State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops, where you were in the service, such Continental and Militia Regiment as you can recollect and the general

Circumstances of your service.

Answer I refer to my Declaration for answers. I saw at diferent times many officers such as General Stevens Colonel Dark &c.

Question Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it

Answer I do not recollect that I ever received one. I think I think the troops were generally discharged in Regiment &c.

Question State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer I might mention Captain R. J. Field Captain Brown Captain Lewis and many others – The Court can enquire of Gentlemen present as to my character for Veracity.

State of Virginia }  
 Culpeper County } SS.

On this 8th day of March 1833 before me a justice of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Zackariah Griffin of said county and being duly sworn according to Law deposeeth and saith that he stated the time of the first tour mentioned in his declaration (made in the county court of Culpeper on the 15th August 1832) correctly at two months. That he supposed himself entitled to pay for the second tour as a two months tour and therefor claimed it. That he was allowed credit for a full tour and was from that circumstance led into error. That he was actually from home and in service at least one month but cannot say exactly how many days. That the third tour in 1781 was for at least three months. That he supposed the word “about” was used to avoid erring. That he is positive as to having rendered in all six months service and rendered it too under circumstances calculated to make the time seem long being tours of hardship and peril.

NOTE: On 2 May 1853 Clary Griffin (as she signed), 78, applied for a pension stating that she married Zachariah Griffin on 26 Jan 1792, and he died on 22 May 1852. On an application for bounty land dated 15 Sep 1855 she was said to be 80, the date of marriage was said to have been 26 Feb 1792, and her name before marriage was said to have been Clara Nall. On 9 Oct 1866 Clara Griffin, 91, applied for restoration of her pension, which was suspended during the Civil War, when she lived with a son. On 3 Feb 1869 at age 92, she applied again for restoration of her pension, stating that her means of subsistence was “some little interest in property left her by one of her deceased children, and besides which she lives upon the charity of the living children.”