YOHOOGANIA COUNTY VIRGINIA (PENNSYLVANIA) MILITIAMEN DRAFTED INTO CONTINENTAL SERVICE, 17 APRIL 1778

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Roll of the Men Draughted for the Continental Service in Yohogania County April 17th 1778

James Kelley substitute joined
Thomas Smallman joined
Henry Guffey joined
Cornelius Thompson
Frotherick Brown substitute joined
Matthew Bonner
James Casey
Conrod Oyler
Thomas Clifton
Wm. Smith [William Smith]
Robert Bell joined
Thomas Duggan joined
Thomas Drennan
James Lewas [possibly James Lucas]
Henry Morrisson Substitute joined [Henry Morrison]
Thomas McClain
William Kenney Substitute joined
John Robertson Substitute joined
John Thompson joined
Michael Walker
Nicholas Hubbard
Sam’l. Stroud [Samuel Stroud]
Bethuel Riggs
James Smith
Benjamin Read Substitute joined
Bartholomew Dennis joined now on Furlough
Francis Dunlavey joined Disch’d by the Gen’l. [Francis Dunlavy; see endnote]
Theophilus Case
Matthew Ranken [Matthew Rankin]
Zacharia Ranken [Zachariah Rankin]
John Cooper
John Stone
Joshua Thompson
Samuel Best
Wm. Mortimer [William Mortimer]
John DeLow jun’r.
James White joined [pension application S3530]
John Morrison
Isaac Keller
Samuel Shannon  Deserter brought by him
Since the Draught Samuel Shannon has taken up a Deserter & John Robison has found a Substitute who entered into the 13th Reg’t.

John Campbell Ct’y. Lt. [County Lieutenant] Yohog’a./ April 25th 1778

NOTES:

Following a survey in 1786, Yohogania County Virginia was found to be in SW Pennsylvania.

On 20 Oct 1777 the Virginia Legislature passed “An Act for speedily recruiting the Virginia Regiments on the continental establishment, and for raising additional troops of Volunteers,” (Hening’s Statutes at Large. http://vagenweb.org/hening/vol09-16.htm). This act was necessitated by severe losses of Continental troops, especially of the 9th Virginia Continental Regiment, at Germantown on 4 Oct 1777. Among other provisions, the act specified that a number of single, able bodied men over age 18 and without children would be drafted from the county militias for one year. Selection was made by having each eligible man draw a slip of paper on which was written either “service” or “clear.” Those who drew “service” received a bounty of $15 and were exempt from future drafts after serving out their one-year’s terms. The quota for Yohogania County was 40, which is the number of men listed above. Drafted men could avoid service by obtaining a substitute or by capturing a deserter from the Continental Army.

In his pension application S2526, Francis Dunlavy stated: “on or about the first of March 1778 this deponent volunteered his services for one month rendezvoused at Cox’s station, waters of Peters creek, Cols. Isaac Cox & John Cannon attended to organize the men, after remaining about eight days, some negotiation took place in which it was agreed that the militia should give up their arms, and that certain recruits who were enlisting in the regular service, but who were not yet provided with arms, should take the place of the militia in stations of defence, and that the latter should return to attend to their crops under this regulation were all (that is the militia) dismissed.”

Transcribed from http://www.fold3.com/image/#9947122 et seq.