Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Henry Field VAS3564

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

State of Kentucky Jefferson County to Wit

Came Robert Coleman before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid and made Oath that in the year One Thousand seven hundred & Seventy Eight Henry Field a Lieutenant of the Virginia line on Continental establishment in the late American Revolution died leaving two legitimate Children Elizabeth and Judith That in the year Seventeen hundred and Ninety five Judith Field married a Certain Francis Taylor of the County of Mason & Town of Washington and State of Kentucky that in the year 1796 the said Elizabeth Field died leaving no Child or Children and without having ever been married. This deponant further says that the said Judith Taylor Wife of the said Francis Taylor, is the Sole Heir of her the said Elizabeth Field and of her Father Henry Field. And further this Deponant Saith Not

Robt. Coleman
Sworn to this fourth day of April 1797 before me

Robt. Coleman
Abr'a Hite J.C.J.C.

State of Kentucky Mason County to Wit

Came Francis Taylor the person mentioned in the within deposition before us the Subscribers Justices of the peace for said County and made Oath that no Warrant was ever to his knowledge obtained for bounty Lands by the within named Lieutenant Henry Field deceased or by any other person for him the said Henry Field deceased of for his representatives or either of them nor does he this deponant believe that such a Land Warrant was ever obtained. This deponant further says that he does not know nor does he believe that the said Henry Field deceased ever received any compensation for his services as a Lieutenant in the army of the United States, except the sum of £41.4.0 mentioned in a receit from him to Capt. Slaughter [George Slaughter W8729]. Further this deponant saith not.

Francis Taylor Sworn and subscribed to before us the Subscribers Justices of the peace as aforesaid this 18th day of April John Willson/ John Johnston

State of Kentucky,

Jefferson County Sct:

I George Slaughter, now of the County & State aforesaid, but late of County of Culpeper & State of Virginia, do certify, that Henry Field was, during the American War with Great Britain, a Lieutenant in the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment. That the Company in which he serv'd as Lieutenant as aforesaid, was commanded by myself as Captain, & that the said Company belonged to the Eighth Virginia regiment. I further certify that the said Lieutenant Henry Field left the Army on Furlough & as far as I know or believe died in the Service of his Country & without Resigning. I also certify that since his Death I have heard several officers, who to my knowledge, knew the said Lieutenant Henry Field in the service & who served with him in the same Line, give it as their opinion that he never resigned his Commission. Given under my Hand & Seal this fourth Day of July 1797.

George Saughters.

State of Kentucky, Mason County to Wit.

This day came Robert Coleman before us the subscribers Justices of the peace for the County afs'd and made oath that Lieutenant Henry Field the person spoken of in a Certificate from George Slaughter bearing date the fourth day of July [undeciphered] died in the year 1778 in Culpeper County State of Virginia, leaving two Legitimate Children Elizabeth and Judith. That in the year 1795 Judith married a certain Francis Taylor of the County and State afs'd. That in the year 1796 the said Elizabeth Field died sole and without Issue. That the said Judith is the only surviving Child of the said Henry Field, and is heir to him the said Henry, and of her the said Elizabeth.

Sworn to before us the [blank] day of July 1797.

Rob't Coleman

General Mughlenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] was the Colo. under whom Mr. Field served. He was also known in the army by Gen'l. Stevens [Edward Stevens VAS1922], of Culpeper.

Fr. Taylor

Sir Please deliver to Mr. Robert C. Camp the land warrant to which I am entitled in right of my wife (late Judith Field) who is the sole heir & representative of Lieut't Henry Field the person mentioned in the depositions and Certificate that accompany this.

I am Sir/ your mo. Ob't. Serv't.

Francis Taylor

The Register of the Land Office of Virginia

2^d October 1800

James Nood.

The deposition of Thomas Freeman respecting the claim of Francis Taylor as Representative of Henry Field for Military Land.

This deponant says he was in company with the said Henry Field a few days previous to his death, and that the said Field had not then resigned his Commission as Lieutenant, and informed this deponant he intened immediately upon his recovery to enter the Service again, and that he was then entitled to a Captains commission by rotation and of course he positively did not resign and died in the service of the United States upon Continental establishment, belonging then to the 8th Virginia Regiment, Commanded by Colo. Mughlenburg.

Thomas Freeman

Culpeper County to wit/ Sworn and subscribed this 17th day of November 1802 before us Birkett Davenport Will Broadus

I do Certify that George Slaughter Esq'r. the Deponent within mentioned, was a Captain in the 8th Virginia Regiment, at the time mentioned by him – that he was afterwards promoted to the Rank of Major. I further Certify that the Lieutenant Colonel & Major who Commanded at that time are both dead. I was not Acquainted with the services of Mr. Field, but Consider his Heirs entitled to the Bounty in Lands allowed by Law, if he died after November 1776; Provided he neither Resigned or was Cashiered.

Given under my hand this 14th May 1803. James Wood [BLWt2419-500] formerly B. Gen'l. Cont'l. Army.

Philadelphia Aug't 12th 1803

sir I am favord with a Letter from S. Coleman Esq'r wherein he requests me, to transmit to your Excellency, such information as I may possess, relative to the claim of the late Henry Field to the bounty in Land, granted to the Officers of the Virginia Line.

I am sorry that it is not in my power to be explicit on this occasion. My Book which contains the different arrangements of the Virg'a Line, & other Documents, I have loan'd to Capt'n Hubley, who resides in the Western Country, & who probably will not return it before the Fall – from some circumstances still fresh in my memory I am led to believe that Lieut. Field actually Died in the service of

the U.S. & this I believe I shall be able to ascertain frully from my Book, when it shall be returnd to me. It is however more than probably that Colo. Wm. Davies [William Davies BLWt597-500] at Norfolk, could ascertain the business with great Respect I have the Honor

to be your Excellency's

Most Obed't Serv't

P. Muhlenberg

The Governor of Virginia [John Page]

Philadelphia March 24th 1804.

I do hereby Certify – That having carefully examin'd my Books, & the papers in my hands, which contain Memorandums &c relative to the 8th Virg'a Reg't I am enabled to state – That in 1776 Mr. Henry Field was appointed a Lieut't. in the 8th Reg't., Cap'tn Geo. Slaughters Company. That he marched with the Reg't to the Southward [see endnote], where he was taken Sick, & obtained a Furlow from me permitting him to return to Virginia, & there to remain, until his Health should be restord. The last return made to me, rg the 8th Reg't, was in February 1777 & signed by Ab'm Bowman [Abraham Bowman W396], Lieut. Colo. In this return, Lt Field is stated to be absent with leave, for the recovery of his Health. I can not find any thing in my papers, that could lead me to believe that Mr Field had resigned, on the contrary, I have every reason to believe, that he was considered as being in the Service, to the day of his Death. I am led to this belief, by the following circumstance. In a report made to the Commander in Chief of the whole Virginia Line I find Lieut Field reported Died – while several other Officers of the same Reg't. are reported Resignd. Had Mr Field been considered as having resignd his Commission the Vacancy occasiond by his resignation would certainly have been fill'd, and a Junior Officer Promoted. This was not done, until the Death of Mr Field was known.

P. Muhlenberg late Maj'r Gen'l

[Addressed to Gov. Page]

Philadelphia March 24th 1804.

Dear Sir This morning I was Honored with a Letter from P. B. Thompson Esq'r enclosing your favor of the 12th Ins't relative to the claim of the Heirs of Lt. Field.

The enclosed Certificate contains every thing, I can collect from my papers, relative to the subject. I have not the least Doubt in my own Mind but am rather convinc'd, that Mr. Field never Resign'd. The reasons why I can not, & do not Certify positivity, is this – In April 1777 I was Appointed to Comm'd the first Virginia Brigade & the 8th Reg't was annexed to Gen'l Scotts [Charles Scott BLWt2055-850] Brigade – from that period the Returns of the Reg't were no longer made to me and all I knew of the Reg't was, when a general Return of the Line was call'd for. I intended to have written Mr. Coleman on this subject next Week. I presume it will now be unnecessary.

I am very Respectfully/ Dear Sir

Your Obed't Serv't P Muhlenberg

Capt. P Slaughter

I have a perfect recollection that on our way to Williamsburg & thence to Norfolk early in the month of January 1776 I met with Mr. Muhlenburg afterward Gen'l Muhlenburg and was informed that he had received the appointment of the Command of a Regiment, which was raised & ordered to South Carolina, Lieutenant Henry Field was attatched to that Regiment and marched with it,— he returned before the regiment to Virginia on furlough, being indisposed — he resided at the House of a near relation of mine in the County of Culpeper, where I frequently saw him,— and am inclined to think that he did not die within

twelve months after his return, - the time of his death is ascertain'd in some of the vouchers submitted to

the board. Richmond May 15 1838 Robert Pollard

NOTE: The 8th Virginia Continental Regiment under Col. Peter Muhlenberg was among those sent to repel the attempted invasion of Charleston SC. During the battle of Fort Sullivan on 28 Jun 1776 the regiment was stationed at Haddrell's Point.