## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Wharton W6488 Letitia Wharton VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 26 Mar 2016.

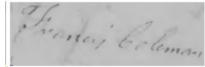
[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Spotsylvania County]

## The Honorable the Speaker: And Gentlemen of the House of Delegates

The Petition of Samuel Wharton sheweth. That your Petitioner was a Soldier in the Militia of the state of Virginia and at the seige of York in the latter end of the year 1781 from Spotsylvania County and under the command of Captain Francis Coleman. That whilst at work in the intrenchments before the town aforesaid your Petitioner received a wound in both his hands from the enemys cannon which has rendered your Petitioner incapable of providing for himself a wife and Eight children. That your Petitioner has been frequently advised to ask some relief from your Honorable body. And being willing to labour as long as possible to support himself and family was unwilling to become burthensome to his Country, but finding his infirmity's to increase as he advances in years it induces your Petitioner to come froward at this late day to ask relief as you in your Wisdom shall think Just and Right from the Certificates hereunto anexed & your Petitioner will ever pray &c &c

Samuel Whorton, being rendered unfit for service by the wounds he received in his hads, is hereby permitted to return home, by Order of Doct'r. Matthew Pope [pension application R17152] director Gen'l. 18<sup>th</sup> Oct'r. 1781 A. Smith A. Surg'n. Hosp'l [possibly Augustine Smith]

I Hereby Certyfy that in October 1781 I Commanded a Company of Milishey at the Seage of York & that Samul Wharton was a Soalder Under me & was said to be wounded in the Hands which I was not preasant As witness my Hand this 14 of December 1799 Francis Coleman, Capt



The affidavit of Samuel Sale taken this 16th December 1803. This deponant deposeth and saith that he was at the Seige of York and saw Samuel Wharton with his hands badly wounded and was informed it was done at the aforesaid Seige and further believeth that the wounds said Wharton reciev'd renders him incapable of supporting himself and Family. Farther this deponant saith not.

Sworn to before me the day and year above written James M. Bell

The affidavit of Richard Dickinson taken this 16th Dec'r. 1803. This deponant deposeth and saith, that in the year 1781 Samuel Wharton was drafted in Spotsylvania County to perform his Round of duty in the Militia of the County aforesaid, under the command of Captn. Francis Coleman, that said Wharton at the Seige of the British army (under the command of Lord Cornwallis at York Town) was at work in the entrenchments before the Town aforesaid, and that he was brought to the publick Hospital, wounded in both his hands. This deponat further saith that he believes that the wounds said Wharton reciev'd as aforesaid has rendered him incapable of supporting his Family and self from the action of his bodily abilities. This deponant further saith that he was present at the time said wharton was carried to the Hospital and aided in dressing his wounds. Further this deponant saith not. The above sworn to before me the day and date above Sam'l. Sales

The affidavit of John Groom [possibly pension application VAS1710] taken this 16th December 1803. This deponant deposeth and saith, that he was on his way to the Seige of York and being imform'd that Samuel Wharton was in the hospital at Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] wound'd in his hands called to see him, and found it to be the case, inasmuch that he was not able to feed himself. This deponant further saith that he believes said Wharton is at this time incapable of supporting himself and Family. Further this deponant saith not

Sworn to before me the day and year above Sam'l. Sale

to Claims Ref'd. 8<sup>th</sup> Dec'r. 1803 Reasonable/ Reported on 22<sup>nd</sup> D'r. 1803

[The following are from <u>pension records in the Library of Virginia</u>. Only small parts of some documents appear in the online images, and some images are misfiled with those of John Wheeler VAS2135.]

[Parts missing where marked by \*.] Sir Please to pay the within mentioned pens[\*] Mr. John Quarles, and his rec't. shall be y[\*] Gen'l. William Moseley/ Treasurer of the State of Virg'a. Rec'd a Warrant of/ 27 March 1806

Rec'd a Warrant of Fifty Dollars/ 28 Feb'y 1807

Wm G Poindexter

To the Auditor of Public Accounts

SirPlease to issue a warrant on the public treasury for fifty Dollars, being the amount of my pension,<br/>and you will obligeSamuel hisXmark Wharton/ 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1809

Louisa County to wit

I do hereby certify that the above named Sam'l. Wharton is the same person to whom a pension of fifty Dollars was allowed by an act of the General Assembly passed the 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1804 and that he is still living. Given under my hand this 3<sup>rd</sup> January 1809. Garland Anderson

[The state pension file contains numerous documents similar to the above. The following is a receipt for the final pension payment paid to the attorney for William Wharton, administrator of the estate of Samuel Wharton.]

Aud. Office, April 14th 1842

Received a warrant for forty seven dollars and twenty-two cents. Robert M Kent

att'y for Wm. Wharton adm'r. of Samuel Wharton decd

[The following is from the federal pension file.]

State of Virginia

County of Louisa To Wit }

On this the thirteenth day of February in the year one thousand eight hundred & forty three personally appeared in open court before the court of Louisa county in the state of Virginia aged seventy-seven 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 act of Congress passed June the 7<sup>th</sup>1832.

That she the said Letitia Wharton is the widow of the late Samuel Wharton that the said Samuel Wharton

first went into service in the war of the revolution in the month of April in the year seventeen hundred & seventy seven as a substitute for one Winston Parker that he was sixteen years old on the 27<sup>th</sup> of July following & that as substitute for Parker he served for three months. That immediately on his return he was draughted as a militia man. That according to the best of her information when he first marched into service his Captain was Frank Coleman [Francis Coleman, Spotsylvania County Militia] & his colonel was Whitehead Coleman [see endnote] both of whom she knew well. That from the time he first went into service as above stated he was with the exception of a very few brief intervals constantly in service up to the time of the siege of York. That at the siege of York a few days before the surrender of Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] he was severely wounded by a cannon ball & in consequence of said wound, as she believes, he afterwards received a pension from the state of Virginia of fifty dollars per annum which pension he continued to receive up to the time of his death – That she knows that he was attached to that part of the army which was under the command of General Lafayette during their retreat from the British through several counties of the state of Virginia & that he was serving in the army during that retreat & that after General Lafayette effected a junction with General Wayne [Anthony Wayne, 10 Jun 1781] constantly up to the time when he was wounded. That she is unable to give accurate information in regard to many of the particulars of his service except as stated above That in relation to much of the service rendered by him she has no information except what she derived from his conversation on the subject. That she has frequently heard him speak of General Lafayette, General Wayne - General Washington & Daniel Morgan as officers whom he knew —

That she has no documentary evidence by which she can prove his services & that she does not at this time know of any witness by whom his services can be proved but that she presumes evidence of his services may be found in the archives of the state government of Virginia. That she believes that he served altogether three years & six months. That at the time he entered the service he resided in Spotsylvania county in the state of Virginia & that during his whole service he was a common soldier. That she the said Letitia Wharton was married to the said Samuel Wharton on the eigth day of march in the year seventeen hundred & eighty-six in the county of Spotsylvania in Virginia & that her maiden name was Letitia Hutchison – That her husband lived in Louisa county in Virginia for many years before his death & that he died on the night of the tenth of december in the year eighteen hundred & forty-one & that according to the best of her knowledge & belief he was at the time of his death in the eightieth (80<sup>th</sup>) year of his age. That she claims a pension for the service of her husband & that she hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that her name is not on the pension roll of any state whatever Sworn to & subscribed in open court

[In the file are five certificates similar to the following but with different dates and amounts. These documents were presented as evidence in a claim by Letitia Wharton for an increase in her pension.]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 31st day of July 1784, in the name of Samuel Wharton as a Soldier of the Infantry for £35.8.4, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Thomas B Adams and was given for services prior to 1st January 1782.

Given under my had at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 23rd day of July 1849. J's. E. Heath AUDITOR.

[In <u>rejected claims in the Library of Virginia</u> is an application for bounty land by Letitia Wharton that consists of copies of the documents in her federal pension application. The reason for rejection is in the file as follows:]

May 8<sup>th</sup> – Advised to be rejected because there is no proof whatsoever of three years service; and if bounty land were allowed, it would be to the heirs and not [to the] widow of this soldier. 1851 Decem'r. 31

## NOTES:

Whitehead Coleman was a captain of the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of Continental Artillery from 1778 until after the surrender of Cornwallis.

On 10 June 1842 Letitia Wharton, about 74, applied for a pension under a different law, but that application provided no detail of Samuel Wharton's services, because "full evidence of them was... furnished when he obtained his pension." In that earlier application she gave the date of marriage as 8 Mar 1785 or 1786 and the date of her husband's death as 11 Dec 1841. That date of death was also given on 13 Jun 1842 by James H. Minor, Samuel Wharton's attending physician. On 13 Feb 1843 one William Wharton deposed that Samuel Wharton died on 10 Dec 1841.

The file contains a copy of a permission for a license to be issued for the marriage of Samuel Wharton and Letty Hutcherson, signed by her father, William Hutcherson, on 4 Mar 1786. Also in the file is a copy of the bond signed on 5 Mar 1786 by Samuel Wharton and Robert Hutcherson for the marriage of Wharton to Letty Hutcherson. On 7 Jul 1842 Mary Midlebrook stated that she had been present at the marriage of Samuel Wharton to Letty Hutcherson, daughter of William and Sarah Hutcherson. On 13 Feb 1843 Archibald Hutchison and Thomas Coleman stated that they had also been at the wedding.

A 22 Mar 1843 document states that a John Wharton of Culpeper County VA had power of attorney to receive the pension of Letitia Wharton. Other documents state that John Wharton was her son, and they refer to daughters unnamed.

On 19 Oct 1855 Letitia Wharton, 90, of Culpeper County VA applied for bounty land. Mary B. Wharton and Susan E. Wharton witnessed the application.