Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to John Blair VAS2518

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from <u>bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia</u>. The file also contains papers pertaining to John Blair VAS2517.]

These cetify that John Blare entred into the Service as a Captain in the 9^{th} Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment sometime in the year One thousand seven hundred and Ninety Six and that he died in the Service in the ensuing year by me this 26^{th} of March AD 1798

John Hays [BLWt1068-400] late Maj'r in the Late Continetal Armie Vig'a Line

To his Excellency Gov. Campbell

The petition of Ellison Hopkins & others, heirs of Capt John Blair of the Va. Cont'l line represents that an allowance of land was made for said Blairs services in 1798 for the War, & it not being then stated from what time his bounty should be computed his heirs drew only the quantity due for 3 years. They represent that he enlisted his Company in 1775 & was probably commissioned in that year as the 9th Va Reg't marched to the North in 1776, having been stationed in Accomack for several months. This Reg't was raised for the defence of the Eastern Shore, but was ordered to join Gen'l Washington in 1776 as is generally understood in Accomack. Lt. Col John Cropper [W3781] rec'd. land for 8 years, in Sept. 1807 & he was one of the Captains in that Reg't. & his services commenced at the same time as Blairs, as did the services of all the captains in that Regiment who originally raised Companies on the E. Shore, Capt Nath'l Darby [Nathaniel Darby BLWt605-200] of the same Reg't who raised his Co on the E. Shore rec'd. land in 1809 for 7 years & 10 months. Lt. Col Levin Joynes [BLWt1163-500] originally a Captain in said Reg't. rec'd. land in 1808 for 7 years & 10 months. All these officers were citizens of Accomack & Northampton & raised their Companies under the same law & at the same time. The heirs file herewith proof taken from the declaration of an old pensioner now deceased proving that he enlisted under Capt John Blair in 1775 – and as said Blair died in service (See the vouchers in 1798) his heirs are advised they are entitled to add'l. land either for 1 yr & 10 months or for two years, which is prayed for.

Respectfully submitted/ V. Ellis/ for the heirs

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

I Robert James of northampton County do state that I was well acquainted with John Blair late a Captain in the Virginia Line on Continental establishment. I was raised within three miles of his residence and know that the said John Blair was a captain in the 9th Regiment of Virginia troops on continental establishment when he left home; and he died in service when the said regiment was at the north. He was amongst the earliest who enlisted in the said service.

Given under my hand this 13th of October 1830.

[signed] Robert James

Northampton County To wit

The deposition of Major Pitts [S5931] of lawful age being first duly Sworn says that he was well acquainted with John Blair late a Captain in the Ninth Regiment in the Virginia line on Continental Establishment and that he marched in company with the deponent from the county of Northampton in the latter part of the year 1776 to join the Army under the command of General Washington in New Jersey which they joined at Morris Town [Morristown] about the month February 1777 and that the said John

Blair continued in the Army until his death witness my hand this the 23rd of October 1830. presence of/ Jemima herXmark Menes[?] Major hisXmark Pitts Hadison

John Blair has drawn 4000 acres of Land bounty Warrant

W. Selden/ Ap 6 1831