

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to Peter Goffigan VAS2827  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Many of the online images could not be deciphered.]

The deposition of Southy Spady taken this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of February A.D. 1831 Who being first duly sworn deposeth & saith that he was well acquainted with Peter Goffigan, & that he believes the said Goffigan was a Pilot in the Virginia Navy during the Revolutionary war. This much he is certain of, that the said Goffigan Piloted the French Fleet to York River, at the time of the siege of York [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and further this deponent saith not. [signed] Southey Spady  
[certified in Northampton County]

I certify that I was well acquainted with Peter Goffigan, in the Revolutionary War. I was a seaman in the Virginia Navy in said War, & know that said Goffigan was a Pilot in the Va Navy, & noted for his skill – but how long said Goffigan continued in the service I cannot say tho' I believe he was a long time in the service. James Ward  
[certified in Norfolk Borough, 2 April 1831]



Northampton County, to wit

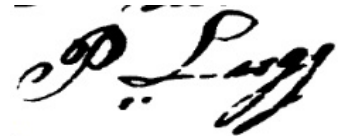
Rachel Costin an aged inhabitant of this county, personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for the County afores'd and made oath

That she the s'd Costin well knew Peter Goffigon & Thomas Butler [VAS2826] both of whom were Pilots in the Virginia Navy, in the Revolutionary War – that she the said Costin does not remember how long Peter Goffigon was in service – but can say with confidence that he, the s'd Goffigon was a Pilot in the State service for more than four years to her knowledge and that the s'd Goffigon served on board of a vessel commanded by a Captain Bright [Francis Bright R16] – that the s'd Butler entered the service a a Pilot, not long after the commencement of the War and continued in the s'd service until the end of the War.

The above facts were sworn to before me this [illegible] day of October 1831. As witness my hand and seal.

I certify that I was well acquainted with Peter Goffigon during the Revolutionary War, at which time I was a Seaman. Peter Goffigon served as a Pilot in the Va. navy for some time on the Brig Northampton & afterwards in some other vessel whose name I do not recollect. I cannot say how long Goffigon served in said War & service but to the best of my recollection he must have been in service more than three years. P. Lugg

[certified in Norfolk Borough, 29 Dec 1831]



I Certify that Peter Goffigan was a Pilot in the Virginia Navy in the Revolutionary War [I] certify also that Thomas Butler was also a Pilot in the Virginia Navy in the War but I do not know how long they served. I am positive however as to the fact that the were in the Navy.

[certified in Northampton County, date illegible] [signed] James Dalby

Col Thos M Bayley  
[undeciphered]

Some time since you requested me to to make some inquiry about the service of Peter Goffigan during the revolutionary war. There is a report here that the said Goffigan was a skilful Pilot that he acted as such in the navy of Va that he afterward turned traitor & acted as Pilot for the British fleet for which offence he left his country & went to the Mediteranean[?]. whether these be facts or not I do not know but such is the report in Northampton. Respectfully yours/ [signature undeciphered] Nov [date undeciphered] 1831

I have again examined the claim of Goffigon, and find no cause for a well grounded belief that he was a traitor. The scrip heretofore allowed his heirs may therefor issue. [several undeciphered lines]

John Floyd {Governor}/ Jan'y 12 1833

I certify that Peter Goffigon was raised & lived and died in a few miles of residence in this county I never hear in my life that Peter Goffigon joined the British or that he did any traitorous act My age is [illegible] six years. [signed] William Costin  
[certified in Northampton County 8 April 1833]

I hereby Certify that I have never heard a report or tradition that Peter Goffigon concerning whose service I have Certified ever joined the British or did any act against his country Said Goffigon was raised, lived & died in my immediate neighbourhood & if such a charge had ever [been] made, I think I must have heard it I am about [illegible] years old [signed] Southey Spady  
[certified in Northampton County 8 April 1833]