Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris		
The State of South Carolina		
Pendleton District	By the 1	Honorable Charles J. Colcock Esquire one of the Associate
	Judges	of the State aforesaid and presiding Magistrate in the

Court of General Sessions and Common Pleas for the District aforesaid.

To all to whom these presents shall come be seen or made known Greeting.

Pension Application of Harmon Commins S21701

Know Ye that Harmon Commins did this day [25 Mar 1819] appear before me and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, That in the spring of the year 1776 (as well as he can recollect) at Sharpsburg in Frederick County in the State of Maryland, He the said Harmon Commins did Enlist into the service of the United States for two years the name of the Officer under whom he Enlisted he does not recollect but he was of Capt. Croghans [William Croghan's] Company of the Eighth Regiment of the

This deponent further saith he was in the Battle at the White Plains [28 Oct 1776] – The Battle at Trenton N.J. [26 Dec 1776] – at the battle at Princeton N.J. [3 Jan 1777] under the command of Major Flemming [probably Fleming] commanded by General [Hugh] Mercer Also in the Battle at Germantown [4 Oct 1777] where he was wounded in the leg and taken prisoner. He was taken to Philadelphia & then confined in Jail about six months then he was taken to New York where he remained about six weeks and was taken to Elizabeth Point N.J. and was exchanged for a Hessian. After which he joined his regiment but his time having expired he was discharged in The State of New Jersey, but this deponent does not recollect the name of the place.

This deponent further on oath saith He received his discharge and returned home and moved into the State of Virginia. He kept his discharge about four years and had it stolen from him, together with his pocket Book in which he kept it & his money – And this deponent also further on his oath saith He is a very poor man and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support – And that hath never received any pension from the United States – And did not intend to have applied for a pension from his country only but for his age and infirmity which renders him unable to Labour as in youth for a support for himself and his family.

Harmon his Vmark Commins

State of South Carolina } Personally appeared before me the subscribing Justice Harmon Commins Anderson District } and made oath in due form of Law saith on his oath that he was placed on the Pension List Roll 25 March 1819 agreeable to an act of Congress passed the 18th March 1818 and that he drew a Pension one time and was then stricken off on the account of Property That he served in the Revolutionary War in the 1st Virginia Regiment and that he now lives in Anderson District and has lived there for a great while and stands in great need of assistance in his old and declined days Sworn to and subscribed before me this thirteenth September 1832 Harmon hisVmark Commins

The State of South Carolina

Virginia Line

Anderson District

Harmon Commins of the State and District aforsaid appeared personally before me and makes oath that he is the identical Harmon Commins who applied for a Pension from the United States in the year 1819 and in whose favour the certificate dated 26th November 1819 signed by C. Vandeventer Acting Secretary of War Numbered 16.027 and hereunto annexed originally issued. That in pursuance thereof he did by his attorney receive the first payment at the Branch Bank of the United States in the City of Charleston. That he enlisted as a private for two years at Sharpsburg in the State of Maryland within three miles of where

he then resided under Captain Cochrane in year 1776 before the Declaration of Independence to be attached to the Eighth Virginia Regiment of Infantry to join which he marched to Shepherd-town [sic: Shepherdstown] in Virginia thence to Fredericksburg then to Williamsburg. The Eighth Regiment having marched to [South] Carolina this Deponent was attached to First Virginia Regiment of Infantry commanded he thinks by General Mercer and Major Flemming but [he] does not recollect the name of the Colonel. Marched to the North crossed the Potomac at its mouth thence to Baltimore to Wilmington and by water passed Philadelphia into the Delaware landed at Trenton and thence to the White Plains, in which battle he was being his first – afterwards was in the battles of Trenton having marched the whole night before to reach the place of Prince town and of Germantown in which last battle he was taken prisoner sent to Philadelphia and confined in jail on scanty allowance and some time during the Spring following was removed to New York and exchanged at a place called Elizabeth-Point with others for Hessians whom he had aided in capturing at the battle of Trenton. Shortly after was discharged in New Jersey at a place called Shell-hill as well as he can recollect having remained several mon[ths] over my term of enlistment in consequence of my imprisonment. His Discharge and money were both stolen out of his pocket book. He is wholly ignorant of the place of residence of any of his officers and was at the time of his first application. His Major (Flemming) was killed at the Battle of Princeton and General Mercer wounded of which wound this Deponent understood he died.

This Deponent knows of no proof he can offer of his identity than the affidavit of John James who was acquainted with him in the war and was qualified as to his service when he first applied & who this Deponent understands is yet alive and resident in this District and the affidavit of Col Joseph Grisham now residing in Pickens District the Gentleman who originally prepared his papers for the War Department and superintended the drawing of his money in Charleston. He is aged and extremely infirm, gets about with great difficulty and cannot well attend the setting of the next court to make this Declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed Sept 11th 1833

Harmon his Vmark Commins