Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of William Colgan S42652	VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.	Revised 29 Dec 2018.

State of Ohio } Ss Champaign County }

Personally appeared before me Alexander McBeth of Urbana Township one of the associate Judges of the court of common pleas of the county of Champaign in the State of Ohio William Colgan who upon his solemn oath according to law deposeth and saith That He did faithfully serve in the capacity of a private Soldier three full years at one period of the American revolutionary War. That He the said William Colgan did on the first day of August in the year of our lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Seven Enlist for and during the term of three years as a private Soldier in Capt Cad. W. Jones [Cadwallader Jones BLWt2308] light Dragoons Company near to Martinsburg Berkley county [sic: Berkeley County] in the State of Virginia That said light Dragoon Company belonged to the third regiment of light Dragoons in the Virginia line That the aforesaid regiment was commonly called General Washingtons life Guard [sic] and was commanded by Colonel George Baily or Baylor [George Baylor W5966] and the aforesaid William Colgan further saith That he faithfully served as a private Soldier in the aforesaid regiment under the command of the aforesaid Colonel Baily or Baylor until He the aforesaid Colonels Bailly or Baylor was taken prisoner by the British at Taupan in the State of New Jersey [sic: Old Tappan, 28 Sep 1778] and the aforesaid William Colgan further saith that He was likewise taken by the British at the same time and place the aforesaid Colonel Baily or Baylor was taken and sent by a British Guard to the city of New York and there confined in the Sugar House during the term of one month only. From thence the aforesaid William Colgan further saith He was conducted by a British Guard to Elizabethtown point and there exchanged and the aforesaid William Colgan further saith that He immediately again entered into the service of the United States in the same company commanded by the same Capt Cad. W Jones belonging to the third regiment of light Dragoons commonly called General Washingtons life Guard in the Virginia line as aforesaid which was then under The command of Colonel [William] Washington and the aforesaid William Colgan further saith that He remained faithfully to serve in the aforesaid light Dragoon regiment then under the command of Colonel Washington during the full term of his enlistment, until He the said William Colgan was Honourably discharged at Halifax in North Carolina on the first Day of August in the year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty which said discharge He Transmitted to the city of Richmond Virginia by a person in whom He had placed confidence by the name of James Morison who from that period absconded and the aforesaid William Colgan further saith that He is a resident of the Township of Mad river in the County of Champaign in the State of Ohio and is fifty eight years of age was at the Battle of Monmoth [sic: Monmouth NJ, 28 Jun 1778] and in several skirmishes during the time of his services in the army of the united States in the revolutionary war as aforesaid and from his reduced circumstances in life needs the assistance of his country for support

Sworn and Subscribed the 20th day of May A.D. 1818 before me [see endnote regarding signature]

State of Ohio }
Champaign County }

Personally appeared before me Alex'r McBeth of Urbana Township one of the Associate Judges of the Court of common pleas of the County of Champaign in the State of Ohio William Weaver [S17770] who upon his solemn oath according to law deposeth and saith That He had been acquainted with the above named William Colgan at the time of his Enlistment This deponent further saith that He resided in the same House with the aforesaid William Colgan in Berkley County in the state of Virginia

William Colgan

when the aforesaid William Colgan entered into the service of the united States. That the aforesaid William Colgan entered into the service of the United States in the year one Thousand seven hundred and seventy seven. That the said William Colgan enlisted for the term of three years. This deponent further saith that during the time the aforesaid William Colgan was in the united States service. He resided with a Daniel Colgan who was a Brother oof the aforesaid William Colgan. This deponent further saith That He frequently heard Daniel Colgan read letters which He had received from his Brother William Colgan. That af'd William Colgan remained three year in the army of the United states and the aforesaid deponent further saith He saw the discharge of the aforesaid William Colgan after He had performed his Tour of duty as aforesaid and further this deponent saith not

Sworn and subscribed before me This 20th day of May A.D. 1818

Pleas at Urbana Before the Honorable Joseph H Crane Esquire President John Runyon Samuel Hill & James Smith Esquires his associate Judges of the court of Common Pleas of the county of Champaign and State of Ohio at their August Term last William Colgan came into our said court and filed the following Deposition & Schedule to wit The State of Ohio Champaign County Ss On this twenty fourth day of August eighteen hundred and twenty personally came into our said court of common pleas of said county then holden at Urbana in said county in open court the same being by the Constitution & Laws of said state a court of Record for said county, William Colgan aged fifty nine years Resident in said county who being first duly sworn deposeth & says that he served in the Revolutionary war a follows to wit in Col Washingtons Regiment the same being the third Regiment Dragoons in the Virginia Line in the company commanded by Cadwaleder Jones that he was discharged which said Regiment was commanded by Col Washington as will appear with other facts from his original application in the Secretary office dated 20th day of May 1818 that he under s'd. application received a pention certificate dated first day of April 1819 & numbered eight thousand seven hundred & fifty two. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed the greater part of which particularly the stock I have been principally enable to obtain by reason of the bounty of the Government in Granting my pension I further declare that by trade I am a Reed Maker which occupation by reason of my remote situation I have not followed for many years, but labour as far I am able as a husbandman unable to work but little in cosequence of age & Reumatism which frequently lays me entirely up for a length of time My family consists of a wife aged fifty eight years, who is feeble & scarcely able to do things about the house a Daughter aged eighteen years who has no particular occupation other than assisting in the care of the family & a son aged fourteen years who is as capable of working as most boys at that age. The following is a true list of my property, one mare & colt. Three small young cattle that I bought on credit not yet paid one sow & nine pigs. one Table. 4 chairs. Cupbord & furniture Grain Growing on six acres Rented land of which I am to give one third for Rent. Real Estate none Debts due me none Debts due by me \$80

William his Cmark Colgan

Welliam Heaver

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia under the name Colgin, William. "William Colgin" was discharged on the same day and by the same officer as stated in William Colgan's pension application above, and is therefore apparently the same person as William Colgan.]

Aug't 1st 1780

William Colgin having Served faithfully three years in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons is hereby Discharged

W. Washington Lt Col

Auditors Office/ June 26 18

The above is a true copy of a Discharge lodged in this Office/ Edm'd B. [rest of name undeciphered] [The following two items are on the other side of the above discharge.]

Sir please to Deliver my land warrant to Mr David Gray

William Colgon

I do Certify that Wm Colgin was a Citisen of Virginia Before he enlisted in the service & so Continues to Be Given under my hand this [?] day of Nov'r 1787

John Kerney [R15613] Late Capt'n VSL [Virginia State Line]

[The following are from rejected claims in the Library of Virginia under the name Colgan, William.]

To the Honorable Governor and Council of the State of Virginia

The petition of Wm Colgan of Champaign County and State of Ohio late a private in Capt Cadwallader Jones Company in Col Geo Baylors Regt of dragoons having served three years and discharged by Col. Wm Washington in Halifax NC on the 1st of August 1780.

That your petitioner is a pensioner of the United States for services rendered and entitled to his bounty land in the Virginia Military district for having so rendered.

That on application and inquiry, he finds, that a warrant issued No 4332 for 100 acres to Wm Colgin a person of a different name by spelling, and patented in a larger claim to Sally Hill and Amos [undeciphered] in 1818 and warrant having been assigned; both the issuing and assignment unknown to your memorialist. He therefore prays that his warrant may issue, as he knows nothing of said Wm Cogin; having assigned his right, and agreeably to the direction given at the Office of the Commissioner of the Gen'l L [Land] office at Washington he applies to our honorable Council to rectify his grievance. Your petitioner is now 73 years of age; and all he asks is a matter of right, which the [undeciphered word] his Country will not withold from him to warrant for his services rendered as aforesaid – and he as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

Wm hisXmark Colgan

P.S. My name is on the roll at Washington City as attached to the above Company & [undeciphered word] & uniformly spelled Wm Colgan; not Colgin!

Please enclose the warrant to [two undeciphered words] Urbana Champaign Cty Ohio

NB. The above named Wm Colgan is known to me; for his benifit only, I have made diligent enquiry as to facts, and believe them to be as stated; I have heard of a Wm Colgin at Louisville Ky. The old Gentleman being a Revolutioner & have [several undeciphered words].

Thos. S. Hinde
Urbana March 29th 1833

Urbana Champaign Cty ohio/ March 29th 1833.

Col Preston,/ Dear Sir,/ Will you oblige an old revolutioner Mr Colgan so far as to send this to the Governor and Council, his, is a hard case, among many.

I should like to know if anything is done with the lists I forwarded of [undeciphered] line claims – some powers of atto were forwarded and vouchers &c.

Yours respectfully/ Th. S. Hinde

18th of April 1833./ rejected/ J. F. [Gov. John Floyd]

State of Ohio } Ss
Champaign County } Personally appeared before me William Darnall an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County Christopher Weaver aged seventy one years, and after being by me Swarn deposith and saith that he recollects of William Colgan having enlisted in the service of the United States about the year AD 1777 and further that he was reputed as having served according to the enlistment and legally discharged and further he saith not

Christopher hisXmark Weaver

[The following are from bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia under the name Colgan, William.]

Subscribed and Swarn to before me this 1st of August AD1833

State of Ohio Champaign County Ss Personally came before me William Darnall an acting Justice of the peace in and for said county William Weaver aged seventy three years and after being by me swarn deposith and saith that he recollects of William Colgan having enlisted in the service of United States about the year AD 1777 Said Deponent further states that he verily beleves and has no hesitation in saying that the said William Colgan served three years in the army of the United States during the revolutionary war and obtained a legal discharge about the year AD 1780 and further he, said deponent saith not William his Wmark Weaver

Subscribed and Swarn to before me this 1st August AD 1833

NOTES:

The signatures(?) of William Colgan and William Weaver dated 20 May 1818 appear to have been written by the same person.

A note on the pension certificate states that Colgan died on 4 Nov 1837.