## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Colvin W18951 Sarah Colvin VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County

} Towit – On this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 1836, personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for said County, Sarah Colvin, a resident of said County and state aforsaid, aged 75 years on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of Jan'y next who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup> 1836. That she is the widow of John Colvin late of Culpepper, who was a soldier in the minute service and malitia of virginia, in the War of the Revolution from the County of Culpepper aforsaid. She states that her said husband as she has often heard him say, and as she believes from the best of her knowledge performed two tours of military service before their marriage. The first of said tours was for 12 months and was performed about Williamsburg in Virg'a. This was two years before their marriage, and she believes the full period of twelve month's service was at that time performed by him. She cannot remember the date of his marching on that tour or of his return. She thinks she has heard him speak of Cap. John Waugh from either Culpepper or Orange being in the same service. Also of Churchill Gibbs [pension application \$46002]. She is not sure they were in same service, but is under that impression at this time. Her said husband she has heard him say was under the command of Cap. John Green from Culpepper Co. during that tour of duty. His second tour of service was as a drafted malitia man from same county, and went to the north, and was on the retreat with the troops through the Jerseys, under Gen'l. Washington – and was in sight of Philadelphia when captured [Philadelphia captured by British 26 Sep 1777]. According to the best information & recollection this tour commenced Aug't 1st 1777 and ended 1st March ensuing as well as she remembers from the statements which she has frequently heard her said husband make. She believes he acted as Sergeant - but on what tour she cannot say. After her marriage with said John Colvin he was called into service several times. His first tour after marriage commenced 1st may (in planting corn time in 1779) and was then out in service about Williamsburg – or maybe Norfolk or Petersburg, she dont remember which, for 6 months. His second tour after marriage he was drafted for 18 months for the South, and his brother Harry Colvin [Henry Colvin, possibly pension application S12600] performed that tour for him. The precise commencement of it she cannot state at this time. He was again called out with the malitia at the time of the Seige of York in Virg'a [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] and hired a substitute, a man by the name of Joseph Bowen who performed said tour for him. She further declares that she was married to the said John Colvin on the 7th day of Oct'r 1778 in the County of Culpepper and state of Virg'a by Parson Jones, a clergyman of the Episcopel Church who many years ago removed from said County & is presumed dead. That her said husband the aforsaid John Colvin died on the 29th day of May 1832 & the date of his death was entered in his family Bible, and that she has remaind a widow ever since that period, as will fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Sarah herXmark Colvin

State of Virginia Rappahannock County SS.

On this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 1837 personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the said County, Mason Colvin [S9198] a resident of said county and state aforesaid, aged 74 years on the 14th day of April next (1837) who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration. That he and his brother John Colvin served a tour of service together of three months or upwards about William's Burg, Norfolk, and Peter's Burg, and that he recollects perfectly well that the said tour of service was performed after the marriage of his brother John Colvin to his wife Sarah Colvin

(The precise time of their marriage he cannot recollect) But is certain as above stated that the tour of service was performed after his marriage. He also declares that his brother John Colvin was call out to serve a tour in the South and hired his Brother Harry Colvin to perform it for him. The length of the last mentioned tour was eighteen months as well as he recollects. It was also after his marriage to the said Sarah Colvin. Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written

Mason hisXmark Colvin

State of Virginia	}
County of Culpeper	} To wit

On this 19th day of March 1838 before the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared John Freeman [W3798] of said County and State aged 81 years and of good character for veracity and integrity, who being duly sworn according to law, deposeth and saith, That he enlisted into the Army of the United States in the year 1775 under Capt John Green for one year. That at the same time under the same officer John Colvin late of Culpeper county enlisted and served out that entire year. That he himself [the rest is largely illegible, but gives the maiden name of Sarah Colvin as Sarah Dillard]

State of Virginia }
Culpeper County }

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 1838 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid personally appeared David Jameson [S5607] of said County aged Eighty five years and of good character for veracity who being duly sworn deposeth and saith - That just before the commencement of the Revolution War he became acquainted with John Colvin then a sprightly Lad, who in August 1775 inlisted as a soldier under Capt. John Green who Raised a Company of Regular Soldiers for one year and who were the first company of the first Virginia Regiment; that said Company were soon ordered and did march to Williamsburg then the Seat of Government, where (or thereabout) the said company served the year for which they had enlisted; that said John Colvin then returned home; and that sometime in 1778 as he was informed and verily believes married Miss Dillard and in a short time became this affiants much esteem'd neighbour, and they ever after during the life of said Colvin lived near each other, in Harmony; and knows (for he was at times a Visitor) that said Colvin and Miss Dillard lived more or near Fifty years together as man & wife and raised three children and he verily believes were too Virtuous to have so acted unless married, and [illegible word], and from many circumstances is confident they were Legally married, although he saw not the ceremony performed by Parson Jones then our Parish Minister and that he advised Mr. Robert Colvin to apply to the Clerk of our county court to furnish a copy of what is generally call'd The Marriage License Bond, but it cannot be found; which this affiant thus accounts for; In the latter part of the year 1778 or Early in 1779 while he acted as Deputy Clerk of said Court, His office (whilst he was from home) was broken open in one night to shelter some soldiers from inclement weather, and when he returned home the next day he found that the soldiers had destroyed (by burning) a Vast number of Papers which had been filed, and never after could find a large bundle of "Marriage Licence Bonds" containing the Bonds immediately preceding that event and has no doubt that they were then destroyed; and he further certifies that he has no recollection of the length of any Militia Tours said John Colvin performed during the war but that Mrs. Colvin is an aged widow now among us and of very respectable standing D Jameson

State of Virginia } S.S. Culpeper County }

On this 21 day of March 1838 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for the County aforsaid personally appeared Sarah Colvin of said County aged 76 years and of good character for veracity who

being duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith, That in making a declaration for a pension under the act of Congress of July 4th 1836, she omitted to state one tour of her husband the late John Colvin during the Revolutionary War, and desires now to amend the same. That her husband as she states in the said declaration, employed his brother to serve an Eighteen months tour for him and that her husband was called on during the year that Cornwallis was in Virginia [1781] to serve a tour in his place as she thinks. That whether he did serve as substitute for his brother or not she know's that he was called on to serve a tour that year and that he was gone as well as she can remember three months from home. That she often heard him speak of a battle near Petersburg [possibly Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr 1781] and thinks he staid till the seige at York.

I hearby Certify that I was aquainted with John Colvin late of Culpeper County Virg'a and that he Enlisted under Capt John Green of Culpeper on the 22 of September 1775 for twelve months and served the said the said period of Elistment I Certify that on the same day & date I enlisted for the same period under the same Officer and surved together for and dureing the said period of one year of one yeare we were discharged at Williamburg after the experatison of said period of Inlistment Given under my Hand this 27 day of March 1837 [signed] Churchill Gibbs

Formerly Lie't. in Col George Gibson Regt

Colvins Tavern march 29 1838

Dear Sir [apparently Thomas Hord Esq] I have been detained in geting a copy of the Record some what longer than I Expected, and I send you the papers by the first mail after. If the within Depositions & my mothers Decleration will not do I dont know of any more proof that I can obtain. Except our ages entered in a small Book in my fathers own hand write namely my father John Colvin was born 16 marh 1758 my mother Sarah Colvin was born 11 Januay 1762 my sister Priscilla Colvin was born 16 July 1780 my self Robt Colvin was Born 14 June 1784 my Brother John D Colvin was Born 29 Sept 1800 if it is necessary that my deposition should be taken to the above, you will write my fourthwith & it shall be sent, but maj'e [magistrate?] E Browdus thinks it is not worth while & thinks there is proff Enough without it – my health is a little better than it has been for three months back my family all well hoping this may find you & your Enjoying the same blessing from your fr'd Robt. Colvin Please write me as soon as you can R.C

[Sworn to on 5 April 1838.]