Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Cuffey (Cuffee) W9402 Catharine Cuffey VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 May 2013.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of the act entitled an act for the relief of certain surviving Offices and Soldiers of the Army of the Revolution approved on the 15th of May 1828, I Charles Cuffey of [illegible; elsewhere "Sammons"] Bridge in the County of Princes Ann in the State of Virginia do hereby declare, that I enlisted in the continental Line of the army of the Revolution, for and during the war, and continued in its service until its termination; at which period, I was a private in Captain Adam Wallace's Company [see endnote] in the 11th Regiment commanded by Colonel Bufort [sic: Abraham Buford]. And I also declare, that I never received a certificate for the reward of Eighty Dollars to which I was entitled under a resolve of Congress passed the 15th of May 1778.

And I further declare that I was not, on the fifteenth of May 1828, on the pension List of the United States. Witness my hand this [blank] day of [blank] in the year [blank]

Test

Charles hisXmark Cuffey

[The document was certified on 11 July 1828 and witnessed by Robert Warters and James Cuffey.]

At a quarterly Session Court held for Princess Anne County [now part of Virginia Beach, Virginia] the 7th day of June 1830.

On this 7th day of June 1830, personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record proceeding according to the course of the Common law, with jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a record of proceedings for the Courts of Princess Anne, Charles Cuffey resident in the said County aged Seventy five years and six months, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820; that he the said Charles Cuffey enlisted for the term of eighteen months in the year Seventeen hundred and eighty in the State of Virginia, in the Company commanded by Captain Adam Wallace in the eleventh Regiment Commanded by Col. Abraham Bluford in the line of the State of Virginia in the first continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the Corps until the expiration of the said term of eighteen months, when he was discharged from the service in Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. that his name is not on the roll of any State, except the State of Virginia; and that the following is the reason for not making earlier application for a pension. Ignorance of the provision until about two years ago, during which time he has been exerting himself to get sufficient evidence to establish his claim, and in pursuance of the act of the 1st May 1820, 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 gifts, 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 persons 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 than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed & by me subscribed, to wit; two old iron pots & the bottom of one other old iron pot for baking bread, one ax, two hoes and nothing else; except my bedding and clothing – that since the 18th March 1818. no changes have been made in my property; that I am by occupation a farmer. That my wife Katy and child Tom and myself together reside. That my wife is about thirty years old and my child between 12 and thirteen; that I am utterly unable to support myself and depend mostly upon the labours of my wife & child who get scarcely enough for their own support Charles hisXmark Cuffey The Court Certify that the utmost value of the property in the above schedule is ten dollars.

[Joseph Monk, pension application S38237, certified Cuffey's service.]

State of Virginia

Princess Anne County towit

Before me Jacob Hunter a justice of the peace for the County of Princess aforesaid personally appeared Charles Cuffey of the said County and made oath that he lost the affidavits of John Shipwash and Joseph Munk in regard to his service in the Revolutionary War which the war department returned to him on or about the 23^d July 1828 for the purpose of having their credibility certified by the magistrate before whom they were taken, and that having been instructed by the war department on the 31st of december 1829 to transmit these affidavits to the Pension office he went to Chesterfield County where the said Shipwash and Monk lived for the purpose of getting them to give him their affidavits again. That he got the affidavit of the said Monk but found said Shipwash had departed this life. Given under my hand this 7th day of June in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty.

Sworn to and subscribed the seventh day of June 1830 Charles hisXmark Cuffey

Princess Anne Court House/Sept 7 1830

Sir [James L. Edwards, Pension Commissioner] I have now the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of the 15th of June last and to enclose you the affidavits of Robert Page and W. A. Patterson which I hope will prove satisfactory. I will just add that to obtain these papers I had to beg my way on foot from this place to the County of Chesterfield and back a distance of upwards of Two hundred and fifty miles and am now almost weighed down by the journey.

Respectfully/ Yr. M obt svt Charles X Cuffey

[The affidavit of Robert Page certified that John Shipwash, a relation by marriage, died on 1 Dec 1828 and that he may have been the magistrate who took Shipwash's testimony in support of Cuffey's application.]

NOTES:

Adam Wallace was killed at the Battle of Waxhaws SC on 29 May 1780, often referred to as "Buford's Massacre." Cuffey did not say that he was present at the battle.

On 28 Aug 1857 Catherine Cuffey, 60, applied for a pension and bounty land stating that as Catherine Fuller she married Charles Cuffey in Dec 1815, and he died 1 Oct 1844.. On 10 May 1867 Catharine Cuffey, said to be 65 and residing about 27 miles from Portsmouth, applied for the restoration of her pension, which had been suspended during the Civil War, during which she supported herself "by her own exertions and the labour of her own hands."

The 1810 federal census for Princess Anne County lists "Cuffee Chas. FB" [Free Black] in a household of four free people other than white.