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**Virginia Half Pay and Other
Related Revolutionary War
Pension Application Files**



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are from
Records of the Veterans Administration
Record Group 15
in the National Archives Building

VIRGINIA HALF PAY AND
OTHER RELATED REVOLUTIONARY WAR
PENSION APPLICATION FILES

On the 18 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced 279 pension application files based on military and naval service in the Revolutionary War. The files originated in the Office of the Third Auditor of the Treasury Department, and a large number of them pertain to half-pay pensions of Virginia soldiers and sailors. There is generally an envelope for each soldier or sailor that contains applications for pensions based on his service. A few records, or copies of records, are dated as early as 1778, but most of the documents in the files are dated between 1830 and 1875. They are part of Records of the Veterans Administration, Record Group 15.

For more than a century before the beginning of the Revolutionary War, British Colonies in North America provided pensions for disabled soldiers and sailors. During and after the Revolutionary War, three principal types of pensions were provided by the U.S. Government for servicemen and their dependents. "Disability" or "invalid pensions" were awarded to servicemen for physical disabilities incurred in the line of duty; "service pensions," to veterans who served for specified periods of time; and "widows' pensions," to women whose husbands had been killed in the war or were veterans who had served for specified periods of time.

During the time the U.S. Congress was enacting laws granting increasingly generous pensions to Revolutionary War soldiers, the States were also passing legislation to encourage or reward military service. In May 1779 the General Assembly of Virginia authorized the payment of half pay for life to the State's military and naval officers, including chaplains, physicians, surgeons, and surgeons' mates, who served until the end of the war in State units within the State's borders or in the Continental Army.

Following the cessation of hostilities, many Virginia officers presented half-pay claims, which were disallowed by the Virginia State Auditor. Certain of the officers brought suit in the Virginia courts, and after several years of litigation the State courts declared the claims to be valid. Virginia then sought to have the U.S. Government assume the obligation, stating that the State was not financially able to satisfy the claims of the officers due to the cession to the United States of large tracts of land northwest of the Ohio River. Many of the officers presenting claims had served in this northwest territory during the Revolutionary War. Virginia pointed out that the deed of cession of the territory on March 1, 1784, provided "that the necessary and reasonable expenses incurred by the State of Virginia in subduing any British posts, or in maintaining forts or garrisons within, and for the defence, or in acquiring any part of the territory so ceded or relinquished, shall be fully reimbursed by the United

States." In addition, Virginia claimed that certain other State troops had actually served in the Continental Army and that their claims should rightfully be paid by the National Government.

An act of July 5, 1832, directed the Secretary of the Treasury to reimburse the State of Virginia for half-pay pension payments made to the officers of the Virginia State Navy and certain designated units of the Virginia Line: Col. George Gibson's Regiment; the Second State Regiment, commanded by Cols. William Brent and Charles Dabney; the regiments commanded by Cols. George Rogers Clark and Joseph Crockett; Capt. John Roger's troop of cavalry; the regiment of State artillery commanded by Col. Thomas Marshall; the State garrison regiment commanded by Col. George Muter; and the State cavalry commanded by Maj. John Nelson. The Secretary of the Treasury was further directed in the same act to assume any additional pension payments to officers of these units. The designated units served during the Revolutionary War in the Continental Army or on Virginia's northwest frontier.

In 1835 the responsibility for administering claims under the act of July 5, 1832, was transferred to the War Department, which administered most of the other Federal pension legislation benefiting Revolutionary War veterans. In 1849 general responsibility for pension legislation in the Federal Government was placed in the newly organized Department of the Interior, and in 1930 the Bureau of Pensions of the Interior Department and other offices concerned with veterans were consolidated to form the Veterans Administration. Approximately eighty thousand pension and bounty land warrant application files based on military, naval, and marine service in the Revolutionary War were subsequently accessioned by the National Archives as part of the records of the Veterans Administration.

The pension files reproduced in this publication differ from the main series of Revolutionary War pension files in that they originated in the Office of the Third Auditor of the Treasury Department. The files were originally a collection of documents from many sources concerning applications by the heirs of deceased pensioners for arrearages of pensions. Such claims were generally settled, in the mid-19th century, in the Third Auditor's Office. Most of the claims relate to Virginia half-pay pensions, but some of them relate to claims under other Revolutionary War pension acts. A few of the files pertain to veterans of the Mexican, Indian, and Civil Wars. Many of the records were borrowed by the Third Auditor from the Bureau of Pensions, and there is a great deal of correspondence in the files between the Commissioner of Pensions and the Third Auditor concerning the claims and the transfer of records.

The files were transferred from the Treasury Department to the Navy Department in the second decade of the 20th century. The Navy Department retained those files that related to officers of the Virginia State Navy and forwarded the remaining files to

the Adjutant General's Office of the War Department. The records were transferred to the National Archives in 1941 from the Navy and War Departments in two transactions, sometimes referred to as Accessions 837 and 874. The National Archives allocated the pension files to Records of the Veterans Administration, Record Group 15.

Most of the veterans with pension files in this publication also have pension files in the main series of Revolutionary War pension and bounty land warrant applications. The files are often closely related. Documents appointing an administrator for the estate of a deceased veteran, for example, may appear in the veteran's file in the main series, and correspondence relating to the same appointment may appear in the veteran's file reproduced in this publication. The main series of Revolutionary War pension and bounty land warrant applications also contains Virginia half-pay claims for which there are no related files in this publication.

The pension files generally consist of an envelope for each soldier or sailor and contain originals and copies of military orders, payrolls, and muster rolls; applications for pensions and arrearages of pensions; sworn statements of individuals attesting to the veracity of the service of the pensioner and the heirship of the applicants; powers of attorney; letters of administration; wills; vouchers showing payment of claims; pension certificates; correspondence; and other records. Most of the soldiers' files also contain a 3 x 8 card on which is a typed summary of the major genealogical information in the records. A typical file may contain approximately 50 documents.

The pension files are arranged in two series, one relating to soldiers and one relating to sailors, and thereunder alphabetically by surname of soldier or sailor. Both of the series contain files relating to Virginia half-pay claims, and the series of soldiers' files also contains pension applications under other Revolutionary War and later acts. The pension files of soldiers, which are filmed first, were assigned numbers by the Adjutant General's Office ranging from 050000 to 050201. The numbers are a continuation of the numbers assigned to miscellaneous Revolutionary War records (The Manuscript File) in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records. The envelopes of soldiers' pension files are labeled with the number assigned by the Adjutant General's Office; the accession number assigned by the National Archives; the name of the veteran, sometimes with variant spellings of his name; references to any related pension files; the State for which the veteran served; and the designation "Half Pay" or "Not Half Pay." The files designated "Half Pay" pertain to claims under the act of July 5, 1832. Those designated "Not Half Pay" pertain to claims under other acts.

The envelopes of sailors' pension files are generally labeled with the sailor's name, rank, ship, references to related pension files, and the designation "Virginia State Navy, YS File." "YS" is a file designation for the Virginia State Navy pensions from the Subject File of the Naval Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library, Record Group 45. A few pension files relating to marines are also included in this series.

Within the envelopes, the documents are unarranged except in cases where the file consists of more than 10 pages. In these instances the documents containing the more significant genealogical information have been placed first, preceded by a sheet entitled "Selected Records." All remaining documents in such files are unarranged and are preceded by a sheet entitled "Non-selected Records."

The appendix that follows this introduction lists the names of the veterans with pension files in this publication and the citations of related pension files in the main series of Revolutionary War pension and bounty land warrant application files. The appendix also indicates which of the veterans served in Virginia military and naval forces.

Indexes

The names of most of the soldiers and sailors for whom there are pension application files reproduced in this microfilm publication are listed in Max E. Hoyt's *Index to Revolutionary War Pension Applications* (Washington, D.C.: National Genealogical Society, 1966). Much of the information in the files and additional information from other sources concerning the Virginia military and naval forces has been published in Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh's *Revolutionary War Records, Volume 1, Virginia* (Washington, 1936).

Related Records

The main series of pension and bounty land warrant application files based on the service of Revolutionary War military, naval, and marine personnel has been reproduced as National Archives Microfilm Publication M804, *Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files*, and M805, *Selected Records From Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land-Warrant Application Files*.

Additional information concerning the military service of Revolutionary War soldiers and sailors is available in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, Record Group 93. Most of the returns, muster rolls, and payrolls in the Collection have been published as M246, *Revolutionary War Rolls, 1775-1783*. Abstracts made from these records and transcribed onto cards for each soldier or sailor are available as M881, *Compiled Service Records of Soldiers Who Served in the American Army During the*

Revolutionary War, and M880, Compiled Service Records of American Naval Personnel and Members of the Departments of the Quartermaster General and the Commissary General of Military Stores Who Served During the Revolutionary War. A name index to both series of compiled service records is available as M860, General Index to the Compiled Military Service Records of Revolutionary War Soldiers.

The following unbound records and record books from the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records have also been filmed: M859, *Miscellaneous Numbered Records (The Manuscript File) in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775-1790's*, and M853, *Numbered Record Books Concerning Military Operations and Service, Pay and Settlement of Accounts, and Supplies in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records*. A name index to these two series is available as M847, *Special Index to Numbered Records in the War Department Collection of Revolutionary War Records, 1775-1783*.

Naval records relating to the Revolutionary War period can also be found in the Naval Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library, Record Group 45. An important series from this record group is available on microfilm as M625, *Area File of the Naval Records Collection, 1775-1910*.

Additional records relating to the Virginia half-pay claims and the Third Auditor's activities can be found in Records of the Veterans Administration, Record Group 15, and Records of the United States General Accounting Office, Record Group 217.

These introductory remarks were written by Marie B. Allen.

APPENDIX

Pension File (M910)

Related Pension File (M804)

Adams, John	John Adams W23415
Allen, John *	John Allen (n.n.)
Allerton, John	John Allerton R151
Andrason, Ezekiel	Ezekiel Andrason W23456
Andrews, Robert *	Robert Andrews R12123
Applewhaite, John **	John Applewhaite R12129
Archer, John **	John Archer W5348
Armistead, Thomas *	Thomas Armistead R12157
Armistead, William *	William Armistead R12155
Bailey, John *	
Banks, James **	James Banks W5762
Barnes, James	James Barnes S39968
Barron, James **	James Barron W12264
Barron, Richard **	Richard Barron R5
Barron, Samuel **	Samuel Barron R6
Bartlett, Philip **	Philip Bartlett R7
Bayly, Laban **	Laban Bayly R1
Baytop, John *	John Baytop R19357
Becker, Barent	Barent Becker S12193
Beckwith, William	William Beckwith S2071
Bennett, Thomas	Thomas Bennett S12154
Bennett, William **	William Bennett R8
Berry, William	William Berry S2371
Bishop, Benjamin	Benjamin Bishop S32119
Blair, John	
Blakley, Obed	Obed Blakley S44629
Boas, Henry	Henry Boas S16053
Bonewell, Thomas **	Thomas Bonnewell R10
Booth, William **	William Booth R11
Boush, Charles **	Charles S. Boush R12
Boush, Robert *	Robert Boush R19366
Boyd, James	James Boyd S32127
Brashears, Richard *	Richard Brashears R12756
Bray, Elisha C.	
Brenton, John	John Brenton S16059
Bressie, Thomas *	Thomas Bressie R12763
Britain, John **	John Brittain R13
Brophy, Michael	
Brooke, Walter **	Walter Brooke R14
Brown, John	John Brown R1277
Brown, Robert *	Robert Brown R12652
Browning, Isaac *	Isaac Browning R12796
Calvitt, Joseph *	Joseph Calvert R12980
Cannon, Jesse **	Jesse Cannon R19

* Virginia soldiers

** Virginia sailors

Pension File (M910)

Cannon, Luke **
 Cary, Samuel *
 Catlett, George **
 Chamberlain, George **
 Chandler, Thomas **
 Chapline, Abraham *
 Cherry, William *
 Clower, Daniel
 Cole, Huldah (widow of Jacob)
 Cordill, James
 Cordill, Stephen
 Cornett, William
 Courtney, James
 Cowen, William
 Cox, John **
 Crawley, Samuel *
 Creed, Colby
 Crew, John **
 Crockett, Anthony *
 Crockett, Joseph *
 Crump, Abner *
 Dabney, Charles *
 Dalton, Valentine Thomas *
 Daring, Henry *
 Deaver, William
 De Kay, Charles **
 Diall, Daniel
 Dick, Alexander *
 Dickason, Samuel
 Digges, Dudley, Sr. *
 Diggs, Edward *
 Ditto, Francis
 Dobson, Robert **
 Doty, Nathaniel
 Dougherty, James **
 Edinburgh, Sewell *
 Edmundson, Benjamin *
 Elder, Ephraim *
 Elliott, Bradford W.
 Elliott, George **
 Ellis, Abner S.
 Evans, Andrew
 Evans, Jesse *
 Evans, Joseph *
 Ewell, Charles *
 Ewell, Thomas *
 Field, Benjamin *
 Field, Theophilus **
 Fierer, Charles *
 Fleet, John *

Related Pension File (M804)

Luke Cannon S46373
 Samuel Cary R13013
 George Catlett W2524
 George Chamberlaine R23
 Thomas Chandler R24
 Abraham Chapline R13134
 William Cherry R13143
 Daniel Clower S37865
 Jacob Cole W18930
 James Cordill S30344
 Stephen Cordill R2315
 William Cornett W6723
 James Courtney S9265
 William Cowen S2137
 John Cox S8223
 Samuel Crawley R13467
 Colby Creed S32194

 Anthony Crockett S10492
 Joseph Crockett S46377
 Abner Crump R13459
 Charles Dabney R13624
 Valentine Thomas Dalton W3610
 Henry Daring R2898
 William Deaver S12754
 Charles De Kay R34
 Daniel Diall S41506
 Alexander Dick R13751
 Samuel Dickason W285
 Dudley Digges, Sr. S8328
 Edward Diggs R13760
 Franz Dido W7017
 Robert Dobson R36
 Nathaniel Doty R3032
 James Dougherty R13659
 Sewell Edinburg R13947
 Benjamin Edmondson R13953
 Ephraim Elder W7471

 George Elliott R38

 Andrew Evans S3341
 Jesse Evans S15826

 Charles Ewell W9432
 Thomas Ewell R14052
 Benjamin Field W3009
 Theophilus Field R60
 Charles Fierer R22811
 John Fleet R14208

Pension File (M910)

Foushee, William *
Fox, Joseph
Galt, John Minson *
Garberick, John
George, Jesse **
George, Robert *
Gibbs, Churchill *
Gibbs, Harod
Gibson, John **
Glenn, Bernard *
Godwin, Joseph **
Goffaghan, Laban **
Goosely, George **
Graves, William *
Graves, William **
Gray, James **
Green, Samuel Ball
Grier, Charles *
Griffin, Corbin **
Gunsaulis, James *
Hall, Robert **
Hamestreet, Isaac
Hamilton, Thomas *
Hardyman, John *
Hardyman, John **
Harris, John **
Harrison, Richard *
Hay, Joseph *
Hayes, Thomas *
Healy, Samuel **
Henry, Joseph
Herbert, Pascow **
Hinton, Lewis **
Howland, Abraham
Humphlett, Thomas **
Humphrey, Merrit
Ingraham, Jonathan
Jackson, Samuel
James, Michael **
Jennings, John **
Jennings, William *
Johnston, Gideon *
Johnston, William **
Jones, Charles **
Jones, David
Jones, Elias
Kautzman, John V. **
Keller, Abraham *
Kelly, Thady *
Kemp, James *
Kennedy, James *

Related Pension File (M804)

William Foushee R14223
Joseph Fox W7292
John Minson Galt R14353

Jesse George R51
Robert George R14396
Churchill Gibbs S46002
Harod Gibbs W17947
John Gibson R52
Bernard Glenn R14477
Joseph Godwin R53
Laban Goffigan R54
George Goosely R55
William Graves R14570
William Graves (n.n.)

Samuel B. Green S14649
Charles Grier R14616
Corbin Griffin R56
James Gunsaulis S16397
Robert Hall R40
Isaac Hamestreet W17058
Thomas Hamilton R14776
John Hardyman R14719
John Hardyman R14719
John Harris R41
Richard Harrison R14762
Joseph Hay R14714
Thomas Hayes W20375
Samuel Healey R42
Joseph Henry W10096
Pasco Herbert R43
Lewis Hinton S10831
Abraham Howland S28767
Thomas Humphlett R45
Merrit Humphrey W5303
Jonathan Ingraham S30505
Samuel Jackson W945
Michael James R47
John Jennings R48
William Jennings R15422
Gideon Johnston S38089
William E. Johnson R49
Charles Jones R50
David Jones S17517
Elias Jones W1040
John Valentine Kautzman R59
Abraham Keller R15580
Thady Kelly R15579
James Kemp R15581
James Kennedy R15594

Pension File (M910)

Related Pension File (M804)

Knight

Land, Lewis	Lewis Land W26200
Landrum, Thomas **	Thomas Landrum R61
Laughlin, James	
Lipscomb, Yancy *	
Litchfield, Caleb	Caleb Litchfield S13751
Livingston, Justice **	Justice Livingston R64
Ludington, Daniel	Daniel Ludington W27444
Lyon, John **	John Lyon R66
Madden, William	William Madden W9902
Malcom, James **	James Malcom R68
Mallory, John	John Mallory W3436
Markham, James **	James Markham R72
Marshall, Humphrey *	Humphrey Marshall S31234
Marshall, James M. *	James M. Marshall S7173
Marshall, Jenifer **	Jenepher Marshall R70
Marshall, Joseph **	Joseph Marshall R69
Marshall, Thomas *	Thomas Marshall R16057
Marston, John *	John Marston R16031
Martin, William	William Martin S9396
Massenburg, Alexander **	Alexander Massenburg R16060
Maxwell, James **	James Maxwell R73
Mays, Benjamin	Benjamin Mays R7054
Mazarett, John *	John Mazarett R16059
McClurg, James *	
McClurg, Walter **	Walter Maclurg R66117
McGavock, Hugh *	Hugh McGavock S16948
McNickle, John **	John McNickle R74
Minor, Thomas *	Thomas Minor W5374
Montgomery, James *	James Montgomery R16521
Moore, Asa	Asa Moore W3030
Moore, John **	John Moore R78
Moore, Peter *	Peter Moore W25716
Muzzy, Robert	Robert Muzzy S43057
Nash, William	William Nash S4597
Neighbors, Nathan	Nathan Nabors S35534
Nelson, John *	John Nelson W5414
Newton, John	John Newton W9589
Nicholson, Henry W. *	Henry W. Nicholson R16768
Nicolson, Robert *	Robert Nicholson W5422
Orton, Darius	Darius Orton S14055
Palmer, John	John Palmer S8928
Parker, Richard **	Richard Parker R81
Parker, William H. **	William H. Parker R82
Partridge, Asa	Asa Partridge W16053
Pasteur, John **	John Pasteur R83
Peyton, John *	John Peyton, BLWt 1641-300
Piper, John *	John Piper R17110
Polk, Joab	Joab Polk S36236
Pope, Matthew *	Matthew Pope R17152

Pension File (M910)

Quarles, Henry *
Quarles, James *
Quarles, Wharton *
Quirk, Thomas *
Ravenscroft, Thomas *
Rey, Andrea *
Reynolds, John **
Reynolds, William *
Ridgeway, Isaac
Riely or Riley, John *
Roberts, John *
Roberts, William *
Robertson, Zachariah
Robinson, Charles
Robinson, John
Roe, William **
Rogers, John **
Rogers, John *
Ross, Lemuel
Rucker, Angus *
Runnals, Jesse
Rusk, James
Russell, Charles *
Russey, James
Sacrey, James
Sales, Charles
Saunders, Joseph **
Saunders, William **
Schoolcraft, Lawrence
Selden, Wilson Cary *
Severance, Samuel
Shaffer, John
Shea, Patrick
Simpson, Hancock **
Skinner, William **
Slaughter, James *
Slaughter, William *
Smith, Granville *
Southworth, William
Speake, Joseph **
Spencer, William *
Steele, William **
Stone, Rowland
Story, Daniel
Straley, Andrew
Swope, John **
Tabb, Augustin *
Taylor, Richard **
Thomas, Mark *
Thompson, Sherod

Related Pension File (M804)

Henry Quarles R17253
James Quarles R17254
Wharton Quarles R17252
Thomas Quirk W5958
Thomas Ravenscroft S1248
Andrea Rey R17309
John Reynolds R85
William Reynolds R17380
Isaac Ridgeway S23874
John Riely S31331
John Roberts R17483
William Roberts R17484
Zachariah Robertson S35632
Charles Robinson W9267
John Robison W24798
William Roe R87
John Rogers R88
John Rogers (n.n.)
Lemuel Ross S33577
Angus Rucker S19068
Jesse Runnals W4580
James Rusk S40369
Charles Russell R17603
James Russey W1697
James Sacrey S35643

Joseph Saunders S17073
William Saunders R89
Lawrence Schoolcraft S42260
Wilson Cary Selden S4815
Samuel Severance W3118
John Shaffer S3899

William Skinner R92
James Slaughter S31370
William Slaughter R17891
Granville Smith R17957
William Southworth S40479
Joseph Speake R95
William Spencer R18076
William Steele R96
Rowland Stone S1257
Daniel Story R10233
Andrew Straley S38406
John Swope R98
Augustin Tabb R18331
Richard Taylor S25873
Mark Thomas R18446
Sherod Thompson S32012

Pension File (M910)

Tinsley, Samuel *
Travis, Edward **
Triplett, George *
Tupman, John **
Turbyfill, John
Turnbull, Stephen *
Upshaw, Thomas *
Valentine, Edward *
Valentine, Josiah *
Vawter, William *
Vowles, Charles *
Vowles, Henry *
Walls, George *
Ward, Elnathan
Watlington, John *
Welch, Nathaniel *
Westcott, Wright **
Wheaton, Reuben
White, Thomas *
White, William S. **
Wilkerson, William
Wilkinson, Ichabod
Wilkinson, Reuben
Williams, John *
Williams, John *
Williams, Lew
Wilson, Thomas *
Wilson, Willis **
Withers, James *
Woneycott, Edward **
Woodson, Frederick *
Worthington, Edward *
Wray, Henry
Yeates, John *

Related Pension File (M804)

Samuel Tinsley S6243
Edward Travis R103
George Triplett W607
John Tupman R104
John Turbyfill S7770
Stephen Turnbull R18602
Thomas Upshaw R18623
Edward Valentine R18626
Josiah Valentine R18628
William Vawter R10921
Charles Vowles R18701
Henry Vowles R18700
George Walls R18785

John Watlington W4097
Nathaniel Welch R18894
Wright Westcott R106
Reuben Wheaton S24010

William S. White R107
William Wilkerson S32602

Reuben Wilkinson S44214
John Williams W6511
John Williams R19105
Lew Williams W1344
Thomas Wilson W9007
Willis Wilson R109
James Withers W4399
Edward Woneycutt R110
Frederick Woodson R19214
Edward Worthington R19205
Henry Wray W6380
John Yeates S7988

CONTENTS

Roll

Pensions Relating to Soldiers

1	Adams - Berry
2	Bishop - Browning
3	Calvitt - Crump
4	Dabney - Doty
5	Edinburgh - Fox
6	Galt - Gunsaulis
7	Hamestreet - Jones
8	Keller - Ludington
9	Madden - Muzzy
10	Nash - Quirk
11	Ravenscroft - Russey
12	Sacrey - Straley
13	Tabb - Vowles
14	Walls - Yeates

Pensions Relating to Sailors

15	Applewhaite - Crew
16	De Kay - Humphlett
17	James - Pasteur
18	Reynolds - Woneycott