

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Bounty Land Warrant file relating to George Rodgers (Rodgers) VAS2143

VAS13

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/10/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

13 page file

[Index card]

Rodgers, George Captain Navy
Cert. Jas. E. Heath, Auditor
Affidavit Jeremiah Cain
" (2) Elizabeth Martin
" (#) Sarah Ingram
List of officers of Brig. Liberty
Letter from the Heirs
Unsigned memo 1833

[p 1: Appears to be a receipt signed by Jas. E. Heath, Aud. and dated April 13, 1833, but the contents are illegible as posted.]

[p 2: totally illegible image of the affidavit given by Jeremiah Cain who signed the affidavit with his mark.]

[p 3: largely illegible affidavit given by Elizabeth Martin. The partially illegible language reads as follows:

".... The said Captain Rodgers continued in active command for several years during the war aforesaid and was finally taken a prisoner by the British – taken to New York and died in prison. The closest intimacy always subsisted between the family of the said Rodgers [sic] and that of this affiant and at the time of his capture and death this affiant was engaged to be married to the said Rodgers – Lieutenant Archer [John Archer]¹ was confined with the said Rodgers as his fellow prisoner and after the said Archer's liberation and returned to Virginia he related to her an account of the death of the said George Rodgers."

S/ Elizth Martin



[In the acknowledgment, the affiant is said to be a respectable and ancient resident of the

¹ [John Archer W5348](#)

Borough of Norfolk well known to the attesting notary.]

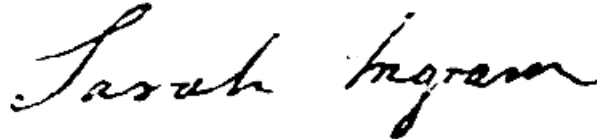
[p 4: Affidavit dated March 9th, 1833 signed by Miles King, Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk attesting that Mrs. Elizabeth Martin is among the oldest residents of Norfolk and that the affiant can safely say that the most implicit reliance may be placed on any statement she may make.]

[p 5]

Virginia Borough of Norfolk: SS

Before me Tazewill Taylor a Notary Public of the Borough aforesaid duly commissioned and qualified personally appears Sarah Ingram aged seventy-two years and upwards who being duly sworn saith That she well recollects Captain George Rodgers of the State Navy of Virginia. He commanded the Brig *Liberty* as the affiant then understood. The said George Rodgers [indecipherable word] frequently the [indecipherably faint word] of this affiant now Mrs. Elizabeth Martin. Some years afterwards during the war, the said Captain Rodgers was taken by the British whilst in active Command and died in confinement in one of the prisons in New York as the affiant was then informed and believes. The account of his death was confirmed by Lieutenant John Archer who was a prisoner with him and with whom this affiant was well acquainted.

S/ Sarah Ingram



[p 6: Affidavit dated March 9th, 1833 signed by Miles King, Mayor of the Borough of Norfolk attesting that Mrs. Elizabeth Martin is among the oldest residents of Norfolk and that the affiant can safely say that the most implicit reliance may be placed on any statement she may make.]

[p 7]

Hs. [Heirs] George Rodgers

Capt. S. N. [State Navy] 3 years

Cft. [Certificate] Is'd [issued]

15 April 1833

S/ JBR

Frank Vincent Esquire

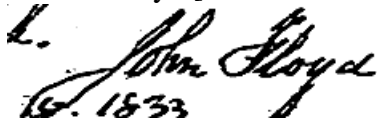
Attorney at Law

Norfolk, VA

April 15, 1833

Submitted to the Council of State & advice required

S/ John Floyd [Governor of the state of Virginia]



April 15, 1833

Allowed

S/ J. F.

[pp 8-9]

Philadelphia November 12, 1832

Frederick Vincent Esquire

Sir,

We take the liberty of applying to you, through the kind advice of a professional Gentlemen of this City, to pursue the necessary steps in recovering for us, as the Surviving Heirs at law, of our grand Uncle George Rodgers, deceased, formerly a Captain in the State Navy of Virginia, the Bounty Land to which he was entitled, for his Services in the revolutionary War, for which we understand some provision has been made by Congress.

The services of our Uncle are only known to us as a Subject of family tradition, and we have always understood he was respected as a gallant, meritorious Officer, and died a prisoner to the British. A distant relation of ours whom we believe is living, a Mrs. Brough of Hampton or Norfolk & Dr. Caml [?] Caulson or perhaps some of the old folks there at Hampton or at Norfolk may give you necessary information of our Uncle's Services and in a train [?] for investigating and recovering the claim. – We leave the matter in confidence to your judgment, and we engage to give you a reasonable reward for all trouble in the business. [Indecipherable word or words] the pleasure of hearing from you, we subscribed ourselves

Yr. obt. Servants

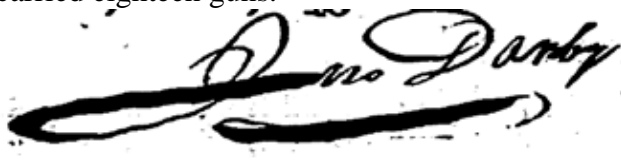
S/ Thomas McCowan

S/ Elizabeth D Mccowan formerly Rogers

S/ John Rogers



[p 12: Is an affidavit given by John Darby which appears to authenticate the list of the officers and crew of the Brig *Liberty* as being in the handwriting of Captain Thomas Lilly; that the Brig carried eighteen guns.



[p 13]

The Account of officers & Seamen belonging to the Brig *Liberty*² from the 18th May until 30

² *Liberty*.

Coggins:102, ND4:672, ND5:1298, ND6:245, 728, 1227, 1409, ND7:994, brig in VA Navy, 1776, Capt George Goosley, and Capt Thomas Lilly, brig remained in commission until 1787. ND9:210, ND10:728, 917, in 1777 Capt Thomas Herbert. VANavy:154, it captured British ship *Jane*, armed vessel *Ida and Ann*, ship *Portland*, and vessel from Ireland *Liberty*. Coggins:100, VANavy:163, ND7:850, 1053, sloop in VA Navy, 1776-77, Capts Walter Brooke and William Ivey. It captured the British vessels, *Lark*, *Oliver*, *Susannah*, and the sloop *Speedwell*. The *Liberty* was re-rigged as the schooner *Hornet*. C34.Silverstone:20.Coggins:102

<http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20L.html>

