

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to William Cornelius VAS3149
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

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I do Certify that William Cornelius Entered with me In the State Navy the 24th of July 1776 as an Able Seaman for the term of three years & in June of 1778 Was appointed Gunner & acted in that Station till the 24th of July 1779 at which time he was discharged

Given under my hand this 6th of October 1783.

A Copy – J. Pendleton Jr

James Markham [R72 and VAS488; see endnote]

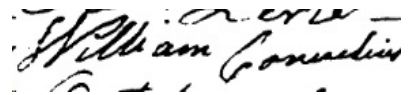
Sir please to grant a Certificate for what land I may be Intitled unto Joseph Sanders, as It Is not In my power to Come and Settle I hope you will Oblige Your Obt Serv't.

Witness

William Cornelius

John Watts

October 16 1783



[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Council Chamber/ Nov'r 28th 1783

I do certify that William Cornelius is entitled to the proportion of Land allowed a Gunner of the State Navy who has served three years.

Thomas Meriwether

[Gov. Benjamin Harrison

A warrant for 200 ac's issued to s'd Cornelius Feby 9th 1784 [several undeciphered words]/ 26 Feb 1835

To the Governor of Virginia

The petition of the heirs of William Cornelious respectfully states, that he was a gunner in the Virginia navy more than three years in the revolution, and on the 28th of november 1783 was allowed by the Executive, the land bounty due a gunner for three years service.

The evidence on file is conclusive that the allowance was correctly made, yet through an error of the register, he received a warrant for one 200 acres, instead of 2666²/₃ acres of land, which was the quantity drawn by almost every other Gunner, who drew at all.

The Register is fully sensible of the right of the petitioners to the remaining 2466²/₃, but after so great a lapse of time, declines to act without the direction of the Executive

Your petitioners pray that an order may be issued, directing the register to issue a warrant to them for what they are so manifestly entitled to; which is respectfully submitted.

Feby 1833

Thomas Green

for the Petitioners

This claim was passed on by a [undeciphered word] better situated than the [undeciphered word] for coming at the truth. [undeciphered word] Cornelius was [undeciphered word] who is to be presumed to have acquiesced in the decision then made. Besides the Executive is only [undeciphered word] to pass on the validity of claims. The said bounty is a judicial question which may be inquired into by the courts.

Rejected [undeciphered]

Feby 26 1833

Submitted to the Council of State & advice required/ [Gov.] John Floyd

1833 May 22 Rejected