

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements](#)

Pension Application of Robert Harding, widow Elizabeth Harding, Va. W7679  
(transcribed by Travis Hardin, th@intelec.us)

[Cover sheet]

Virginia 2963

Elizabeth Harding, widow of Robert Harding, dec'd, who died on the —1830— of Lunenburg in the State of Virginia, who was a Private in the Co. commanded by Captain Walker in the Va. Militia line for 6 months. Inscribed on the Roll of Richmond at the rate of 20 Dollars per annum, to commence on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1834.

Certificate of Pension issued the 2d day of Augt 1839, Adjut to W. J. B. Beckford, Charlotte, Va. Arrears to the 4<sup>th</sup> of Mar 1839 \$160.00. Allowance ending 4 Sept '39 \$10.00. Total \$170.00. Revolutionary Claim, Act July 4, 1836, Section the 3d. Dan. Curdy, Clerk. Vol 2, Page 157.

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the third section of the Act of Congress passed July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836.

State of Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1839, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid Elizabeth Harding a resident of said County and State, aged 86 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following Declarations, 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 Robert Harding, deceased, late of Lunenburg County, State of Virginia, who was a Private in the Militia service of Virginia, in the War of the Revolution. She declares that she has no personal knowledge of the services of her late husband in the Revolutionary War, not being in the service with him, but at home providing for the infant children which he left behind him, and in her case, during his absence in the defence of his country – That she was married to him, before the commencement of the War, and that she had four children to take care of in his absence. That she has repeatedly heard him speak of his services, and give an account of the battles in which he was engaged, and the many hardships and privations he suffered during his service. That he was in actual service a considerable length of time, at the battle of Guilford and many other battles not recollected. That from bodily infirmity, old age, and the consequent loss of memory, she cannot call to recollection the particulars of his service, officers under whom he served, and the Regiment to which he belonged, and therefore, refers to the Public Records of the Army, and the accompanying certificates of old and reputable soldiers who served with him, for more particular information. She farther declares that for the same reason she cannot state precisely how long he was in actual service altogether, although he served many tours of duty, but would suppose from the accompanying certificates that he served in the whole six months, for which length of time she claims a pension. In support of her claim, she refers to Army Records of the period, and the accompanying certificates; all of which, she says may be considered part of her Declaration.

She further declares that she was married to the said Robert Harding by old Parson Craig of the Episcopal Church in the County of Lunenburg, by the publication of banns, according to the rites and ceremonies of that church, and the laws of Virginia, in the fall of the year

1774, the particular day and month not recollected, the family Register being long since destroyed. That the said Parson Craig who married her is dead, and that she understands the Vestry Books in which Marriages were recorded have long since been misplaced or destroyed. That the marriage took place before the last period of her husbands service expired, and that she has never since married, but still continues to remain the widow of said Robert Harding, deceased.

That her husband the aforesaid Robert Harding died on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1830 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. That she had by her said husband Fourteen children many of whom were soldiers in the late war. She has no documentary evidence.

Her  
Elizabeth X Harding  
Mark

Sworn and subscribed before me this 13<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1839.  
Thos. H. Staples, J.P.

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Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I am well acquainted with Elizabeth Harding the widow of said Robert Harding, and know from personal knowledge, that she is very old, nearly blind, and labouring under many bodily infirmities of such a character that she cannot attend the County Court of Lunenburg in order to make the foregoing declaration. I farther certify that she is a worthy, reputable and credible old lady and that her statement is entitled to full confidence.

Given under my hand this 13th day of February, 1839. Thos. H. Staples, J.P.

Virginia, Lunenburg County to wit:

I do hereby certify, as coming within my personal knowledge and recollection, that the said Robert Harding departed this life on the 24th day of February, 1830: That he left at the time of his death his widow Elizabeth Harding, who is still alive, resident in the County of Lunenburg, and that she has never married since the death of said Robert Harding, but still continues to be his Widow.

/s/ William Harding

Sworn to and subscribed before me. I farther certify that he is a credible person, and his statements entitled to full confidence. Given under my hand this 13th day of February, 1839. Thos. H. Staples, J.P.

Virginia, Lunenburg County, to wit:

I Unity Crenshaw, do hereby certify that I was intimately acquainted with Elizabeth Davis of Lunenburg who married Robert Harding of the same county, and recollect very distinctly, that she was married to said Robert Harding in 1774 or 1775, by old Parson Craig of the Episcopal Church, by the publication of banns. Old Parson Craig is dead, and what has become of the Marriage Registers of the Church, I am unable to say. These facts come within my personal knowledge; being a near neighbour and acquaintance of said Robert Harding and his wife.

Unity X Crenshaw  
her mark

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

This day Unity Crenshaw came before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, and made oath that the above certificate subscribed by her contained the truth to the best of here knowledge and recollection. I farther certify that she is a credible lady, and her statement entitled to full confidence. Given under my hand this 8th day of March, 1839. Stephen Pettus, J.P.

Virginia Lunenburg County, to wit:

At a court \_\_\_ for Lunenburg County the 8th day of April 1839 on motion the declaration of Elizabeth Harding of Lunenburg County of Virginia with accompanying documents and evidence for a pension under the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836 was presented in open Court and the whole read and fully explained to the \_\_\_ satisfaction of the Court. Ordered that said declaration with accompanying papers be certified to the war department. Copy Teste. W. H. Taylor.

Virginia Lunenburg County, to wit:

I William H. Taylor Clerk of the County Court of Lunenburg do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy from the records of my office and I farther certify that Stephen Pettus and Thomas H. Staples acting Justice of the peace in and for said County and that the signatures hereto annexed purporting to be theirs are genuine. Given under my hand and seal of office hereto annexed this 8th day of April 1839. Wm. H. Taylor

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Revy. Widow, &c.

File No. 7679, Elizth. Harding, Wid. Robert Harding

Per. Va. line

Act: July 4th/36, Sec. 3d

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Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I was acquainted with Robert Harding late of Lunenburg in the War of the Revolution, and know the fact, being there at the time, that he was at the battle of Guilford. How long he was drafted I do not recollect, but think he was drafted for three months, and served that time faithfully. I am also well acquainted with his wife Elizabeth Harding, and know the fact that she is still alive, and has remained his widow ever since his death, and that they were married long before the Revolutionary War. I am in the 77th year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolution.

Peter Hudson<sup>1</sup> X his mark

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

This day Peter Hudson of Lunenburg County before me a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, and made oath that the above certificate subscribed by him in my presence, contained the truth to the best of his knowledge and recollection. I farther certify, that he is a credible person, and his statements entitled to full confidence. Given under my hand this 13th day of February, 1839. Thos. H. Staples, J.P.

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Virginia Lunenburg County (to wit)

I William H Taylor Clerk of the court of Lunenburg County, certify that Thomas H. Staples is a magistrate as within states, and that the original \_\_\_ purporting to be his is genuine.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my seal of office; and subscribed my name.

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<sup>1</sup> [Peter Hudson S5596](#)

This 8th day of April 1839.  
Wm. H. Taylor Clerk of the County Court of Lunenburg

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Note [in original]: See letters of Wm H. Taylor cty Clerk of Lunenburg County in regard to marriage registers of Robert Harding, filed in the Pension papers of Mary Woody, in the Pension Office -- Letter dated 8th January, 1839.

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Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:  
I Seth Farley of Charlotte, do hereby certify that I was intimately acquainted with Robert Harding late of Lunenburg County, in the War of the Revolution, and recollect distinctly being with him at the time that in 1781 he was drafted in the Militia for the term of three months under Capt Walker from the County of Lunenburg, and marched to North Carolina and was engaged in the battle of Guilford. He served the said term forth fully and was honorably discharged from service. I am in the 81st year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolution.

/s/ Seth Farley

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:  
This day Seth Farley came before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid and made oath that the above certificate subscribed by him contained the truth to the best of his knowledge and recollection. I farther certify that he is a credible person, and his statement entitled to full confidence. Given under my hand this 4th day of February, 1839. John D. Richardson J.P.

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:  
I Ambrose Haley<sup>2</sup> of Charlotte, do hereby certify that I was intimately acquainted with Robert Harding late of Lunenburg in the War of the Revolution and recollect that he was drafted in the year 1780 in the Militia from Lunenburg under Capt Walker for the term of three months and marched to North Carolina and was at "Gates defeat" near Camden. He served the said term faithfully, and was honorably discharged. I farther certify that the said Robert Harding was drafted again in 1781, for the term of three months in the Militia from the same county under Capt Walker and marched to North Carolina and was engaged in the battle of Guilford which term he served faithfully being with him the whole service named above. I am in the 80th year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolution.

/s/ Ambrose Haley

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:  
This day Ambrose Haley came before me a Justice of the peace in the county and state aforesaid, and made oath that the above certificate subscribed by him, contained the truth to the best of his knowledge and recollection. I farther certify that he is a credible person, and his statements entitled to full confidence. Sworn under my hand this 5th day of February, 1839. Giles Harris J.P.

Virginia Charlotte County to wit  
I William A. Smith deputy clerk of the county of Charlotte aforesaid do certify that Giles Harris and John D. Richardson are acting justices of the peace, in and for the said County, and that the signatures annexed purporting to be theirs are genuine. Given under my hand

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<sup>2</sup> [Ambrose Haley S8689](#)

and the seal of the office of the County aforesaid this 3rd day of April 1839.

William A. Smith, D.C.

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

I John Crafton of Lunenburg, do hereby certify that I was acquainted with Elizabeth Davis who married Robert Harding of Lunenburg, and recollect that she was married some time before the commencement of the Revolutionary war; the particular month and year not now recollected. I farther certify, that said Robert Harding in 1781, marched as a soldier under Capt Walker to North Carolina, and was at the battle of Guilford. I was not in service with him, but was present at the time he marched from Lunenburg. I was raised in Lunenburg County, and have been acquainted with said Robert Harding and wife from my infancy -- And as such, the above facts come within my knowledge. They were married by publication of banns -- by parson Craig.

/s/ John Crofton

Virginia: Lunenburg County to wit:

This day John Crofton came before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, and made oath that the above certificate subscribed by him, contained the truth to the best of his knowledge and recollection. I farther certify that he is a credible person, and his statements entitled to full confidence. Given under my hand this 8th day of March, 1839. Stephen Pettus JP

Virginia Lunenburg County (to wit)

William H. Taylor clerk of the Court of Lunenburg County certify that Stephen Pettus is a Magistrate as stated within, and that the signature \_\_\_ purporting to be his is genuine: In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my name this 8 day of April 1839. Wm. H. Taylor, clerk of the county court of Lunenburg

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[The following text was written across other script located just after the swearing of Unity Crenshaw]

2963 4527

Declaration of "Elizabeth Harding" for a Pension under Act July 4th, 1836

Married 1774

Died 1830

[4 lines illegible]

Wm. J.B. Beckford

Charlotte Cty, Va

[end]