

A Guide to the Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts - Half Pay Claims for the Revolutionary War, 1783-1851

Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts - Half Pay Claims for the Revolutionary War, 1783-1851
1783-1851

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History

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A Guide to the Virginia Auditor of Public Accounts - Half Pay Claims for the Revolutionary War, 1783-1851

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Descriptive Summary

Accession Number

APA 203

Language

English

Creator

Virginia. Auditor of Public Accounts (1776-1928)

Extent

.90 cu. ft. (2 boxes)

Repository

The Library of Virginia

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Acquisition Information

Transferred from the Auditor of Public Accounts in 1913.

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Biographical Information

During its session begun in May 1779 the General Assembly granted half pay for life to officers who served to the end of the revolutionary war, or who, if their unit was reorganized, were thereby rendered supernumerary officers subject to recall. In 1780 the General Assembly granted half pay for seven years to the widows and orphans of officers. Virginia defaulted on its half pay claims, however, and by an act of Congress passed 5 July 1832 the United States government assumed these obligations.

Scope and Content

Records, 1783-1851, including accounts, claims, correspondence, and reports relating to half pay granted to Virginia officers who served in the Revolutionary War. The claims contain copies of court records that often include the name of heirs and the service record of the soldier. Some claims also include copies of wills, powers of attorney, bonds, judgements, and statements proving the claims. The claims are a good source of genealogical information and are listed alphabetically. The correspondence, 1831-1833, are another good source of information as they often relate to specific claims by soldiers. The correspondence is mainly between Louis McLane, U.S. Secretary of the Treasury, and James E. Heath, Auditor of Virginia, regarding claims and providing background of various claims. Also included are reports, 1832-1851, listing names of soldiers whose claims were settled or paid out.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged alphabetically by folder title.

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