

Henry Parrett of Shenandoah County, Virginia Soldier in the American Revolution



*The Surrender of the British General Cornwallis
after the Siege of Yorktown, Virginia in 1781;
painted by John Trumbull in 1820, PD*

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The story that Henry Parrett of Shenandoah County, Virginia served in the American Revolution has been passed down through generations of his descendants. However, finding documents to back up the story has been difficult. In *A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia*, written in 1927, the author John Wayland recalled his mother saying that she had attended a couple of the funerals of old men who had fought in the War of Independence; she had distinct memories of the honor guard and their gun salutes to these Revolutionary War veterans. Wayland had found a tombstone in an old graveyard with the statement, “He was a Soldier in the Revolution of 1776.” Wayland decried the fact that there was little written about those who served. He observed, “These bits of fact and incident are typical of our knowledge of that stirring period. A little here and a little there is recorded or remembered, but most of the thrilling details of that momentous time are lost beyond recall.” (Wayland, 194)

So it is with Henry Parrett. The fact that he was a soldier in the war has been mentioned in family letters and family histories. His name was recorded on a few lists that have found their way into books and archives, but no official record, no details of his service have survived. What has been gathered in support of the belief that he was in the American Revolution is presented here. Note that Henry’s name was spelled variously as Parrett, Parrott, and Paret in the various records and notations.

Henry Paret, along with John Paret, is listed with the *Virginia Militia in the Muster and Payrolls of the American Revolution* on page 645. Downloaded from Ancestry.com on November 19, 2014.

Henry Parrott also appears in the *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* on page 606. Downloaded from Ancestry.com on November 19, 2014.

In his book published in 1927, the author John Wayland wrote, "In a manuscript volume called the 'Romney and Winchester Pay Roll,' pages 29 and 30, is a list of the men in Captain John Tipton's company who were in the service early in the Revolution. John Tipton was a very prominent citizen of Shenandoah County; and it is possible that most of his men were from the same county. The author is indebted to the manuscript collections of Hon. Bontwell Dunlap of San Francisco for a copy of Captain John Tipton's Roll." Included in this list of 50 men is Henry Parrott, as well as George and Samuel Parrott. The men were paid on October 25, 1775 for terms of services from 22-158 days. (Source: Wayland, John Walter. *A History of Shenandoah Co, Virginia*. Strasburg, VA: Shenandoah Pub. House, 1927. 194-96.)

In a letter Ella Cottingham of Noblesville, Indiana wrote to Laura Hoover in Gibson City, IL on April 22, 1913, she writes, "Grandma often told me her grandfather [Henry] Parrot was in the Revolutionary War under George Washington -- her mother's father. That would be our great, great, great [grand]father wouldn't it?" (Source: A copy of the letter is in the possession of Susan McNelley). Henry Parrett was a G-G-G grandfather of Laura Ellen Hoover.

The following excerpt on a descendant of Frederick Jr. who moved to Ross County, OH provides information on Frederick, the immigrant ancestor. "The American ancestor of [George C. Parrett] was a native of Switzerland. From the best available information it is found he came to America in 1730 locating in Virginia, where he spent the rest of his life. Five of his sons were soldiers in the Revolutionary War. " (Evans, Lyle D. *A Standard History of Ross Co, Ohio*. Vol. II, Chicago: Lewis Pub Co, 1917, Digitized by Google. p 819.)

In her book on the descendants of Frederick Parrett, Dawn writes, " Frederick's seven sons were among those who heeded [the call to revolution]. It appears that Henry, Jacob, George, and Joseph, whose ages ranged from thirty-four to sixteen, enlisted in Muhlenberg's Eighth Regiment at the Suffolk County Courthouse in the spring of 1776 when the bulk of the troops were organized. . . . Eldest son, thirty-seven-year old John, signed on in 1777. John served with Virginia's Sixteenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel William Grayson. Samuel was drafted in 1781. . . . Frederick Jr., the youngest, enlisted in 1781, at seventeen." Dawn notes that Muhlenberg's Eighth Regiment was known as the German Regiment, assembled to comply with an ordinance of the Virginia colony in 1775 calling for the creation of a German regiment to be made up of German officers and soldiers. (Thurston, Dawn Parrett. *The Parrett Migration: Their Story is America's Story*. Memoir Mentor Books, 2014) Unfortunately, Henry's name does not appear in the U.S. Revolutionary War Rolls for Muhlenberg's Eighth Regiment (accessed at Ancestry.com in November 2014), although his brothers Joseph, Jacob, and George do.

As of this writing, we must be content with less than we might hope for in the way of evidence of Henry's Revolutionary War Service.

(Lineweaver?)	Henry Rooper, Va. Troops
Christian Miller, Ser., Va. Mil.	(Rohr?)
David O'Rourke, Ser., Va. Mil.	Robert Russell, Va. Troops
Jacob Roland, Penn. Mil.	Martin Zen, Va. Troops

INVALID PENSIONERS

John Berry, 9th Va. Regt.	Willis Ramsey, 20th U. S. Inf.
Jesse Brown, 2d Regt. U. S. Inf.	John Stansbury, U. S. Inf.
Dennis O'Ferrell, 11th Va. Regt.	William Tipton, Parker's Regt.

THE FOLLOWING WERE DRAWING PENSIONS IN PAGE COUNTY IN 1835 UNDER ACT OF JUNE 7, 1832

Henry Aleshite, Penn. Line	Andrew Keyser, Va. Line
Owen Campbell, Va. Line	Joseph Sampson, Va. Line
Rouben Cave, Va. State Troops	Thomas Tharp, Va. Line ^o
Richard Jenkins, Va. Militia	

In a manuscript volume called the "Romney and Winchester Pay Roll," pages 29 and 30, is a list of the men in Capt. John Tipton's company, who were in service early in the Revolution. John Tipton was a very prominent citizen of Shenandoah County; and it is probable that most of his men were from the same county. The author is indebted to the manuscript collections of Hon. Boutwell Dunlap of San Francisco for a copy of

CAPTAIN JOHN TIPTON'S ROLL

John Tipton, captain	Thomas Cummins
Francis McFall, sergeant	John Harding
William Artrip, sergeant	Cornelius Campbell
Mathias McGlanary, sergeant	Benjamin Johnson
John Broom	Henry Parrott
Joseph Hopkins	Benjamin Bartley
Joseph Denton (deserted)	William Slaughter
Thomas Denton	John Hunt
George Parrot	John Williams
Elijah Osborn	John Piercefull
George Parkerson (deserted)	William Wallace
Samuel Parrot	John Finney
William Mains	Jacob Kirkland (deserted)
Jacob Spangler	Casper McKentirf (deserted)
Lanty Coil	Peter Ammon
George Wayly	Jacob Rouse
Benjamin North	Henry Rouse
Joseph Rogers	Robert Wells

^o From the "German Element of the Shenandoah Valley," by John W. Wayland; pages 230-237.

Source: *A History of Shenandoah County, Virginia* by John Wayland, p. 195

Samuel Terrence
George Cronse
John Paret
Henry Paret
Peter Pope
Tho^s Hart
Simon Vannesdel
Uriah Blew, Sener

WILLIAM MORGAN Cap^t

1 Cap ^t	} present fit for Duty
2 Lieut ^s	
1 Ensign	
3 Sergeants	
3 Corporals	
2 Drums & fifs	
53 private	

65
3 absent

68

Source: *The Virginia Militia in the Musters and Payrolls of the American Revolution*, p. 645

Parrish, John, Pilot, State Navy, nbll.
Parrish, John, 6 CL.
Parrish, John, Brunswick, 84, mpl.
Parrish, Jolley, Goochland per.
Parrish, Mark, Navy, BW.
Parrish, Mathew, 6 CL.
Parrish, Moses, 5 and 11 CL.
Parrish, Nathaniel, 1 Va. State Reg.
Parrish, Nelson, E.
Parrish, Nicholas (Parrish) 4, 8 and 12 CL.
Parrish, Peter, BW.
Parrish, Sherard, or Sheridan, Goochland Mil., appol. Ensign in Capt. Tolley Parrish's Co. Aug. 18, 1777; oath as Ensign Feb. 16, 1778; oath as 2nd Lieut. July 17, 1780; oath as 1st Lieut. Oct. 21, 1782.
Parrish, Sherwood, Goochland Mil., rec. as 2nd Lieut. in Capt. Humphrey Parrish's Co. May 16, 1780; oath as 2nd Lieut. May 16, 1780.
Parrish, Tolley, Goochland Mil., had been serving as Captain in 1777; rec. as Major Dec. 21, 1778; oath as Colonel May 16, 1780, and it was rec. that his rank as Major be filled by John Curd, Jr.
Parrish, Waddil, Taylor's Va. Reg.
Parrish, Waddle, E.
Parrish, William, 1 CL, 1 and 10 CL, 9 CL.
Parrish, William, Sgt., 2 CL, 6 CL.
Parrish, William, Navy, BW.
Parrish, John, 5 and 11 CL, 6 CL, 11 and 15 CL, 15 CL.
Parrison, Molliston (Parrijen) 7 CL.
Parross, John (Pariss) 5 and 11 CL.
Parrot, John, 5 and 9 CL.
Parrot, Joseph, awarded 2,666 acres as a Lieut.
Parrot, Samuel, 77, Perry Co., O., mpl.
Parrott, Dennis, Shenandoah Mil., oath as Ensign July 29, 1779.
Parrott, Elijah, Halifax Mil., E.
Parrott, George, 2 Va. State Reg., 3 CL, 8 CL as Sgt. Rom.
Parrott, George, clothing in 1780.
Parrott, Henry, Rom.
Parrott, Jacob, Ensign 8 CL Mch. 4, 1776; 2nd Lieut. Mch. 1, 1777; dismissed May 9, 1777.
Parrott, James, Pvt., WD.
Parrott, John (Paret, Poret) Gist's Reg.; deserted Aug. 12, 1779.
Parrott, Joseph, Shenandoah Mil., oath as Ensign July 29, 1779; oath as Lieut. Jan. 25, 1781.
Parrott, Joseph, Sgt., 8 CL.
Parrott, Lewis, Halifax, 79, mpl.
Parrott, Ludford, Halifax Mil., E.
Parrott, Samuel, Rom.
Parrott, William, 2 Va. State Reg.
Parrow, Daniel, Ensign, Bedford Mil., oath Aug. 28, 1780.
Parry, Hildebert, a soldier from Middlesex.
Parry, John, a soldier from Middlesex, son of Joyce Parry.
Parry, Moses (Perry) Sgt., 6 CL.
Parry, William (Perry) Drummer, 3 and 4 CL.
Parsal, Jacob (Pearsal) Capt. O'Hara's Ind. Co., also Parsals.
Parsley, Frederick (Pasley) 15 CL.
Parsley, Hezekiah, 6 CL.
Parsley, Joel, 2 Va. State Reg.
Parsley, Joseph (Joel) 2 Va. State Reg.
Parsley, Joshua, 4 CL.
Parson, Thomas, E.
Parson, Charles, Rom.
Parson, George (Parsons) 6 CL.
Parson, Jonathan, E.
Parson, John, Rockbridge, 76, mpl.
Parson, Thomas (Parsons) 7 CL.
Parson, Woodson, Inf., nbll.
Parsons, —, Cadet, 1775-6, E.
Parsons, —, Captain; shown in a return Sept. 27, 1777; of Captain Parsons' Co., Va. Militia.
Parsons, Abijah, 2 Va. State Reg.
Parsons, Baldwin, Rom.
Parsons, Elijah (Abijah) 2 Va. State Reg.
Parsons, George (Parsons) 6 CL, 10 CL, Rom.
Parsons, James, Captain, Rom.
Parsons, James, Fifer, 9 CL, Hampshire per.
Parsons, Jerry, E.
Parsons, John, IP, Rockbridge pens.
Parsons, Joseph, Indian Spy, Jackson Co., 79, mpl.
Parsons, Lewis, E.
Parsons, Samuel, E.
Parsons, Thomas, Captain; army register shows he served for an indefinite period.
Parsons, Thomas, Lieut., BW.
Parsons, Thomas (Carson) 5 CL, * CL, 11 CL, 11 and 15 CL.

Source: *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution*, p. 606