

JOHN COMLY BIOGRAPHY

John Comly was born in Bucks County (Philadelphia), Pennsylvania in 1753. He served in the American Revolution during the period 1780-1783 as a Private, Sixth Class, of Captain Andrew Van Buskirk's Third Company, First Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia.

Since John Comly was a Friend (Quaker) by birth and belief, he accepted no pay for his services, nor did he accept a pension after serving.

John married Hannah Vaughn at Gunpowder, Maryland in 1772. In 1778, John and Hannah moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania. They had fourteen children. Hannah died in 1810 in Washington County, Pennsylvania. John then moved further west in 1811 or 1812 to Smithfield, Ohio, where he married Priscilla Carr in 1813. Historical records indicate that John brought several of his younger children with him to Smithfield. John died on April 28, 1828 in Smithfield, and is buried in the Friends Cemetery in Smithfield.

John Comly came from prominent Quaker leaders. His mother, Mary Comly, was an approved minister in the Society of Friends, and preached throughout the Philadelphia area. His grandfather, Henry Comly, was very active both in civil and religious matters and his name frequently appeared on the records of the Middletown Meeting, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. John's great grandfather, Henry Comly, was born in 1615 in Bedminster, near Bristol, England. After becoming a Quaker, and after his first wife died, Henry married Joan Tyler, and with their son, Henry, came to Pennsylvania with William Penn in 1683.