

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of John Thompson VAS1847

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Transcribed by Will Graves

4/8/15 supp'd 5/12/15

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Richmond City Legislative Papers, page 40

United States of America, District of Virginia, to wit;

State of Virginia City of Richmond to wit

This day John Thompson appeared before me who made Oath that he served two years on the Continental Establishment in the Revolutionary war and from his Reduced Circumstances as well as being totally Blind he needs the assistance of his Country for Support; that he now resides in the City of Richmond to which place he removed in February last, from the County of King William in the State of Virginia, in which he formerly resided. That he has no other documents, except the certificates of Capt. William Campbell of the United States Army hereto annexed to prove his Services.

Sworn to in due form of law, before me the undersigned Judge of the United States for the District of Virginia aforesaid this 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818 in the 42<sup>nd</sup> year of the Independence of the United States

S/ S. [?] G. Tucker

I certify that John Thompson of the County of King William enlisted for the term of three years in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Virginia State Regiment in the Revolutionary war, and served out the said term as a Sergeant

Given under my hand in the City of Richmond, this 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 1815

S/ Wm Campbell, formerly Capt.

in said Army

[Copy]

I certify that John Thompson of King William County was a Sgt. in the 2<sup>nd</sup> V. S. Regt. & that the said Regt. served upwards of 9 months with the Continental Army in the Revolutionary War.

Given under my hand this 4<sup>th</sup> June 1818

S/ William Campbell formerly

Capt. said War

United States of America Eastern District of Virginia, to wit

This day personally appeared before me the undersigned Judge of the United States for the District aforesaid, John Thompson, of the said District, aged sixty-four years, and upwards, whose original application for a pension from the Government of the United States, made before

me the said Judge, and bearing date the 9<sup>th</sup> day of June 1818, is hereunto annexed, which application with an endorsement their own purporting to have been made at the War office, was received in closed & directed to me the said Judge, on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of this present month, & not before, from the post office in the City of Richmond; and the said John Thompson being by me first duly sworn in form of law, deposeth & saith, that in the month of January 1777 he enlisted as a soldier in the Second Virginia State Regiment, commanded by Col. Gregory Smith, and afterwards transferred to the Continental establishment; that he was immediately thereafter made a Sergeant, in the said Regiment; that the said Regiment marched to the northward in the same year under the said Col. Smith, and joined the Continental Army under the command of General Washington, at the Valley Forge in Pennsylvania; that he served in the same Regiment the full term of three years, and was discharged after the return of the said Regiment to Virginia, sometime about the last of the year 1779 or the beginning of the year 1780, that he has lost or mislaid the paper containing his said discharge, and therefore cannot produce it; but refers to the Certificates respecting the same annexed to his former application for a pension he further saith that his circumstances are ugly reduced; that he has no property at all more than a Bed; that he is totally blind, and has been so, for nearly two years, & therefore utterly incapable of supporting himself, and for these reasons he needs, and asks the assistance of his Country, according to the provisions of the Act of Congress.

At the same time personally appeared before me the said Judge, James Whitlock of the County of King William in the State of Virginia, and District aforesaid, Farmer, who being by me likewise duly sworn, deposeth & saith, that he hath known the applicant John Thompson here present, several years; that he had opportunity of being acquainted with his Circumstances & is acquainted with them; that he is totally without property, except his Bed, and hath no means whatsoever of obtaining a subsistence as far as this deponent knows, or believes, & further he saith not.

And at the same time likewise personally appeared before me the said Judge Yancey Thompson, of the County of Hanover, in the State and District aforesaid Coachmaker, who being by me likewise duly sworn, deposeth & saith, That he is a Son of the Applicant John Thompson, and of the age of twenty-four years, and is marriage; that he is well acquainted with his father the said John Thompson's Circumstances; that he is wholly without property, except a Bed; and that as far as this deponent knows, & believes has no means whatsoever of his own for obtaining a subsistence, or support; that he depends entirely upon the Assistance, which his Children, all in narrow Circumstances are able to afford him; he further saith, that he has no Interest (except those feelings which nature may be supposed to have given him, as a) in the Success of the Applicant for a Pension, and further he saith not.

And I the said Judge do further certify, that from my own inspection, and observation of the said John Thompson's eyes, I am fully satisfied that he is totally blind.

Given under my hand & seal near Richmond in the district aforesaid this 13<sup>th</sup> day of July 1819 in the 44<sup>th</sup> year of the Independence of the United States of America

S/ S [?] G. Tucker

The applicant respectfully solicits an answer directed to him at Hanover town, State of Virginia.

Both Col. Smith & Capt. Campbell were State and not Continental Officers, therefore, this case is Rejected

War Department  
Pension Office  
Aug 29, 1819

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[Note: This file contains another copy of the certificate dated June 11, 1815 given by William Campbell as transcribed above. In addition, it contains at the bottom thereof the following notation:

"A Military Land bounty warrant issued to John Thompson a Sergeant Continental line 3 years, certificate dated February 8<sup>th</sup> 1784"

A Military Land bounty warrant issued to John Thompson private State line 3 years. Certificate dated March 23, 1784

A Military Land bounty warrant issued to John Thompson Corporal Continental line for the war. Certificate dated June 12, 1786

A Military land bounty warrant issued to John Thompson private Continental line 3 years. Certificate dated April 18, 1808

No other warrants found for services of any person of the name of John Thompson.  
24 January 1817

S/ Wm [indecipherable] Reg. Land Office"

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[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[Note: This file contains 32 pages of partial images of documents. Not a single image can be paired with any other part to make a complete image. Consequently, the contents of this file cannot be transcribed as currently posted online. According to the summary sheet filed in the pension index, this file contains reference to the veteran being from King William County, that he has a son named Yanc(e)y; and a son-in-law named John Thomas. If anyone has a complete transcript of the contents of this file, please consider contributing it to us for inclusion in this database.]