

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Spratt VAS1885

7

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/17/15

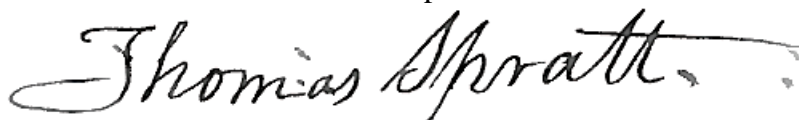
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Norfolk County Legislative Petitions

To the General Assembly of Virginia

Your petitioner Thomas Spratt residing at Deep Creek in the County of Norfolk represents unto your honorable body, that he is one of the remaining few who bore arms in the establishment of American Independence; That he is very poor; that he is within a few days of being seventy-one years old, and consequently too feeble to procure by manual labor a support for himself and three small children aged five, eight and ten years – Your petitioner further represents that he has heretofore, as the keeper of a mill, then in able to maintain himself and family, but that he has lately been compelled to abandon that occupation because of his bodily inability to perform the duties, and it is with a sense of deep humiliation that he yields to his necessities in asking a pension where under any other circumstances than threatened starvation to himself and his children, he would be ashamed to accept it. Your petitioner begs leave to refer your honorable body to sundry documents accompanying this petition, but more particularly to a discharge¹ given him by his Capt., which shows that he served as a soldier of the revolution for twelve months, your petitioner here states that he served under command of Col. Stephens [Edward Stephens] at the Great bridge [December 9, 1775] in this County and was engaged in the battle at that place, memorable for the almost total destruction of a detachment of Lord Dunmore's forces, under the command of Capt. Fordyce, but of this, he cannot, at this remote period, furnish any testimony.

S/ Thomas Spratt



[Supporting affidavit dated December 8th, 1828 signed by a number of residents of Norfolk County attesting to the character and situation of the petitioner as follows:

¹ the discharge is not among the papers contained in this file

a pension may be

Jan. 2^d Butler

Richard Baugh

F. V. Carr

Harrison E. Weston

James S. Leggett

Samuel Weston

John T. Weston

A. S. Herbert

William

Stewart

Isaiah Cherry Jr.

Sam Williams

John Williams

Ad. Manning

S. G. Arthur Commissioner

M. H. Manning

W. H. B. B. B.

James Carr

Drayton M. Curtis

Silas Cherry

Gay Weston

James Wilkins

Wm. Hall

Wm. Herbert

Matthew Manning

Felix Foster

John Richardson

James Taylor

Wm. Manning

W. Cooke

[Reverse]

Petition of Thomas Spratt

a revolutionary soldier praying a pension to be granted to him by the State

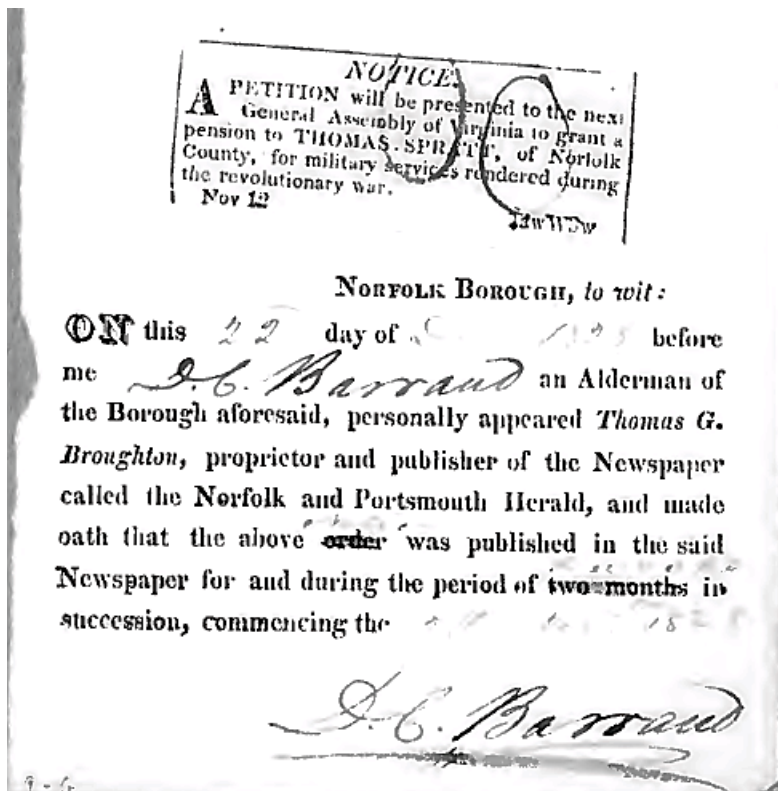
[illegible]

December 29th, 1828

Referred to Claims

December 31 Rejected

1829 January 1 Reported



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

6 page file

[Note: This file contains a power of attorney signed by his mark by the petitioner. Said power of attorney is dated September 19, 1832 and was executed in Norfolk County Virginia. The file contains no documents of substance other than the power of attorney, but that is an indication that \$30 was paid to the attorney for the veteran as the half yearly pension due the veteran as of September 19, 1832. This would seem to indicate that at some point, the state of Virginia and did grant a pension to the veteran.]