

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to John Read, Thomas Read, and Wiatt Read VAS4184  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Punctuation partly corrected.]

Mr. Robert Gray. Bedford May 8<sup>th</sup> 1842:

D'r Sir I lost thee [sic] Brothers in the revolutionary war and I want you to take the necessary steps to git pay for their Services. You can prove by old Mrs. Robertson at the Toll-Gate just above me that they enlisted & died in the service & I think you may prove the same by Robert Stevens of N. London [New London] & by General Leftwich of Lynchburg If hearsay testimoney will avale any thing, I can prove by Thos. Steptoe & the Dr. what they have often heard their Father, say on the Subject, it would certainly be a corroborating circumstance. Its highly probable they belonged to the old Continental line. If you could examine the Records in Richmond, I think their names could be found. Their names were John, Thomas, Wiatt and I was named after all three, being born about the time the old people received the news of their death. and concluding also, I would be the. I think the case is a clear one if its attened to immediately. The people named above are old & unless its attended to forthwith may drop Off.

Very respectfully/ John T W Read

State of Virginia, Bedford County S. S.

On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of June 1842, before me Sam'l P. Mitchell a Justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Mr. Thos. Austin a respectable resident of said county, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath say That he is 76 years old. That at the age of 11 or 12 years – it being, in or about the year 1777 – during the progress of the Revo'y war while at school in New London (then in Bedford, now in Campbell Co'ty) under Capt. George Lambert [S8810]. That he recollects distinctly, that the said Lambert rec'd a commission in the Regular Army and recruited a company of men for three years service, and marched the same to the North. And further deponant recollects distinctly that Three of Wm. Reads sons who were then going to School to the said Geo. Lambert, in the class – to witt, John, Thos, and Wiatt Read – enlisted in the Regular service, under the said Lambert for three years and was marched to the North. That in the course of said servitude for which they enlisted the said Jno Thos and Wiatt Read sickened and died while in the service of their country, during the Revo'y war. That John Read was the oldest of them and about 20 years old, and Thos and Wiatt about 16 and 18 years old. That Wm. Read in memory of the death of his three sons above mentioned named the next born son he had after he heard of their death Jno Thos Wiatt Read – which is the present Doctor Jno T. W. Read – a practicing phisician near N. London. The facts stated above in regard to the three Reads dying while in the Regular service dep. believes is as notorious as any other event that took place during the Revo'y war especially in the surrounding neighbourhood of N. London.

Thomas hisXmark Austin

[witness] Abram Austin

Sworn to and subscribed, on the day and year above written Before me Sam'l P. Mitchell J.P.

Dep. says that Archy Moon [Archibald Moon VAS4035] was Lieut. under Lambert. Sam'l P. Mitchell JP

State of Virginia, Roanoke County S. S.

On this 26 day of July 1842, before me David Sloan a Justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Mr. Joel Davenport a respectable resident of said County who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath say That he is 91 years old – that he enlisted under Capt. Geo Lambert of the Regular Infantry service – continental line – during the Revo'y War from the County of Bedford for 3 years in Company with Isaac [ Isaac Wade W6389], Jacob [Jacob Wade S41290], and Joshu Wade [Joshua Wade W6388] and John, Thos and Wiatt Read sons of Mr Wm Read near New London. That the said Lamberts Company was attached to the 14<sup>th</sup> Va Reg Cont line. That said Lambert recruited his

company he thinks in the winter and spring of 1777 principally from the neighbourhood of New London – the neighbourhood to which the Reads and Wades belonged – said comp’y was marched to the North and was in the Battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and German Town [Germantown 4 Oct 1777] in 1777. Deponant is well satisfied in his mind, that John, Thomas and Wiatt Read – sons of Wm Read near New London who belonged to the same company with deponant and who enlisted for 3 years as above – sickened and died while in said service of their country during the Revo’y war – deponant thinks at a place called Barn brooke in the State of Pensylvania [Bound Brook NJ?]. Deponant also recollect that Jno Craig [John Craig W8638], Jesse Turner, and James Turner also enlisted under Capt Geo Lambert on said occasion for three years in company with deponant, the Reads and Wades. That Jesse Turner above named died while in the service of his country on said occasion at Alexandria with the small pox but that Jas Turner and Jno Craig served out their term of service as above and returned home.

witness/ Ro W Gray

Joel hisXmark Davenport

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written

Before me David Sloan JP

In presence of Polly Davenport [undeciphered] Reatherford

State of Virginia Campbell County to witt:

on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1842, before me Alexander Austin a Justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Mr. Robert Stevens [R10139] Aged 90 and Margaret Stevens Aged 84 years – respectable residents of said county – who being first duly sworn according to law doth on their oaths say that they recollect distinctly, that in or about the year 1777 Jno Thos and Wiatt Read, sons of Wm Read near New London enlised in the regular service under Capt. Geo Lambert for 3 years service – that they were marched to the North and sickened and died while in the service of their country in, and during the Revo’y war– for they never returned home. And that, when Mr. Wm Read above named rec’d the news of the death of his 3 sons in the Army – to witt, Jno Thos and Wiatt Read – he named his youngest son after his 3 sons above to witt Jno T. W. Read – which is the present Doctor J. T. W. Read who is living near New London.

[signed] R Stevens

Margaret herXmark Stevens

Test/ P. Echols

Sworn to and Subscribed on the day and year above written Before me Alex. Austin J.P.

At the request of R. H. Gray, I do hereby certify that the statements contained in the annexed affidavit of Thomas Austin, Robert Stevens and Margaret Stevens are in accordance with the history of the times, as coming to me by tradition: I having been born in the neighbourhood of New London & now reside there. The above named affiants are well known to me, and their statements, on oath, I would believe unhesitatingly.

Alex. Austin/ 28<sup>th</sup> July 1842.

State of Virginia Bedford County S.S. [1 Sep 1842]

I John T W Read, heir at law of Wm. Read (Father of John, Thomas, and Wiatt Read who died while in the service of their country during the Revolutionary war in 1777 or 78) of the county of Bedford, and state of Virginia do upon oath testify and declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that John, Thomas and Wiatt Read his brothers and sons of Wm. Read dec’d of said county did enter into the service of their country during the Revolutionary war in the spring of 1777, having enlisted for the term of three years and served as privates of Infantry in the Reg’t No. 14 under Capt George Lambert commanded by Col. Chas. Lewis [Charles Lewis VAS901] of the Virginia Continental line of service: and that they continued in said Service until the [blank] day of [blank] 1777 or 1778 at which time they the said John, Thos and Wiatt Read, his brothers – sickened and died while in the service of their Country as aforesaid. Therefore, [power of attorney to Robert H Gray not transcribed]

Virginia:

At a Court of quarterly Sessions continued and held for Bedford County, at the Courthouse the 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 1843

The Declaration of Doct John T. W. Read in behalf of the heirs of William Read Deceased of said county being read in open court together with the affidavits of Joel Davenport, Thomas and Robert Stevens and Margaret Stevens, in order to obtain the land bounty due for the revolutionary services of John, Thomas & Wiatt Read sons of William Read Deceased aforesaid, who died on the [blank] day of [blank] 18[blank] and the court is satisfied with the genuineness of the same, and the court is satisfied from the above evidence that John, Thomas and Wiatt Read sons of William Read Deceased aforesaid did enlist under Capt George Lambert of said County in the spring of 1777 for three years as regulars in the continental line, was marched to the north, and while in said service of their country, did sicken and die, at a place called Barn brooke in the state of Pennsylvania and that neither of them ever returned home and that when William Read their father heard of their death, he named his youngest son (the present John T. W. Read near N. London, after his three deceased sons aforesaid, and the court doth certify to the Executive of Virginia that Doct. John T. W. Read and Elizabeth Read of said county and Isabella [undeciphered] late Isabella Read of Amherst County late widow of Edward Read deceased are the only surviving heirs of William Read deceased aforesaid as the court is aware of, and the court doth further certify that Thomas Austin and Robert Stevens and Margaret Stevens are respectable residents of the County of Campbell and that William Leftwich and Samuel P. Mitchell are acting Justices of the peace in and for said County of Campbell and that their official acts are entitled to credit.

NOTE: According to his tombstone, John Thomas Wyatt Read was born on 14 June 1777.