

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

Virginia documents pertaining to Francis Rochard (Russhare) VAS4321
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Ruphare, Francis. See endnote.]

Declaration of Chas. P. Hiler and Mary his wife the daughter of and only heir to Helen Russhare who was the daughter and only legitimate heir of Francis Russhare who served as a private in the Illinois Regt. Commanded by Col. Geo. Rogers Clark [George Rogers Clark VAS269] during the Revolutionary War for the bounty land due said Francis Russhare from the State of Virginia

The undersigned Chas. P. Hiler and Mary his wife respectfully represent to His Excellency the Governor of Virginia that the said Mary is the grandchild and only legitimate offspring and surviving heir of the late Francis Russhare who as they have always understood and beleived served as a private in the Illinois Regt. Commanded by Col. Geo. Rogers Clark during the Revolutionary war – that he was with Col. Clark at the Conquest of Kaskaskia [4 Jul 1778] accompanied said Regt. to Post St Vincent and aided in reducing the British garrison to submission at said Post [at Vincennes IN, 25 Feb 1779] – that he remained stationed at Post St Vincent in the service of the Virginia until the declaration of Peace defending the Wabash and Illinois Country – that the testimony they submit will no doubt be sufficient to prove the services of said Francis Russhare aforesaid and legitimate and sole heirship of the said Mary wife of the said Charles P. Hiler to the satisfaction of your Excellency and they trust that the long delay to make application occasioned solely by a want of knowledge how to proceed will in no wise prejudice their just Claim
Subscribed and sworn to before me the seventeenth day of May 1845 [signed] Charles P. Hiler
James Thorne PJKC [signed] Mary T Hiler

State of Indiana }
Knox County } ss.

Personally appeared before me James Thorne Judge of the Probate Court in and for said County Gabriel Uno dit Patoon [VAS2249] known to be a creditable witness who being duly sworn upon his oath declares that he is now eighty eight years of age and served in the Illinois Regt. Commanded by Col. Geo. Rogers Clark during the Revolutionary war with the late Francis Russhare the grandfather of Mary the wife of Chas. P. Hiler who with [part missing at bottom of page] and Illinois Country from the time of his arrival in the year 1779 – that he was personally acquainted with the said Francis Russhare and knows the claimant Mary the wife of the said Chas. P. Hiler to be the only surviving legitimate heir of the said Francis Russhare dec'd and that she and her said husband are entitled to his bounty land if the same yet remains due
Gabriel Uno hisXmark dit Patoon

Subscribed & sworn to before m this seventeenth day of May 1845
James Thorn PJKC

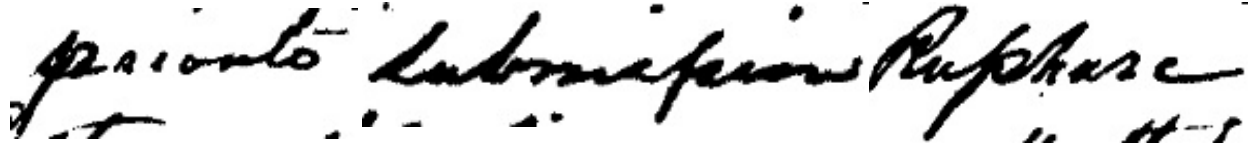
State of Indiana }
Knox County } ss.

Personally appeared before James Thorn Judge of the Probate Court in & for said County Francis Lavellette [Lavolette] and Pierre Premore, old and respectable and creditable native born citizens who being sworn according to law do on their oaths declare that they have invariably heard old citizens and verily beleive that Francis Russhare dec'd came to Post St. Vincent with Col. Clark's reg't in the year 1779 – that he acted in the capacity of a private in said Regiment at the reduction of the said Post and faithfully served the state of Virginia until the close of said Revolutionary War – that of their own knowledge they state that Mary Hiler the wife of Chas. P. Hiler the claimants in the foregoing declaration, who with her said husband is now here present, is the grandchild and only legitimate heir of the said Francis Russhare and with her said husband is entitled to receive all that may be due to him in bounty land

or otherwise.
Subscribed & sworn to before me this
seventeenth day of May 184 [sic]
James Thorne PJKC

Francis hisXmark Lavellette
Pierre hisXmark Premore

NOTE: The birth record for the wife of Charles P. Hiler lists her name as Marie Therese Desbien, daughter of Helene Desbien née Rochard. Thus the name of the soldier was probably François or Francis Rochard. The surname would be pronounced Roshar and was apparently anglicized to Russhare. The error was apparently compounded at the Library of Virginia when the double s was misread as a p. Compare the p in “private,” the ss in “submission,” and the ss in “Russhare” as shown here:



private submission Russhare