

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Tharp (Tharpe) R10479

Frances Tharp f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

State of North Carolina, Brunswick County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions March Term
1836

On this eighth day of March A.D. 1836 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the above named County now sitting, Charles Tharpe a resident in the said County of Brunswick and State of North Carolina aged 90 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

That he thinks he first entered the service under Colonel Edward Wingate – that he cannot recollect what year it was in – that he entered the service – that he is an unlearned man – that he is sure it was about the first of the war. That he recollects while under his first term of service being stationed at an old mill on the Cape Fear River in Brunswick County. The officers he recollects were Colonel Wingate and Captain Jacob Leonard. The declarant says he was not drafted at this time, but turned out at the call of Colonel Wingate when needed – that he considered himself a volunteer. That the next time he was called he was stationed at Lockwood's folly bridge – that Colonel Wingate was one of the officers – that he thinks Samuel Leonard was Major. That after remaining two months at Lockwood's folly bridge & the neighborhood – they were marched in pursuit of Tories, but were out but a short time before they were marched to Wilmington in New Hanover County – where they met General Ashe's [John Ashe's] Army – and remained there in camp three months. The declarant further states that after being discharged in Wilmington, news was brought by one Robert Bell that the enemy were killing cattle on the marsh here Bacon's Inlet, that a part of the Lockwood's folly company this declarant being one was marched down there under Major Samuel Leonard to drive them off – that a small skirmish ensued when the enemy retreated to their row galleys and went out at the Inlet. That the next time he entered the service, he was drafted for nine months and was put under the command of Captain Thomas Devane [Jr.] and marched up into Duplin County and was stationed not far from Duplin Court house, where the company remained for some time keeping guard, when there being no immediate call for their company, the declarant had a furlough to go down home, subject to the call of his officers – that without his knowing of it, the company was collected under the same Captain Devane – that learning the company had marched up the River – the declarant went off in pursuit of them – and went as far as a place called Cross Creek high up the Cape Fear River above Elizabeth. That there he met with the 18 months men – not being able to fall in with his company, he joined them. That he does not recollect the names of any of the officers belonging to the 18 months men except Major Hogg [Thomas Hogg]. That he was marched from Cross Creek to Charleston in South Carolina where he joined General Green's [sic,

Nathanael Greene's] Army – that he remained some time in camp – when he returned home – and went to his officers who were drafted him for nine months – and they told him to join the three months men and serve the time out and he should be discharged – that he went under Major Thomas Russ the Captain's name he does not recollect that he served out the three months and then got a written discharge he does not recollect the name of the officer who signed – that his discharge is lost. That during the time he was under Major Russ he was marched over into New Hanover and was at Bluford's Bridge [sic, Buford's Bridge]¹ when General Ashe's Army was, that the British being there and Wilmington the declarant & others were sent as spies to discover the position and movements of the enemy – that when he returned and got to the foot of the bridge on his returned to camp – the Army being on the North side of North East River a branch of the North Neck – he and his comrades finding the enemy there could not cross over at that place to the Army, but had to retreat some distance up the River and crossed over & joined the Army – that the Bridge being taken up the enemy could not cross. That our light horse men under the command of Major Love being on the side of the River with the British, a fight took place between the British light horse & our light horse, that if it had not been for Major Love and his light horse men, the declarant and the others under the command of Major Russ who had been sent out as spies must have been killed – that he does not recollect how many were killed either of our light-horse man or the British, but he recollects that one British light-horseman was killed and one of our men got his horse and kept him and he recollects that in the fight Major Love had a ball shot through his thumb. That he cannot recollect what year this was – but he thinks soon after the British left Wilmington and went out in vessels. That after serving out the three months (being the time he had to serve to complete the nine months for which he was drafted) he was discharged as already mentioned. That he did not regularly enter into the service after this, but was occasionally called out to stand guard and render other services as a soldier the particulars of which, he cannot recollect. But knows that he served out the nine months as a private drafted soldier as above stated.

To the Interrogatories required to be propounded by the Department, he makes the following replies.

To the first Interrogatory he saith --

I was born in the State of North Carolina, not far from New River. I do not recollect the year in which I was born, I am ignorant about dates – but from what I recollect about my age, I am about 90 years of age now.

To the Second Interrogatory he saith --

I have no record of my age

To the third Interrogatory he saith --

I was living in the County of Brunswick, State of North Carolina when called into Service, I have lived in the same County and State since been Revolutionary War – where I still live.

To the fourth Interrogatory he saith

I was at first a volunteer and afterwards was drafted

To the fifth Interrogatory he saith

I cannot recollect the names of any of the Regular Officers – and I cannot recollect anything further about my service

To the sixth Interrogatory he saith

I did receive a written discharge, but it is lost – and I do not recollect by whom it was given.

To the seventh Interrogatory he saith.

¹ JD Lewis notes: “The bridge was a recently constructed "swing bridge" that was built by a man named Mr. Buford in the early 1770s. But, by the late 1770s, it had been purchased by a Mr. Heron and everyone in the vicinity knew it as Heron's Bridge - primarily because he strengthened it considerably and made it much more reliable. But, the "old timers" still called it Buford's Bridge.”

https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_herons_bridge.html

I am known to the Reverend Edward Fitzgerald and Freeman Ruggly who can testify for me and Mr. Job Holden² can state his personal knowledge of my service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State (if any) only on that of the agency of the State of North Carolina.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathl Potter

S/ Charles Tharpe, X his mark

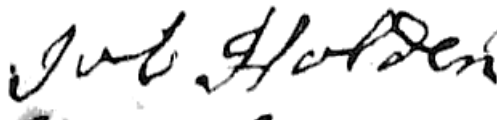
Job Holden a resident in the County of Brunswick and State of North Carolina aged 84 years, hereby certify that I am well acquainted with Charles Tharpe who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration. I was in the service of the United States during the Revolutionary War in company with said Charles Tharpe. We both belonged to what was called the Lockwood's folly Company. We were first together in the service under Colonel Edward Wingate and Captain Jacob Leonard and he was stationed at an old mill and Brunswick County on the Cape Fear River where we remained to guard – the object being to prevent the British from coming ashore. The next time I recollect being in service with the said Charles Tharpe was at Lockwood's folly Bridge in the said County of Brunswick under Colonel Edward Wingate – where we remained stationed two months. Then the company was marched in pursuit of Tories for a short time through the County of Brunswick and then marched to Wilmington in New Hanover County and joined General Ashe's Militia – where we remained three months. I recollect that the said Charles Tharpe served as I have stated. I recollect also being in service with Mr. Tharpe under Major Samuel Leonard at Bacon's Inlet, where we had a skirmish with the enemy who had landed there, as was said to kill cattle. The enemy was driven off – taking their boats or small vessels, I forget which, and coined out to sea.

I have known Mr. Tharpe since I can recollect, he was always a man of good character – entitled to full credit – and I have no doubt he served in other respects during the Revolution as he states, -- but I was not with him in service at any other time, than as stated above.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Nathl Potter

S/ Job Holden



[Edward Fitzgerald, a clergyman, and Freeman Ruggles gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of North Carolina, Brunswick County

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a Justice of the Peace, for the County of Brunswick, State of North Carolina, Charles Tharpe, who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that, by reason of old age, and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; For six months I served as a volunteer private soldier. For nine months I served as a drafted soldier; and for such service I claim a pension.

March 8th 1836

S/ Saml. Potter, JP

[p 15: On February 5, 1853 in Brunswick County North Carolina, Francis Tharpe, widow of Charles Tharpe executed a power of attorney by making her mark.