

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Thurman (Thurmon) R10582

Barbara

f79VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/12/11

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p 5]

State of Tennessee Bledsoe County: County Court: SS]

On this 15th day of August in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Justices of the County Court for the County of Bledsoe aforesaid now sitting, Charles Thurman a resident of the County of Bledsoe aforesaid in the State of Tennessee aged seventy-two 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 seventh 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He was drafted and entered the service in the Virginia militia under the command of Captain Thomas Redd and was stationed at Albemarle Barracks and employed in guarding Burgoyne's prisoners at the expiration of his term which he served out at that place, in which was for three months he received a discharge from Captain Redd but which has been lost or destroyed or has become from age so dim as to be illegible as he has some old papers in his possession which are in that condition. He then resided in Buckingham County Virginia but in consequence of loss of his discharge, and failure of memory he is unable to state the time when he entered and quit the service. He further states that beside the above mentioned tour he served six others of three months each in the Virginia Militia, making in all twenty-one months. One of said terms he was drafted and entered the service in Buckingham County under Captain John Mosely and marched from there with him to Petersburg where he was transferred to Captain Thomas W. Ewels [Thomas W. Ewell's] company which short time joined Colonel Bluford's [Abraham Buford's] Regiment – (which he thinks was the first Virginia Regiment) to make up a deficiency in it occasioned by the laws of men at the time of Bluford's defeat [Buford's Defeat, or the Battle of the Waxhaws, May 29, 1780] – Under Captain Ewel and Colonel Bluford he marched from Petersburg to Hillsboro in North Carolina – from Hillsboro to Salisbury – from Salisbury to Charlotte and from there to Cheraw Hills in South Carolina where he was stationed he thinks for about a month under General Greene – From Cheraw Hills he marched under General Greene to Salisbury and there fell in behind General Morgan who had the prisoners taken at the battle at Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780<sup>1</sup>], and marched in that condition to Dan River and there stationed between Morgan and Cornwallis who was on the opposite side of Dan River. From there he marched after Cornwallis to Hillsboro and from there to Guilford where he

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<sup>1</sup> From the timing of the veteran's services and his reference to Genl. Daniel Morgan being in control of some prisoners retreating with them toward Virginia, it is highly probable that these prisoners were taken by Morgan at the Battle of the Cowpens on January 17, 1781. Morgan was not at the Battle of Kings Mountain nor was he ever in charge of the prisoners taken at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

was in the battle fought at that place [March 15, 1781] serving under Captain Ewel, Colonel Bluford and General Greene – He sees from a certificate or discharge which he has from Captain Ewel that he once belonged to Colonel Gibson's Regiment, but in what manner he was attached to it he cannot now recollect, in fact it has utterly escape from his memory that he ever did belong to such a Regiment. He cannot state the order of time in which he served under the different officers, but was during his service under the command of Captains Thomas Redd. Thomas W Ewel – two different Captains of the name of John Mosely – Webb, Nathan Cunningham, some Captain of Culpeper County, his name not recollected, and some other Captains whose names are forgotten.

After the battle of Guilford he entered the service in Albemarle County under the command of one of the captains John Mosely as substitute for William Gowen and marched under him to the siege of York [September – October 1781], there he remained in service and was in the battle, and after it, saw Cornwallis deliver his sword to the American officer. He was then transferred to Captain Nathaniel Cunningham's Company and placed to guard the prisoners and under Cunningham marched with them to Winchester barracks where he was finally discharged by Captain Cunningham on the seventh of November 1781. He states that Nehemiah Evitt who then resided in Buckingham County Virginia and by whom the applicant was raised as a stepfather now lives in this (Bledsoe) County and can testify that he entered the service of the United States as set forth in this declaration and return from the war at the expiration of his several terms. He further states that he was born in Buckingham County in the State of Virginia on the sixth day of February 1760 – has no record of his age, but has the verbal account of his mother which he believes to be true. When called into service he lived in Buckingham County Virginia. After the revolutionary war he moved from Buckingham County to Washington County Virginia where he lived in the neighborhood of Kings salt works about sixteen years – from there he removed to Rhea County, Tennessee where he lived one-year and from there to this (Bledsoe) County Tennessee where he now lives and has lived for about sixteen or seventeen years. He was drafted for six terms and went one (the last) as a substitute for William Gowen. – He received seven discharges given by his Captains, they are all destroyed or misplaced as stated above except one given by Colonel Webb – one by Captain Ewel and one by Captain Cunningham which are herewith transmitted.

He states that he is known to Colonel William Brown deputy sheriff of Bledsoe County, Joseph McDowell and William Hall acting justices of the peace for said County in his neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his service as a soldier of the revolution.

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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Charles Thurman, X his mark

Nehemiah Evitt, aged about 88 years also at the same time appeared personally in open Court and made oath that he was from a child well acquainted with Charles Thurman who subscribed the foregoing declaration – that he as a step-father raise said Thurman who lived with him in Buckingham County during the whole of the revolutionary war except the time that he was in the Army, that Thurman entered the service as stated in his declaration – Of the number of terms affiant has a distinct recollection. – Affiant was not in the Army – (he was prevented by bodily disability) but from his knowledge of Thurman in his services he verily believes he served out

the time as stated in his declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed the date aforesaid

S/ Nehemiah Evitt, X his mark

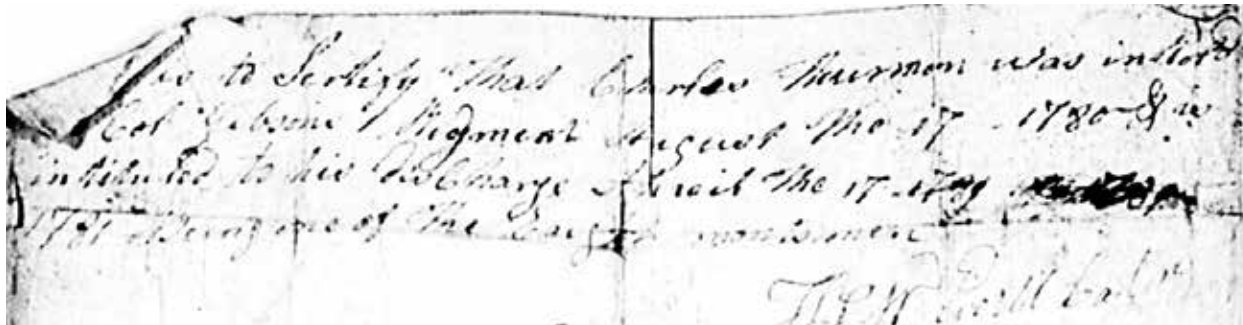
[William Brown, Joseph McDowell and William Hall gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

2 and 6 17

[f p. 22]

[This] is to Sertify that Charles Thurman was enrolled  
[in] Colonel Gibsons Rignent August The 17 1780 & is  
intituled [entitled] to his discharge Apreil the 17 day  
1781 Being one of the Eight monts [months] men

Thos W Ewell Catn



This is a handwritten document on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive and matches the typed transcription above. It certifies the enrollment of Charles Thurman in 1780 and his discharge in 1781. The signature 'Thos W Ewell' is written at the bottom right.

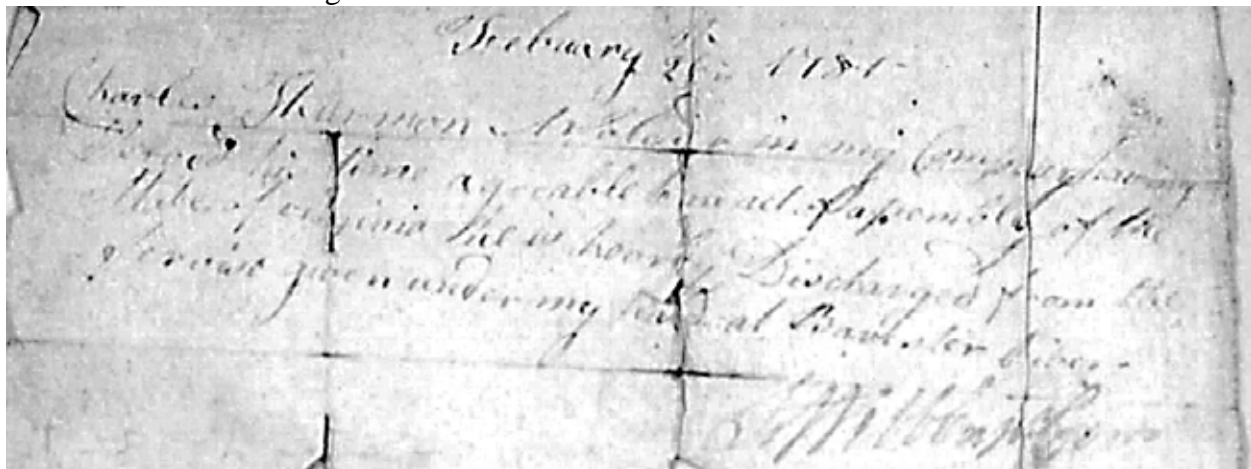
[f p. 24]

February 26 1780

Charles Thurman [illegibly faint word or words] in my Company having  
Served his time agreeable to an act of assembly of the  
State of Virginia he is hearby Discharged from the  
Service given under my hand at Banister [faint word]

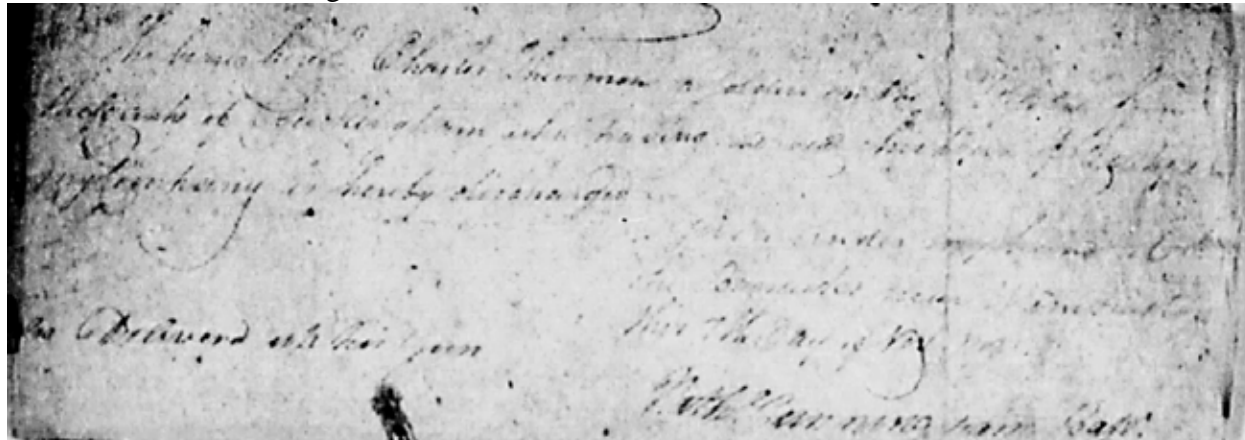
T. Webb ?

[f p 26: is a discharge signed by Nath'l Cunningham, Capt., the text of which is mostly illegible but below is the best image I co Webb ??



This is a handwritten document on aged, yellowed paper. The text is written in cursive and matches the typed transcription above. It certifies the discharge of Charles Thurman in 1780. The signature 'Nath'l Cunningham' is written at the bottom right.

[f p 26: is a discharge signed by Nath'l Cunningham, Capt., the text of which is mostly illegible but below is the best image I could make of it:



[f p. 59]

State of Tennessee Bledsoe County: February the 12th 1833

This day personally appeared before me Elisha Kirclin an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Bledsoe aforesaid Stephen Brown<sup>2</sup> a resident citizen of the said County who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with Charles Thurman who has made out a declaration in order to obtain a pension under the provisions of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he and the said Charles Thurman resided in the same neighborhood in Buckingham County State of Virginia previous two, and throughout the whole of the revolutionary war. That he and the said Thurman were in the service of the United States in the Virginia militia in the company commanded by Captain Thomas Redd and stationed at Albemarle Barracks in guarding the prisoners taken at Burgoyne's defeat – but he cannot remember the year nor the length of the said Thurman's service there.

He was at another time in the service with said Charles Thurman and in the same company under the command of Captain Thomas W Ewell – he and the said Thurman were messmates, and marched together from Buckingham to Petersburg, Hillsboro, Salisbury and to Cheraw Hills where they were stationed for a time under General Greene & with him marched back through the country to the Dan River. Affiant cannot remember at what place he was discharged, but thinks he left the said Thurman still in the service. Affiant is unable from defect of memory to state how long Thurman served this tour but believes it was eight months – nor can he state the date of it. He and the said Thurman were another tour in the service together under Captain Graves and were stationed together at Hillsboro he cannot remember the length of the tour nor the date. Affiant knows that the said Charles Thurman was out other trips than those in which they were together but cannot state how many nor the length of them. He recollects that the said Thurman substituted for another man and was out in the service at the time Cornwallis was taken, and always understood that said Thurman was in the battle at Little York, of which fact he has no doubt. Affiant has been acquainted with the said Charles Thurman ever since he was about 10 years old, and believes him now to be about 73 years of age.

S/ Stephen Brown, X his mark

[f p. 67: On July 31, 1849 in Bledsoe County Tennessee, Barbara Thurman filed an affidavit

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<sup>2</sup> FPA S1749

stating that she is the widow of Charles Thurman who was a private in the Army of the revolution and a pensioner of the United States; that she was regularly married to him on July 29, 1790 and continued his wife until his death. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[f p. 13: power of attorney dated January 19, 1855, filed by John Thurman in Bledsoe County Tennessee authorizing his attorney to pursue whatever claims he might have as an heir of Barbara Thurman, widow of Charles Thurman, a revolutionary war pensioner.]

[f p. 15: Finding entered August six, 1855 by the clerk of court of Bledsoe County Tennessee that Charles Thurman, a revolutionary pensioner died in Bledsoe County Tennessee December 16, 1848 leaving a widow named Barbary Thurman who remained his widow until her death which took place in Bledsoe County Tennessee on December 14, 1849; that she was survived by the following children: William, John, Frederick, Elizabeth Carnahan, Henry, Charles, and Margaret Thurman.]

[f p 3: transcript of the record of marriage of Charles Thurman: Charles Thurman was married to Barbary Bicknell July 29, 1790 in Lee County Virginia. Margaret Thurman verified the foregoing record in Bledsoe County Tennessee; that she, the affiant, always lived with Charles Thurman until the date of his death on December 16, 1848.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, annum for

one-year and nine months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]