

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Matthew Rhea¹ R17386

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/19/12

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 2: Copy of the Last Will and Testament dated March 8, 1816 of Mathew Rhea in which he names his son Joseph Rhea; son Robert Rhea; daughter Margaret Rhea; wife Martha to whom he left his dwelling house for life and Negro man Sam and Negro girl Jude and a Negro child Sopho; son Matthew Rhea who is to receive a Negro man Domene and Negro women Poll and Nance and Hannah and their increase; grandchildren Jenny & Amy Rhea. Will was witnessed by William Rhea and Joseph Rhea and was probated in Sullivan County Tennessee.]

Pension office August 15 1815

Sir,

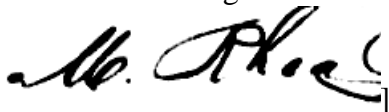
The Letter of Mr. Robert P Rhea which you referred to this Office is herewith returned, and in reply thereto, [I] have the honor to state that, there is a bounty in the land of 200 acres still due in right of Matthew Rhea, deceased, who was a Lieutenant in the Virginia Continental line, and a Warrant for the same will issue in favor of his son Matthew Rhea, who, it is stated, in the within letter, is the sole Devisee, or Legatee of his deceased Father, upon the production at this Office of an attested copy of the last Will of Lieutenant Matthew Rhea, deceased, and a compliance on the part of the applicant with the enclosed printed form Ford Declaration and Power of Attorney. The Honorable F. P. Stanton made application in the above case in December 1847, but the previous law relating to Revolutionary bounty lands had been expired, by its limitation, and the same was not renewed until the 26 June 1848.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully your Obedient Service

S/ J L Edwards [Commissioner of Pensions]

[f p. 7 Power of Attorney dated December 9, 1850 signed by Matthew Rhea heir at law of Matthew Rhea, Sr., dec'd who entered the service in 1776 for the term of the war and served as a Lieutenant in the Virginia Continental line.



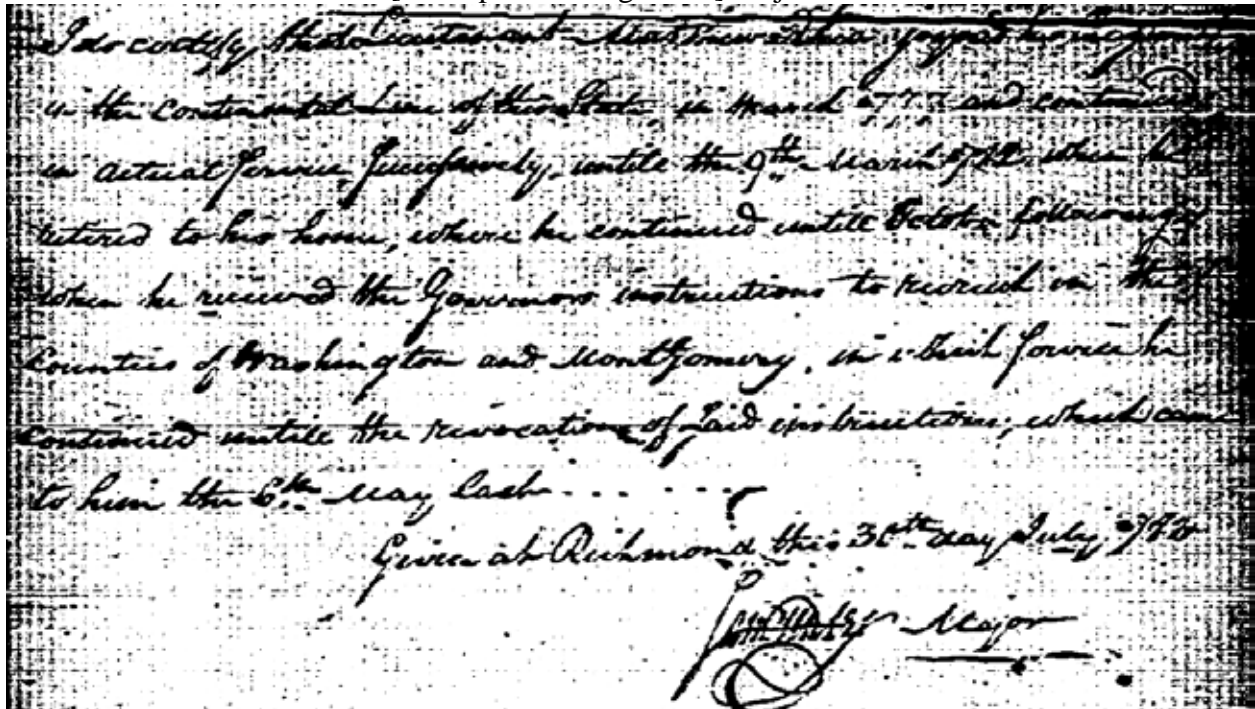
The [Library of Virginia](#) online digital collection of bounty land claims honored by that state contains the following documents relating to this veteran:

¹ Va. Half Pay BLWt.2451-200

I do certify that Lieutenant Matthew Rhea joined his Regiment in the Continental Line of this State in March 1777 and continued in actual Service successively until the 9th of March 1782 when he retired to his home, where he continued until October following when he received the Governor's instructions to recruit in the Counties of Washington and Montgomery in which service he continued until the revocation of said instructions; which came to him the 6th May last.

Given in Richmond this 30th day of July 1782

[indecipherable signature] Major



I do certify that Lieutenant Matthew Rhea joined his Regiment in the Continental Line of this State in March 1777 and continued in actual Service successively until the 9th of March 1782 when he retired to his home, where he continued until October following when he received the Governor's instructions to recruit in the Counties of Washington and Montgomery, in which service he continued until the revocation of said instructions; which came to him the 6th May last
Given at Richmond this 30th day July 1782
J. D. [illegible] Major

[Note: Veteran is listed as Matthew Rhea in Gwathmey's *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* in which it is noted that he served as regimental quartermaster 7th Regt. CL June 15, 1777; 2nd Lt. Sept. 9, 1778; 1st Lt. of the 5th Regt. CL July 4, 1779; transferred to the 7th Regt. CL February 12, 1781; served to the end of the war and was awarded 2666 acres bounty land by the State of Virginia for his service.]