

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Pope R8326
Transcribed by Will Graves

Charlotte Pope

f33NC[sic, VA]
rev'd 3/28/15

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District: to wit

On this seventh day of November in the year of our Lord 1820, personally appeared in open Court, to wit, the Court of General Sessions & Common Pleas, being a Court of record for the District aforesaid, Thomas Pope, aged sixty-one years, resident in Spartanburg District aforesaid, who being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows, to wit, in November 1775, I entered the service of my Country, under the Command of Captain Taylor & Colonel Stephens [Edward Stevens], while under their Command, I was at the Battle of Long Bridge [December 9, 1775], the siege of Norfolk and the skirmish at Gosport Point¹. On the 29th of January 1777 I enlisted for the Term of three years, under Captain Gray and Col. Ennis [sic, Col. James Innis?] in the 15th Virginia Brigade (or 15th Regiment Virginia line) I continued in this Corps about two years; the balance of the three years I was under General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] and was one of the light Corps commanded by Captain Booker and Colonel Febedger [sic, Colonel Christian Febiger] on the 28th or 29th of January 1780 in Philadelphia; during that time I was in the Battles of Germantown [October 4, 1777], Monmouth [June 28, 1778], Stony Point [July 16, 1779] and several smaller engagements, such as Wayne's Surprise &c, about this time my Father died and my attention was necessarily drawn towards home; however in about five weeks afterwards I followed the Virginia troops towards South Carolina and on my way fell in with General Caswell [Richard Caswell] at Kingston [sic, Kinston] North Carolina. I remained with General Caswell and discharged the duty of Adjutant until the surrender of Charleston [May 12, 1780]; on my return to Virginia we found General Arnold [Benedict Arnold] at Norfolk with the enemy robbing & plundering the adjoining Country – Captain Blunt, Lieutenant Tyler & myself as Ensign raised a company of Horse, comprising in number one hundred & two for the Term of six months; I afterwards continued in service under General Parker and acted as adjutant to the different troops until October 1781: I was at the siege of little York and many small our actions; if I recollect right, I was in nineteen different engagements and skirmishes during the War; I was slightly wounded twice by the bayonet and had my sense of hearing very much injured by the report of a cannon in Stony Point Fort-- and I do further Swear that I have no other evidence now in my power of my said services and that I am in reduced circumstances and need the assistance of my Country for a support.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of An Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," passed on the 18th day of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/gosport.htm>

income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me Subscribed. The Declarant swears the number and the ages of his family are as follows, to wit, my wife Charlotte aged 42 years, my Daughter Sally Ingrain [sic, Sarah J. Pope] born on the 26th day of June 1800, my son Benjamin [Benjamin D.] born on the ninth of January 1803, Ginsey Williams [Jane W. Pope] born the 14th of October 1804, Leonard [Lenard C. Pope] born on the 14th of February 1806, Mathies [sic, Nathaniel] born on the 25th of November 1807, Milly Ellis [Milly E. Pope] born 5 March 1810; Vinson [sic, Vincent] born the fifth of August 1812, Thomas born the 25th August 1814 and Eaton [sic, Robert E.] born 25 May 1816. The Declarant further swears that the following is an accurate Schedule of his property, to wit

8 Acres of land worth	\$6.00.0
1 Mare bridle & saddle	45.00.0
1 Rifle gun	12.00.0
1 shot gun	<u>10.00.0</u>
	\$70.00.0
Amount Brought over	\$70.00.0
Plantation tools	<u>19.75</u>
	\$92.75

S/ Thomas Pope

The Declarant further swears that he follows the occupation of a farmer, but having received an injury some years since, in his shoulder, side & knee, by the fall of a tree, he is unable to bear the fatigue of hard labor. The Declarant further states on oath that he has never received any pension or assistance from his Country.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid Before.

S/ Abm Nott

S/ Thomas Pope

We John Pope and David Pope do Certify that we have been acquainted with Thomas Pope from the first of his going into the service of his Country for three years and we do believe he did serve as a soldier in the United States service the time of three years as a faithful soldier and was honorably discharged from the same and we do believe he was a man that rendered much service to his Country for proof of the same he turned out very young in the minute service before he enlisted in the United States service and after he returned home from the grand Army he was but a short time before he turned out again and appeared to take an active part to the end of the war. I John Pope was with him in the service the time of the siege of York – he now is a cripple and hard of hearing he has always told us he lost his hearing by the report of a cannon in Stony Point Fort the said Pope is an industrious man and is [indecipherable word] by bad losses we do believe he stands in need of the assistance allowed him.

South Carolina, Spartanburg District

The above named John Pope & David Pope came before me George Camp a Justice of the peace for said District & after being duly sworn saith on their oaths that the words of the above Certificate is just and true to the best of their knowledge & beliefs.

Sworn to & subscribed the eighth of March 1821.

S/ Geo. Camp, JP

S/ John Pope, X his mark

S/ David Pope

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District

Personally came before me the subscribing Justice, Edmund Clement² and Robert Belcher³ who

² [Edmund Clement S21698](#)

³ [Robert Belcher S39186](#)

being sworn in due form of law, on their oaths, do say that they were well acquainted with Thomas Pope during the revolutionary War, and they do know, that the said Thomas Pope did serve in the Continental service of the United States for the term of nine months and upwards under one enlistment.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10th of March 1821.

S/ W. Hunt, JP

S/ Edm Clement



S/ Robert Belcher, X his mark

[On the June 12, 1857, J. Giles, aged 57, filed a petition in Spartanburg District South Carolina alleging that she is the daughter of Thomas Pope and his wife Charlotte Pope. She states that her father died January 17, 1825. She also states that her parents were married prior to 1800. Her mother, Charlotte Pope died August 30, 1842. Zero seeks the arrearages due her mother home a half of herself and her siblings, Jane W. Stricklin, Leonard C. Pope, Nathaniel Pope, Vincent B. Pope, Milly E. Nolen, Thomas W. Pope, the only surviving children of Thomas and Charlotte Pope.]

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State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District

Personally appeared before me Benjamin Newton⁴ before me and made Oath in due form that he was present when Thomas Pope enlisted in the service of his country and that he does know that the said Thomas Pope did enlist in the service of his country in the Continental establishment in the Revolutionary War against the common Enemy some time in the year 1777 for the term of three years, the Regiment & line to which the said company was attached or belonged this deponent does not know, but some time afterwards the spring of the year 1778 this deponent entered the service of his country himself, at which time or where he joined the Army he found the said Thomas Polk under the command of Captain James Gray the Captain with whom he, the said Thomas Polk first enlisted, whose company at that time was attached or belonged to the 15th Old Virginia Regiment or line commanded by Col. Innis – that he this deponent served nine months and upwards with said Thomas Polk – that he has just cause to believe and does verily believe that the said Pope actually served out the full term for which he enlisted because at the expiration of the three years the said Pope returned home. This deponent, never saw the said Thomas Pope's discharge that he knows, or at this time recollects of, But does believe he was honorably discharged.

Sworn to and subscribed before me seventh of February 1822.

S/ James E. Henry, P.Q. & Notary Public

S/ Benjamin Newton, X his mark

[p 25]

State of South Carolina, Spartanburg District

Personally appeared before me Edmund Clement and Robert Belcher and made Oath that they served in the revolutionary war with Thomas Pope against the common Enemy in the 15th Old Virginia Regiment or line, nine months and upwards, perhaps upwards of two years, which Regiment was commanded by Colonel Innis and which Regiment during the above term of service was reduced to the 11th Old Virginia Regiment which was commanded by Blewford [Abraham Buford]. Robert Belcher saith that on the morning after the Fort at Stony Point was stormed, he saw the said Thomas Pope in the said Fort in the company or line commanded by General Wayne – these deponents do not know neither the time of the said Pope's entering the service of his country, nor the manner he left it because he, the

4 No one fitting this affiant's story filed for a pension in his own behalf. This could be because he did not live long enough to file under the 1832 act or later acts.

said Thomas Pope, was chosen (being a man recommended by his Officers) for the purpose of joining the Infantry, under General Wayne's command this is the reason why we do not know the manner he left the service. He never joined the former Regiment any more: But was discharged while in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Febedger [sic, Christian Febiger] under whose command (from the time he left us) we have just cause to believe and do believe he served nine months. But the time of service in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Febiger does not come immediately within our knowledge.

Sworn and Subscribed before me 7th February 1822.

S/ James E. Henry, JQ & Notary Public

S/ Edm. Clement

S/ Robert Belcher, X his mark

[pp 32-33: The following letter from Thomas Pope to Honorable Joseph Gist, Member of Congress, is transcribed exactly as written apparently in Pope's own handwriting—I have put in brackets words that might not be decipherable as to Pope's intent. Words which I could not decipher are followed by a bracketed question mark.]

South Carolina Spertenburg february 6th, 1822

Deare Sir from youre letter I find they [they] do not find me on the Roles [rolls]. if they will look on the Muster Roles of the 15th Virginia Ridgment for 1777 and 1778 they will find me. this 15 Virginia Brigade was a mistake of the riter [writer] I told them of that when I was Sworne. it was olterd [?] or the 15th virginia Ridgment. a bout [about] the last of may or the first of June 1779. I went with Gen wain [Anthony Wayne] and Renained [remained] the ballance of my time. and was dischargd [discharged] By Col febege[r] [Febiger] the 28 or 29 of January 1780 in philadelphia. if appears they cannot find Col febger. he was with Gen wain and I think this Ridgment was the first Mager [Major] flewry [Lt. Col. Francois de Fleury⁵] was the mager a french man. Capt Samuel Booker was my Capt. Mager flewry followed the forlane [?] hoke [?] at Stoney pint [Point] I was with him, and went in at the posthole by the Cannon the first attempt I made the Cannon was dischrg'd so neare my hed [head] it beate me back into the ditch, the report was so hard it disstroyed [destroyed] my hearing I have some of the powder in my hand at this time. I likewise Receiv'd a wound in my hand with a bynet [bayonet]. gen wain commanded troops before this on the loines [?] when he was surprise'd at poley⁶ I did not belong to his troops at that time but was on a Scout and fell in with him there I Receiv'd a wound I am informed by Mrs Kneesbit [Nesbit?] there is a Mager gibbins now living neare the Sittay [city] of Washington—who was in Stoney pint [Point]. (if it is the man I think he can witnes [witness] what I say there was a officer by that name that did command the forlone hope Eithe [either] in febgers collum [column] or Col Butlers I cannot say which gibbins was one and nox [not] the other. as to my listing [enlisting] in the 15th virginia Ridgment it was on the 29 day of January 1777 James Gray was my Captan [captain] Col Mason did first command that Ridgment But I did not think it worth while to mention him as did not take us to head quarters. we join'd headquarters under the command of Col Innis at middlebrook Col Innis Remain'd with us some time after the Battle of germantown by this time the trupes [troops] was so Redust [reduced] that the 15 Ridgment and 11 Ridgment made one we then came under the name of the 11 Ridgment Col Innis left us I cannot say whether he Resind [resigned] or had no place to command after this Col Morigin [Morgan?] commanded and Col Blewford [Buford?] I

5 Francois Louis Teissedre de Fleury was born In 1749 and enlisted in the French infantry in 1768. In 1776, he was promoted to Captain and authorized leave to serve in America. He was an engineer by training, and saw action at the battle of Brandywine (1777) when his horse was shot out from under him. Fleury's performance at Stony Point eclipsed his other achievements, and he was voted one of only eight medals bestowed by Congress during the nine years of the war. Later, he fought at Yorktown (1781), and, at war's end, returned to France. According to one source, he lost his life during the French Revolution.

6 This is probably a reference to the Battle of Pauli (September 21, 1777) at Malvern Pennsylvania.

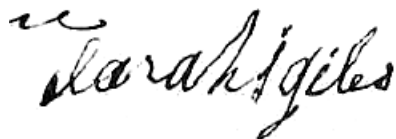
shuld [should] feel my Self as happy as Saint paul Befor agrippey [Agrippa⁷] if I was present with you at Congress to giv an accout [account] of my Service in the army as to my Redust [reduced] circumstance [circumstances] you can witness part you know William Caldwell took by an older Rite my land you know Clab Cliton made me pay money and I believe you thought I had paid it before I do not blame you—you acted well in the cause at that time I had two likely slaves I was obledg [obliged] to sell one to pay that cost the other soon died and one good horse in a short time after a tree fell on my self which wounded me from the sholder [shoulder] to the foot I was not able to do anything for three years I had one son able to plow was all and all in famaly [family] my hole [whole] dependance was that boy. he is so detanied [?] because he cannot git [get] Education he is left me I am 63 years old and a cripl [cripple] and that is such a place that puts me by of hard laber [labor].

I am Sir with Respects your obt Servt.

S/ Thomas Pope



[p 12: On June 12, 1857 in Spartanburg District South Carolina, Sarah J Giles, 57, filed an application for a pension under the 1838 act's stating that she is the daughter of Thomas Pope, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she is the daughter of the said Thomas and Charlotte Pope his wife; that her father died January 17, 1825; that her parents were married previous to the year 1800; that her mother died August 30, 1842 leaving the following children: Sarah J Giles, Jane W Strechlin, Lenard C. Pope, Nathaniel Pope, Vincent B Pope, Milly E. Nolen, Thomas W Pope and that they are the only surviving children of her mother.



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[p 15: A record of the births of the children of Thomas and Charlotte Pope:

Sarah J Pope born 26 June 1800

Benjamin D Pope born 9th January 1803

Jane W Pope born 14th of October 1804

Lenard C. Pope born 14th February 1806

Nathaniel Pope born 27th November 1807

Milly E Pope born March 5th, 1810

Vincent B Pope born 5th May 1812

Thomas W Pope born 26 August 1814

Robert E Pope born 30th May 1816]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing November 7th, 1820, for service as a private for 3 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[Note: Will Graves believes there is a substantial probability that this veteran and [Thomas Pope VAS240](#) are one and the same person.]

7 St. Paul was tried before Herod Agrippa (55-95AD)

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)]

To the Hon. the Speaker and Members of the General Assembly
This Petition of Thomas Pope

Sheweth

That he entered into the service of his Country on the 20th day of January 1777 in the 15th Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. Christian Febiger as a Soldier for three years, and served therein during the term of his enlistment & at which time he was discharged: that having lost the said discharge he did not apply to the Auditors for a settlement of the balance of his pay and depreciation.

That at the October Session 1789 the petitioner [indecipherable word or abbreviation] his Claim before this Hon. House and having produced the necessary documents of his Services, a resolution was passed allowing him the balance of his pay and depreciation for his said Services, and he was by a general order of the Assembly, referred to the proper Officer under the Federal Government for pay, that upon his application therefore, he was informed, that under the Act of Congress passed in the year 1784, he was barred unless he produced certain Vouchers from a Field Officer of his Services, and that not having the same to produce, he did not receive any Compensation.

That he conceives he is justly entitled to receive from his Country some emolument to compensate his toilsome duty, and that being the barred by the Act of Congress, his only resource is to your Hon. tribunal.

Humbly request that the Auditor may be directed by Law to Settle his Accounts and grant Certificates for the Arrears & depreciation of the pay due him & Warrant for the Interest - and he will Pray -

[Reverse]

Pope's Petition
1st November 1793
Claims
Reasonable
6th of November 93