

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Spencer R9988

f34VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/27/12

[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.]

State of Virginia Halifax County to wit

On this 28th day of April 1835 personally appeared before the County Court of Halifax now sitting William Spencer a resident in the County and State aforesaid aged 79 years on the 3rd of February 1835 who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7 1832 that he enlisted into the Continental service in the State of Virginia in the year 1775 under Captain Nathaniel Cock [Nathaniel Cocke] and served in the 7th Regiment of the Virginia line as a fifer and was commanded by the following officers during his services, Captain Cock, after he resigned by Captain Moseby [perhaps, William Mosby], 1st Lieutenant Wade [probably Edward Wade] who died at Williamsburg and was succeeded by Lieutenant Hopson [perhaps Joseph Hobson] who was 2nd Lieutenant before Lieutenant Wade's death Ensign White became 2nd Lieutenant when 2nd Lieutenant Hopson was promoted Major Nixon afterwards by Major Crawford Major General Stevens Colonel McClanergham Brigadier General Woodford after he left the service by Major General Lafayette. The paymaster was named Hughes – that after enlisting he left Halifax court house and rendezvoused at Bonds ferry on Staunton River in the said County from thence he marched to Williamsburg from thence to Gwinn's Island and was in the cannonading that took place between the Americans and British forces at the said place at which place he was taken sick and was permitted by General Lewis to leave the Army until he got well after getting able to [do] duty he returned to Williamsburg where the Army was when he left, but could not find his Regiment, as they during his absence had left there and gone to the North from thence he went round to Philadelphia and from thence to Trenton, at which place he was again taken sick and was received into a Hospital at the said place under the care of Surgeon Autso [?]¹ and remained there until that place was taken by the British forces and detained there a prisoner till the said place was retaken by the forces under the command of General Washington at which time he was still unable to do duty. But some time in the spring or summer of 1777 he again became able to do duty and joined his Regiment then in Pennsylvania between Lancaster & Philadelphia & continued with it and fought at the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] and was in several skirmishes and fought in the battle of German Town [Germantown, October 4, 1777] where he was wounded with two balls in the thigh after which he continued marching & countermarching with the Army principally in the State of Pennsylvania till the Army went into winter quarters at the Valley Forge Camp in the

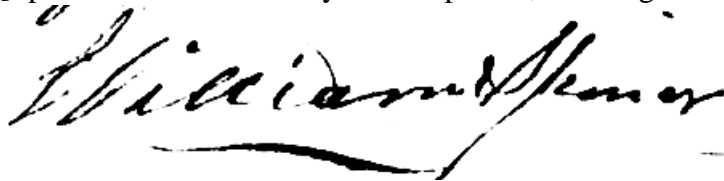
¹ *Autso*

said state at which place he received his discharge in the following spring 1778 from Brigadier General Woodford.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any state.

S/ William Spencer [not the signature of the veteran—handwriting identical to the body of the application.]

[f p. 10: Power of attorney dated April 24, 1835 signed by the veteran as follows

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Spencer". The signature is written in black ink on a white background. The first letter 'W' is large and prominent, and the name is written in a fluid, connected style.

[f p. 13]

State of Virginia Halifax County to wit

This day personally appeared before me Charles T Harris a Justice of the Peace in and for said County William Spencer and made oath that the reasons he did not sooner applied for a pension for services rendered in the revolutionary war are as follows. 1st until a few years since he was able to live comfortably without the assistance of his Country, 2^{ndly} that nearly 40 years ago he went to the State of Tennessee and there he could not prove his Claim – for want of his old acquaintances, and 3rdly he always felt determined to live without any assistance till by misfortune necessity compelled him to ask for it. Given under my hand and seal this 1st June 1835

S/ Chs. T. Harris, JP

[f p. 33: On May 16, 1835 in Halifax County Virginia, Mary Hittson, gave oath that her brother John Douglas enlisted in the revolutionary war and joined the Army on March 13, 1776; that her brother got a permit to come home and some time in December of 1776 her brother John told her that William Spencer was enlisted under the command of Captain Nathaniel Cocke the same company to which her brother belonged for 2 years.]