

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Swepston S15999

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 23 Jan 2022.

Virginia Franklin County Sct On this 5th day of November 1832 personally appeared in Open Court being the Court of Franklin County now seting John Swepston resident of Franklin county Virginia born in King & Queen County Va aged as he believes seventy one years but has no register of his age, 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 the 7th of June 1832 That he entered the service of the united states during the revolutionary war and served as in herein stated — That he enlisted for three years in the regular army – his enlistment was in King & Queen county Va. in a company commanded by Capt Butler [Reuben Butler W4909] he does not remember the exact time that he marched to the White plains in New York, and there joined the main army commanded by Gen'l Washington in person – that he was attached to the 16 Regiment commanded by Cols Wm Grayson [William Grayson BLWt1366-500]] – that Gen'l mulingburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] commanded the brigade to which he belonged – that he was stationed some time at West point, that he was little over fifteen years old when he entered the army that he entered as a fifer and was a fifer the whole time of his service that he served out his three years and was discharged – at Fredericksburg Va. that his discharge was burned up when he had the misfortune to loose his house by fire, that he has no documentary evidence. He went to King & Queen some time back to get his testimony of his services and procured the testimony to two most respectable men to prove his services there testimony is in the war department filed as he is told with a declaration he made heretofore in order to get on the pension list but which was not done – he now refers to their testimony and hopes it will be sufficient

He lived before he came to Franklin County to reside in Pittsylvania County near Abraham C Shelton Esqr Atty for the Commonwealth of Va in the Counties of Henry Patrick and Franklin and he refers to him for his this applicants character He relinquishes all all 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 & subscribed the day & year aforesaid John Swepston

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

Virginia King and Queen County towit

Dick Jones personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the county aforesaid and made oath that in the year 1777 John Swepston then of the County of King and Queen enlisted for three years as a soldier in the army under Captain Reuben Butler; that the said John Swepston left the County soon after enlisting, was absent some time and then returned with the small pox on him; that the said John Swepston played on the fife. Given under my hand this 7th day of February 1832. Temple Walker JP

At the request of Mr John Swepston I do certify that the said Swepston was raised in King and Queen County Va that I went to school with him and have a perfect knowledge of his enlisting in the army under Capt Reuben Butler about the year 1777. I was intimately acquainted with Capt. Reuben Butler & have often heard him say that he enlisted John Swepston & Milachaia Collins [?] who lived in my neighbourhood. [the rest missing]

State of Virginia Pittsylvania County towit

This day Anderson Brightwell of the County aforesaid a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States, of sound mind and and memory, personally appeared before me Dan'l Verser a Justice of the Peace in and for the Count aforesaid and made Oath in due form of Law that he was in the Northern and Southern Campaigns, that he was well acquainted with John Swepston of King William County, now a

resident of Pittsylvania County and well remembers that he did enlist with Lieut Reuben Butler for the term of three years and that he served as a fifer & Private the time for which he had enlisted, and that he was honorably discharged.

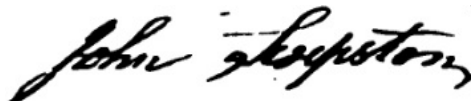
Sworn under my hand and seal this day of [illegible] October 1834/ Dan'l Verser

To The Executive of Virginia

The undersigned a Citizen of Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia Respectfully represent that he did enlist in the Army of the Revolution on the 3rd day of March 1777 with Lieut. Reuben Butler in the County of King and Queen in the State of Virginia where he then resided for the term of three years. That he served with Captain Alexander Brackenridge [BLWt287-300] in the 16th Virginia Regiment under Colo. William Grayson in Gen'l. Mulinburg's Brigade. That he Served Out the whole of the three years faithfully as a private and fifer. That he was honorably discharged by Capt. Brackenridge at Fredericksburg in the month of March 1786 [sic]. That since the War his house was burnt and his discharge was consumed with all of his other papers that he has never Received the Bounty land promised him at the time of his enlistment but that the same is still due.

Your petitioner files herewith the affidavit of Anderson Brightwell [W18643] who was a soldier in the said War of the Revolution in support of his claim and pray that such allowance in land be granted him as entitled to agreeable to usage and the Laws of the Commonwealth.

[3 June 1836]

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John Swepston". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent flourish at the end.

NOTE: A note on the pension certificate states that Swepston died 21 Jan 1853.