

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Mathias Fisher S22239

fn24PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/31/11

[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.]

Penn<sup>a</sup> West<sup>d</sup> County [Pennsylvania Westmoreland County]: SS

On this 20th day of November in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the honorable John Young president & his Associates now sitting Mathias Fisher a resident of Ligonier Township Westmoreland County in the State of Pennsylvania aged 74 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth depose & say in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 That about the first of January 1777 as declarant believes he was drafted as a Militia Man in the Company of Captain Shannon [Samuel Shannon] and marched in the detachment commanded by Colonel Archibald Lochry<sup>1</sup> from Westmoreland County in Pennsylvania to the State of New Jersey at Morristown the British in Brunswick & Amboy we went to the American lines and were stationed at Rahway near Woodbridge which place we left in the spring and the whole detachment returned I think in April being discharged during the time we lay at Rahway there was one or two small affairs with British foraging parties. In the month of August 1781 the declarant marched from Fort Ligonier in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania under the same Captain and the same Colonel Lochry to where Wheeling stands in Virginia, and then the whole detachment embarked in boats commanded by Colonel Lochry. We landed below the mouth of the big Miami [River] at the mouth of a Creek and while we were landing the Indians fired upon us and finally took the whole detachment prisoners, Colonel Lochry was killed after we surrendered. There was about a hundred in the detachment as well as declarant recollects when we were attacked. The declarant was kept a while in the Indian Towns and about Christmas was taken to detroit [Detroit] and given up to the British. I was kept at Detroit until spring when I was taken to an Island about forty-five miles above Montréal about twenty acres in the Island on which there was a fort and a great many American prisoners. About the 13th of July 1782 as I believe, myself and four other American prisoners to wit Ezekiel Lewis,<sup>2</sup> Samuel Murphy,<sup>3</sup> and James Dougherty & George Baily the two last of whom were taken at Wyoming made our escape in the night by passing the guard and constructing a small raft out of driftwood found at the head of the Island, in which we drifted about five miles before we got to land and that was on the Cana [sic, Canadian?] Shore, where we concealed ourselves during the day & at night got a canoe and crossed to the American shore and steered for Lake Champlain which we struck at the mouth of Otter Creek, and crossed the lake on the raft, which we thought was about four miles broad at that place we then went to Pitts

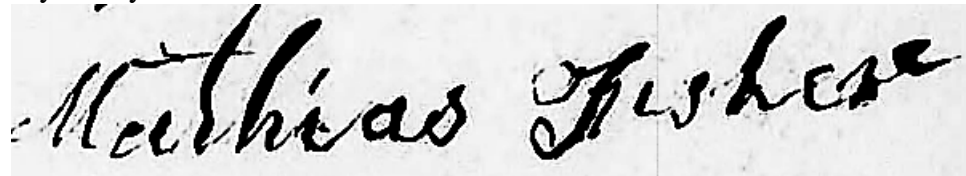
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<sup>1</sup> There is an excellent account of Lochry's Defeat posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/thread.aspx?mv=flat&m=803&p=topics.Military.amerrev.general>

<sup>2</sup> FPA S4533

<sup>3</sup> [Samuel Murphy S22413](#)

fort in Vermont and to Allenton, where Governor Chittendon [Thomas Chittenden] lived from whom we got a pass and went to Newbury the head quarters of General Washington, from thence through Jersey to Eastern Pennsylvania from whence I returned to my home in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania, which I reached about the 12th of September, during the retreat from Canada the declarant suffered from hunger & by the mosquitoes and was much reduced, so that he could not travel fast. Declarant believes that Samuel Murphy who escaped from Canada with him is living in Armstrong County Pennsylvania, of the other three he knows not. He has no documentary Evidence of his service. In the last campaign I went as a volunteer. The declarant has lived in the Westmoreland County aforesaid since his return and 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.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mathias Fisher". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged and slightly textured.

Affirmed & subscribed in open Court 20 November 1832

Test S/ Randal McLaughlin, Prot.

[John Brandt gave a supporting affidavit regarding the veteran's service in the first tour mentioned in his declaration and also expressed his belief that the veteran served in the expedition against the Indians in 1781.]

At the same time appeared in open Court George Hice,<sup>4</sup> who on his oath saith that he was in Lochry's campaign against the Indians in Eighty one; and that he marched from Fort Ligonier in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania in August. He knows Mathias Fisher who served in Captain Shannon's Company, who also marched at the same time and was taken prisoner at Lochry's defeat near the mouth of Miami. In the same year, when and where this deponent was also taken prisoner, he was With the said Fisher until we went to the Shawnee Towns where we were separated. I was A prisoner with the Indians, & with the British until peace when I returned home in September 1783 I found that Fisher had been home about the year.

S/ George Hice, X his mark

Sworn & subscribed in open Court 20 November 1832

Test: S/ Randal McLaughlin, Prot.

Pennsylvania Westmoreland County: SS

Personally appeared before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the said County Mathias Fisher who on his solemn affirmation saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of time of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For one year and three months as a private soldier and for such service I claim a pension.

Affirmed & subscribed the 21st May 1833

S/ John Fluger

S/ Mathias Fisher

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<sup>4</sup> FPA S22423

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the Pennsylvania militia.]