

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Tharp (Tharpe) S38439

f16VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/22/11 rev'd 3/25/15

[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.]

On this 11th day of August 1818, before the County Court of Stafford and State of Virginia now sitting personally appeared John Tharp aged sixty-six years, resident in the said County and State, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision may by the late 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. That he the said John Tharp entered in Spotsylvania County and State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Alexander Parker and Regiment commanded by Colonel Richard Parker: that he continued to serve under the said Captain and Colonel in the service of the United States until about the year 1780, that he had served as a soldier about eighteen months before the battle at Savannah [Siege of Savannah: September 16 – October 18, 1779] in Georgia: where he fought in defense of his country: & was severely wounded in the heel – that he was taken prisoner at St Augustine, where a vessel in which he was – was cast away, that he continued a prisoner three months & 15 days and was exchanged in Charleston from where he got to Virginia; where he obtained his discharge from Captain Thomas Parker and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support: that he has no other evidence now in his power of his services, except the certificate hereto attached of his having for a long time received a pension from the State of Virginia to wit the sum of \$40 till the [indecipherable word] last year and [indecipherable word or words] of \$60 which he does hereby relinquish.

Virginia

At a Court holden for the County of Stafford at the Court house on the 11th day of August 1818

The foregoing Declaration of John Tharp was sworn to in open Court by the said Tharp and it appearing to the satisfaction of the Court that he the said John Tharp did serve in the revolutionary war as stated in his said Declaration against the Common Enemy and it further appearing from the testimony of George Lane that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support, It is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of the Department of War pursuant to the directions of the act of Congress of [several words smudged and illegible]...

[attested by the clerk of court]

Virginia, Stafford County to wit

On this 10th day of July 1820, personally appeared in open Court being a Court of

Record, made so by law for the said County, John Tharp aged sixty-two years, resident in the said County, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. In the Second Regiment Captain Howard's & afterwards Captain Parker's Company, and Virginia line the number of his pension Certificate is 6989. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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 income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed viz. one cow & calf, one heifer, one Horse, three hogs, a few old chairs and a table, one pot, one oven & a Griddle, a few plates & dishes, not exceeding a dozen, one chest & three boxes, two plows, two axes & three hoes. His occupation is farming, without much ability to pursue it occasioned by wounds received in the Revolutionary war. The number & names of his family residing with him are, his wife Catherine Tharp aged sixty-five, and no other person.

S/ John Tharp, X his mark

I do with the advice of the Council hereby certify that John Tharp late a soldier in the Virginia Continental line and disabled in the service of the United States is placed on the list of Pensioners of this state with an allowance of 12 pounds yearly commencing the first day of January 1786.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this fifth day of April 1787

T. Meriwether

S/ Edm Randolph

[certified as a true copy by John Pendleton in 1800

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of eight dollars per month commencing August 18, 1818, for three years service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [Digital Library of Virginia](#)] Stafford County Legislative Papers

To the Legislature of the State of Virginia

Your petitioner John Tharpe of the County of Stafford begs leave to state that about the year 1778 he enlisted as a soldier under Capt. Alexander Parker to aid in obtaining the independence of the people of the thirteen States of North America – that at the battle of Savannah, he was wounded in the ankle which has ever since rendered him incapable of obtaining a livelihood, that at the end of the war he was allowed a pension of forty dollars per annum, which he has regularly drawn; but from his advanced stage of life, finds that sum entirely inadequate to his support, & therefore petitions your Hon. body for further relief from want.

6th December 1803

S/ John Tharp, X his mark

We whose names are hereunto subscribed are personally acquainted with John Tharpe (the above petitioner) and think that forty dollars (the pension now allowed him) not sufficient for a comfortable support.

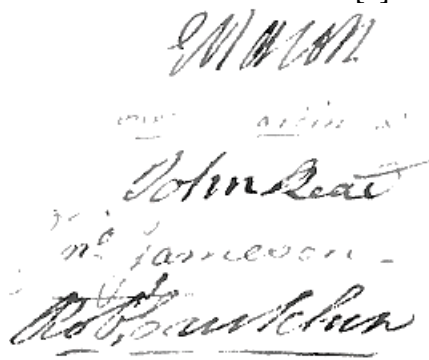
S/ E. Macon [or E. Mason]

S/ [illegibly faint signature]

S/ John Beal [?, maybe "Neal" or "Read"]

S/ John Jamieson

S/ Robert Crutcher [?]



The image shows four handwritten signatures in cursive script, arranged vertically. The first signature is 'E. Macon'. The second is 'John Beal'. The third is 'John Jamieson'. The fourth is 'Robert Crutcher'.

[Reverse]

The Petition of John Tharpe
December 21st 1813
referred to Claims
reasonable December 22nd
Report drawn December 23rd
Bill drawn December 28th

[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 64-page file

[p 2]

Jno. Tharp [indecipherable word] on P. List [Pension List] with 12£ p. ann. [per annum] from Jany. 86.

[p 3—partial image: the legible portions of which appear to provide the following information: that the veteran in April 1787 was about 40 years old, was enlisted in the 2nd Virginia Regiment; was pensioned at the rate of 24£ in January 1786 for a wound.]

[p 6—another partial image which appears to list pension payments made through March 4, 1808.]

[p 9-- another partial image which appears to be a power of attorney signed by the veteran with his mark authorizing his attorney to receive payments due him for his pension. This document is dated February 20, 1817.]

[p 64-- Another partial image which appears to be another power of attorney, this 1 dated September 9, 1837 and signed by the veteran with his mark.]