

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Nathaniel Fox S39535

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 24 Feb 2014.

Virginia to wit:

On this 18th day of June 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the General Court & Judge of the 3rd Judicial circuit, personally appeared Nathaniel Fox aged 69 years resident of Stafford County in the said Circuit, who being by me first duly sworn, according to Law, doth, on his Oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made 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 in May 1776 he was appointed a Captain in the 6th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colo. Mordecai Buckner, on Continental establishment, and that he continued to serve in the said Regiment until the Battle of Brandywine the 11th Sept. 1777 in which he got very much wounded, & was thereby so long unfit for service, & expecting so to continue, that he wished to resign, but Gen'l. Washington declined to accept his resignation, & gave him leave to retire from the Army till called for. He makes oath further that from pecuniary embarrassments & bodily infirmity, he is in need of the aid, afforded by the late act of Congress, to the surviving Officers & Soldiers of the Revolution for his support.

IN CONGRESS.

The DELEGATES of the UNITED STATES of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, TO Nathaniel Fox Esquire

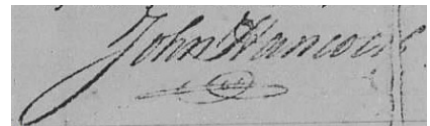
WE, reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Patriotism, Valour, Conduct and Fidelity, DO, by these Presents, constitute and appoint you to be a Captain in the Sixth Virginia Regiment in the Army of the United States, raised for the Defence of American Liberty and for repelling every hostile Invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the Duty of a Captain by doing and performing all manner of Things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all Officers and Soldiers under your Command, to be obedient to your Orders as a Captain And you are to observe and follow such Orders and Directions from Time to Time, as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United States or Committee of Congress, for that Purpose appointed, or Commander in Chief for the Time being of the Army of the United States, or any other your superior Officer, according to the Rules and Discipline of War, in Pursuance of the Trust reposed in you. This Commission to continue in Force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

DATED at the Thirtieth day of May A.D 1776 seventy six.

By Order of the CONGRESS,

ATTEST. Chas Thomson Secy

John Hancock PRESIDENT



[The following appears to have be part of the evidence submitted in Fox's claim.]

To the Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives; The petition of Nathaniel Fox humbly sheweth. That your Petitioner at a very early period embarked in the Cause of his Country and was in due time promoted to the rank of Captain in the Virginia Line; That at the action of Brandy Wine he received several grievous wounds which rendering him unfit for service, he had permission of the then Commander in Chief to retire from the Army until called for: That upon a reduction of the Virginia Line in 1778 he was left out and thereby must lose many emoluments which or right are his due, and which he has earned by his Blood, unless by the Interposition of the Legislature he is directed to be considered as a Captain in the Virginia Line and thereby be permitted to receive the same compensation as is allowed to other

Officers of the same Line in actual service. Your Petitioner begs leave to add that on the 24th June 1783, he obtained a Resolution of this House in his favour to that Effect, which on the same Day was agreed to by the senate, but on account of its informality has been and yet remains of no advantage: and your Petitioner therefor relying on the wisdom and Justice of this Honorable House prays that Relief which he humbly conceives his services upon enquiry will be found to have merited.

And Your Petitioner &c.

The preceding (contained in five pages) are copies of Papers filed in the Case of Capt'n. Nathaniel Fox against The Commonwealth in which a Judgment was rendered by the form Common law District Court held in Richmond on the 7th of April 1796
[Certified 25 Feb 1850.]

[The following is part of a document from the Auditor's Office of Virginia explaining the decision not to allow Nathaniel Fox's claim for pay as an officer who served to the end of the war.]

We do hereby certify that upon a reduction of the Virginia Line in the month of August 1778 at White plains Capt. Nath'l. Fox was left out of the line on acc't. of his having been badly wounded in the action at Brandywine & for no other reason whatever he being a very old Capt. and an excellent Officer, so that we conceive he would not in all probability be able to take the field for a long time, if ever again, & that he would be entitled to all emoluments promised to wounded & Invalled Officers.

P. Muhlenburgh B.G. [sic: Peter Muhlenberg, Brigadier General]

Daniel Morgan B.G.

Geo Weedon B.G. [George Weedon]

Will. Heath Col'l. [sic: William Heth Colonel]

A. Buford Col'l. [Abraham Buford pension application S46372]

Burges Ball Col'l.

Rich'd. C. Anderson L.C. [Richard Clough Anderson, Lieutenant Colonel, W1356]

Jno. Clark L.C. [Jonathan Clark]

Gustavas B Wallace L.C. [sic: Gustavus Brown Wallace]

O. Towles L.C. [Oliver Towles]

William Croghan Maj'r

Copy from the Virginia Herald of 27th of October 1819

“Another Revolutionary Patriot gone”

“Died at his residence in Stafford County on the 21st inst in the 71st year of his age Captain Nathaniel Fox. During the heat of our Revolutionary Struggle for Independence Capt. Fox was found among the veterans who breasted danger and dared death in many a well fought battle in which he received no less than seven wounds. But the merit of Capt. Fox was not confined to his martial career, it was equally conspicuous in civil life. In a word the probity, fortitude and warmth of his heart and mind rendered him a kind neighbour a sincere friend a valiant soldier and an upright patriot.”

“How sleep the brave, who sink to rest,
With all their Country's wishes blest,
When Spring with Dewy fingers cold,
Returns to deck their hallowed mould
She then shall drop a sweeter sod
Than fancy's foot has ever trod.”

[The following is from [pension applications in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

This is to Certify that I have deliberately examined the parts affect[ed by] the wounds that Capt. Fox received at the Battle of Brandywine; and am of opinion [th]at several Muscles are so materially injured in their Action, as to render it impossible for him to gain a maintenance by manual Labor.

Stafford C'y
Virginia

Given under my hand
5th June 1785
P. Wellford [first initial not clear]

NOTES: On 13 Dec 1819 Nathaniel W. D. Fox of King George County was administrator of the estate of Nathaniel Fox. A letter by him dated 20 Nov 1852 reads in part as follows: "You wish to know how many children my grand father [Nathaniel Fox] had. he had four sons and one daughter... Mrs. [Samuel] Humphries. she is yet living But the four sons is dead. and there is only five Grand Children living." The letter also states that Nathaniel Fox of King William County (VAS1423) "was a distant Relation to us."