

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

Pension Application of John Thompson S41254 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 July 2021.

[The following are from [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Halifax County]

To the Congress of the United states – the Petition of John Thompson of Halifax County State of Virginia humbly sheweth that your petitioner was a Serjeat in Capt’n. Thomas Hord’s [VAS1608] company from Virginia in the Continental line & was [one or two illegible words] the unfortunate sufferers in Colo. Abraham Bufords defeat [defeat of Abraham Buford (S46372), Battle of Waxhaws SC, 29 May 1780] he received several dreadful & horrible wounds in his head, face & body which have rendered him unable to acquire sufficient support by labour to keep him alive. That he [is] at present fed by the charitable hands of his Neighbours without which he must inevitably perish – That his Claim was committed to a former representative [by] whome it was neglected & that by being poor & help[less he] has been unable to come forwad to ask relief untill [the pre]sent period – he therefore prays Congress to have him put on the pension list & to recieve such help as other persons of the same rank & similar misfortunes have recieved & he as in duty bound will ever pray &c &c. John Thompson/ 22^d Aug’t. 1797

Virginia Charlotte County

On the application of John Thompson of the County of Halifax and state of Virginia before me Paul Carrington jr one of the Judges of the General Court of the state of Virginia, Trusting to the skill and diligence of Robert Mackey and William Rice physicians and surgeons they are hereby authorised and appointed to examine the wounds of the aforesaid John Thompson, (said to have been received in the actual line of his duty as a Soldier in the service of the united States during the late war, and their opinion thereof fully to report in writing annexed to this comission agreeably to an act of Congress in said cases made and provided
Signed this 22^d of August 1797 Paul Carrington jr.

Halifax County Sc.

The deposition of Samuel Hunt [S25168] of lawful age and being first sworn on the holy evangelist of Almighty God deposeth & saith, that he knew John Thompson in the Army under the command of Colo. Bluford which said Thompson Acted as Serkant in the Company of Capt Howard [sic] and that the said Thompson was at Blufords defeat and received sundry bad wounds so that he was obliged to be removed off the ground in a waggon and that he the said deponant was a sufferer in the said Action and is a pentioner, & this deponant further saith that the said Thompson appeared to be worse wounded than the the said deponant and further this deponant saith not Given under my hand this 9th day of September 1797 James Dejarnett/ John Stone/ Ambrose Madison

Halifax County Sct.

The deposition of John Seamster [S25429] of lawfull age and being first duly sworn upon the holy Evangelist of almighty god deposeth and Saith – That he knew John Tompson at Colo. Blufords Defeat and that he the said Thompson rec’d. sundry wounds in said action, which said Thompson was Carried in a waggon to waxsav Meeting house and Put under a Surgeon – and that the said Thompson was a Sargant in Capt’n. Thomas Howards Company and this deponant was a sufferer at said time and now Receives a pention – and further saith not
Given under our hands this 9th of Sept’r 1797 James Dejarnett/ John Stone/ Ambrose Madison

State of Virginia, Halifax County September 25th 1797

Agreeable to a Commission to us directed, which is hereunto annexed, we have caused Robert D Milner of lawfull age to appear personally before us, and after first being solemnly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of almighty God Deposeth and sayeth. That on the 29th day of May one thousand seven hundred and eighty he was then a Soldier under the Command of Colo. Blueford and that a certain John Thompson then belonged to the said Redgement which said Thompson I was well acquainted with before and after the battle fought at the Hanging rock [i.e. Battle of Waxhaws] – This deponent further sayeth in the morning before the battle began was a sound well man and acted as Sarjent, and after the battle was ended was very much hacked and pounded by the broadsword [broadsword] which scars he wears to this day, (he being now present) And further sayeth that the last time I saw him that day he was worlling in blood on the field. And further this deponent sayeth not – Given under our hands the day and date above written.

James Dejarnett/ Ambrose Madison

In obedience to the above Commission, we have formally examin'd John Thompson, heretofore a Serjeant in the army of the United States & report Him to be very infirm & unable to earn by his Labor a healthy subsistence. We further report his disability in our opinion to be the Effect of wounds in his Body which from his Oath as well as other concurring testimony, He receiv'd in the late war when in the actual Line of his duty

Robert Mackey William Rice Halifax 14th Oct'r 1797

To The Legislature of the state of Virginia

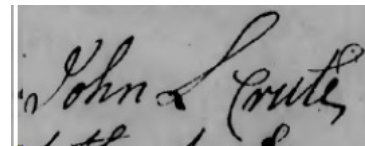
The Petition of John Thompson of the County of Halifax, Humbly sheweth – That he was a Serjeant in the Virginia Line of Continental troops during a considerable part of the late Revolutionary War – That he was among the unfortunate sufferers at the defeat of the detachment under Colo. Abram Buford, that by the wounds there received by him he is now unable to get a support by labor or any other honest means – That his poverty & inability to travel prevented him from making and pursuing his claim for a pension, to the Congress of the United States untill that body had peremptorily shut the door to all such claims. Your petitioner therefore throws himself upon the mercy of this Honorable Body, the Representatives of his native state and prays that you will make some provision for his cumfort the remainder of his time in this World, which cannot be long – I your petitioner as in duty bound will pray &c

John Thompson/ Dec'r. 19th 1799

Prince Edward December the 19th 1799

I John L Crute [S24980] do Certify that John Thompson Acted as a Soldier in the Contenantal Armeey and always supoarted a good caractor from the time of my geting acquainted with him Untill he was Wounded in the Action Called Bufords Defeat as Witnis my hand the day and date above Ritten

John L Crute Lt. late of the Armeey



To the Genl Assembly of Virginia The Petition of John Thompson of Halifax Virginia

Respectfully sheweth That your petitioner is one of your pensioners – he serv'd in the old Revolutionary War, was badly wounded, is now very old & infirm – his Pension is payable to him some time in January – he humbly asks your hon'bl. body to change the time of payment – let him receive it the 1 day of October – he can travel better at that time to receive it & the money being then laid out in provision will be of more advantage to him – for these reasons he humbly hopes he will be indulged in his Wishes as their can be no objection to the contemplated change

& your petitioner will as in duty bound ever pray &c John Thompson

Decem'r 1814

[The following are from [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#). Most of the online images are fragmented or incomplete.]

John Thompson a Soldier who was wounded in Colonel Buford's defeat during the late War has been allowed by Law sixty dollars for his immediate relief payable out of any monies not otherwise appropriated by law but a Clause in the Revenue Law Enacts that the money in the Treasury shall be charged with the payment of all sums directed to be paid by the present session of Assembly
The Auditor of public accounts John Stewart C.H.D./ Jan'y 26 1799
Rec'd a Warrant of Sixty Dollars 26 Jan'y 99 Wm Royall

Rec'd my pension of Fifty dollars for the year 1801
[date missing] Jan'y 1802



Virginia At a Court held for Wythe County the 11th day of November 1823
It appearing to the Court by satisfactory evidence that John Thompson late of this County departed this life on the 28th day of June 1823 leaving Francis Thompson, Rebecca Thompson, Sarah Thompson, Elizabeth Thompson & Anna the wife of William Myers his children and only heirs at law; it is ordered that the same be certified
A Copy Teste J. P. Mathews CC

[The following are from the federal pension file.]

State of Virginia Campbell County Sct

On this 11th day of August 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a Court of record for the said County Jno Thompson aged Sixty four years a resident of the County of Campbell who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he Served in the revolutionary War as follows That he enlisted for the term of one year in the fall of 1775 in the State of Virginia in the Company Commanded by Capt Robert Balard [sic: Robert Ballard, company raised in Mecklenburg County VA] in the first regiment Commanded by Colo Patrick Henry in the line of the State aforesaid on the Continental establishment. That he remained in the said Corps to the expiration of the term of his enlistment at which time he enlisted for three years under Capt Edward Garland [company raised in Lunenburg County] of the 14th regiment Commanded by Colo Lewis [Charles Lewis VAS901] of the line aforesaid. he served the term of his enlistment When he again enlisted in the fall of the year 1779 for during War in Captain Overton's [John Overton BLWt1615-300] Company of the said regiment and line about the time 1st & 16th regiments were consolidated [see endnote] at which time he was detached on Command in the Southern Army under Capt Howard of Colo Bufords detachment, General Scotts [Charles Scott BLWt2055-850] brigade in the line and service aforesaid. That he was in the Battle of Brandywine in September 1777 [11 Sep 1777] in the State of Pennsylvania and on the 4th day of October in the same year he was in the Battle of Germantown. And on the 28 day of May 1778 [sic: 28 Jun 1778] he was in the Battle of Monmouth in the State of New Jersey. That on or about the last of May 1780 he was in the Battle of Waxhaws in South Carolina at the time Colo Buford was defeated where he was made prisoner after having been severely Wounded in five places and of which wounds he never has recovered. And that upon his being exchanged he was examined by the Surgeon attending the wounded at the rendezvous at Cumberland old Court house in the State of Virginia & was deemed incapable of Service in consequence of his wounds and was discharged by Colo Febiger [Christian Febiger VAS675], Commandant at that rendezvous And that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said Service. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820 he does solemnly swear That he was a citizen resident of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, Sale, or in any manner disposed on his property or any part thereof with intent thereby to diminish it as to bring himself with the provision of the 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 That he has not nor has any person in Trust for him any property or Securities, Contracts or Debts due to him, nor has he any income other than what is Contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him Subscribed – The he is by occupation a planter, but from age and his Wounds not able to labour, his wife Lucy aged Sixty years a Cripple, Wiater Walter a Son of his wife aged Sixteen or Seventeen which is the whole of his family living with him — The following is the Schedule refered to in the foregoing declaration to Wit

No real Estate
 1 Horse, Saddle & Bridle Worth. \$30.—
 1 Cow and Calf cost him 14.—
 1 pot, 1 Pewter[?] pan, 1 Dish, 3 pewter plates, }
 1 Basin, 2 knives & forks, & 2 chairs } . . 7.25
 \$51.25

That his income is a pension of \$80 being sufficient to pay the amt of a house to Shelter in
 Jno Thompson

Campbell County April 27th 1821

To the Hon’ble Secretary of War,

Sir, I sent forward to your department in the year 1819 if I recollect right in the month of May, I was then a resident of Halifax County Virginia a Declaration Certifyed by the Hon’ble Judge Landen stating my circumstances & situation as a Soldier of the revolution in order to obtain a pension in conformity to a Law of Congress making provision for the indejent Soldiers of that War, to which declaration I never received any answer in return I afterwards moved to this County (Campbell) and in August last at the County Court aforesaid I made a further declaration in Conformity to the Law of May 1820 which was forwarded to your department but have not as yet received any Certificate to enable me to draw my Pension. I got a friend to make enquiry at the agents office in Richmond to know if I had been returned to that office, the agent informed him that I stood returned & was entitled to ninety six Dollars When Informed of the circumstances of my not as yet obtained an original Certificate he advised me to make Oath to that effect and forward it on to you who he stated was said the necessary voucher for to enable me to draw. There are three persons I am informed on the pension list roll of my name I may be distinguished by a reference to my former declarations as having been cut to pieces at Wax Saw Meeting House in South Carolina at Bluefords defeat where I received five desperate wounds and afterwards discharged as incapable of rendering further service be so good as give me the earliest information on this subject directed to the Post office at Reids Store Campbell County my situation is such that I am distress for the want of the releif allowed my afflictions still growing on me haveing lost the sight of the best one of my eyes in a few weeks past in consequence of one of the wounds in my head. And the other fast decaying having had my nose cut in two in the middle & entering immediately under my left eye Your attention will be greatly acknowledged by yr. H’mble serv’t

John Thompson

John Thompson of the County of Cambell with a copy of his declaration before that County Court of August 1820 is now before me & has the scars visible to view which he states to have received at Bluford defeat in South Carolina when a Soldier in Captain Thomas Hords Company of Colo. Blufords detachment of Virginia Soldiers in the service of the United States Army of the Revolution. It is fact, well known to me That Captain Thomas Hord did Command a Company in the said detachment & that he Captain Hord was severely wounded & most of his men killed or wounded on the 29th of May 1780 That this present John Thompson was also wounded and equally certain from the scars & other circumstances which attends his case which is within my knowledge; & he the said John Thompson offers to the Secretary or War the reasons why his name is not found on Captain Overtons Company in which he Inlisted for during the War he was of Captain Garlands Company & on reinlisting into Captain Overtons Company he obtain a Furlough to visit his friends in Virginia, & was by the Gen’l. Orders from Gen’l

Charles Scott Commanding in Virginia ordered to join his Brigade which he accordingly did & continued in that Brigade during the summer of 1779 & winter 1780 collecting & training the new recruits from the said State which was marched to the Southern Army as fast as they could be prepared. & he amongst the last march'd from Petersburg in March 1780 fell in with Tarltons Core [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion] on the 29th of May 1780 & there Received the wounds which has ever since been cause of his disabilities of which his present appearance is Proof Positive of the Truth of his statement

Willis Wilson [VAS406] late a Lieutenant in the 11th Virga Regt.

who was present & in the above Action of 29th May 1780 [see endnote]

Cumberland County State of Virg'a. Sept 30th 1821

Charlotte County to Wit

I Jno Henry a Justice of the peace for the said County do hereby Certify that Jno Thompson of Capbell County and John Thompson of Charlotte County [S41238] are Both in my presence, & that the former is upwards of 64 years of age, in stature 6 feet 3 Inches with a large wound on his face & head stated to have been Received in Bleaufords defeat in the year 1780 with Blue eyes & light hair and that the latter has Resided in my neighbourhood for several years past in stature about five feet ten or eleven inches Black hair and eyes Dark complexion, about sixty years of age and at present receives a Pension from the general government.

Given under my hand & seal this 21st day of November 1821. [signed] John Henry. J.P.

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) in two files. One file contains documents pertaining to John Thompson S41238.]

I John Thompson [S41238] of Charlotte County State of Virginia, Certify, that John Thompson Corporal was in Capt. Garlands Company, fourteenth Virginia regiment in 1777 Garland Resigned as I understood, and he the said Thompson was attached in Capt. Jno. Overtons Company [one or two undeciphered words] Virginia Regiment [several undeciphered words] campaign he the said Thompson enlisted for the war in overtons Company with Lieutenant George Holland [VAS1571] & took a Furlough and I saw him no more untill after the war with [one or two undeciphered words]

Sworn to Before us Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte this 21st of November 1821.

John Henry J.P.

Edw'd W. Henry J.P.

To His Excellency Thomas M Randolph Esq. And the Hon'ble Council of Virginia.

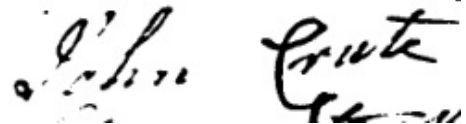
The Petition of John Thompson, Humbly sheweth that your Petitioner Enlisted as a soldier, in Capt. Robert Ballards Company of the first Virginia, in the year 1775 for the term of one year, At the Expiration thereof he Enlisted with Capt. Edward Garland, of the 14th Va. Regiment in the service of the United States for the term of three years, and at the Expiration of that term, he Enlisted with Leiut. George Holland of Capt. Overton's Company of the same Regiment during the War. Upon your petitioners last enlistment he obtained a furlough to come to Virginia, to see his friends. that upon his return to join his Regiment in the Spring of 1779 he met with General Scott, at Fredericksburg, who ordered your petitioner to join his Brigade then organising at Petersburg, in order to march to the Southern Army. Your petitioner did so and was attached to Capt. Howards Company of Col. Bluford's detachment of said Brigade. That while in South Carolina on the 29th of May 1780 The command under Col. Bluford was attackd, by the British, under the Command of Col. Tarlton, and was totally defeated. That your petitioner fell and became a prisoner with a great many others with five severe & dangerous wounds. One across his head, one across his face cutting his nose in two about the middle, with three bayonet wounds in the body, the wounds in your petitioners' head & face so affected his eyes that, that he has lost the sight of one and the other nearly so. Your petitioner [undeciphered word] the summer after the Capture of Lord Cornwallis to the Commanding officer at the General Rendezvous at Cumberland Old Courthouse, where he underwent an examination by the Surgeons, attending there who reported him incapable of service, and was permitted

to retire on furlough among his friends untill his wounds got well so that your petitioner, never obtain a legal discharge from the 14th Va. Regiment, at the end of the War which happened before your petitioner was able to join the Regiment, and having never been mustered in Overtons' Comp'y. after his last enlistment so that upon his application for his land warrants for he considered himself intitled under both his last Enlistments he was given to understand that he was not Inrolled with those returned intitled to bounty land, neither for the three years or the war. Your petitioner deems it necessary to notice that there was two other soldiers by the name of John Thompson, in the Virginia, line one of which belonged to the same Company and Regiment whose Certificate is herein inclosed who remained with the Regim't to the Northard both of whome your petitioner understands have drawn their Bounty Land. Your petitioner having never recovered his wounds and being Ignorant as well as [undeciphered word] how to pursue his claim the mater has rested so till lately when your petitioner was advised to apply to the Hon'ble John Randolph Esq'r. to endeavor to procure his land from the United States who directed your petitioner to precure the best evidence the nature of his case woud admit of and forward the same to him at the City of Washington, whereupon your petitioner obtained the evidence herein Inclosed except what was retained as will appear from Mr. Cuttings letter to Mr Randolph upon the same subject which is also inclosed stating the Reasons why the warrants cannot be obtained. Your petitioner upon his last Enlistment [one or more pages may be missing] Bounty at the end of the War said to be by virtue of an Act of Congress set forth in the Instructions of the officer under whome he Enlisted; that upon application to the Auditor for the same he was told that it was an Act of the Untied States (If there ever was such an Act) which they had nothing to do with. Since the return from Mr. Randolph your petitioner has been advised to lay his case before your Hon'ble body. He therefore Humbly Prays your Honours will take his case into consideration, and direct that a warrant or warrants to issue for the amount of the land he is entitled to under the Law of this state And your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray John Thompson

Campbell County June the 14th 1822

I John L Crute of the County of Prince Edward & State of Virginia state on oath that I know John Thompson now of Campbell County & said State to be the same John Thompson that was wounded at Blufords defeat in South Carolina on the 29th of May 1780. That he was of Captain Hords Company & I beleive was one of the non Commissioned officers which belonged to the old Virginia regiments & that the statements made of his being on Parole in Virginia after Inlisting for the war is Corectly stated.

John Crute late a
Lt in 11th Virginia
Reg't who was also
present in the action



NOTES:

The 16th Virginia Regiment was consolidated with Col. Nathaniel Gist's Additional Continental Regiment of Infantry in April 1779.

Willis Wilson did not apply for a federal pension, but in the Library of Virginia are papers relating to his application for a disability pension from the state.