

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Grim S8628

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/6/14

[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.]

State of Virginia Frederick County to wit:

On this 5th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Frederick County now sitting John Grim a resident of the borough of Winchester in the County of Frederick and State of Virginia, aged seventy-nine years, three months and upwards, 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 June 7th 1832.

He was born on the 15th day of October 1753 in the town of York, and Colony of Pennsylvania, a record of which is contained in an old Dutch Bible which once belonged to his father and is now in his own possession.

He entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In December 1776 he volunteered in Winchester Frederick County Virginia with Captain Charles Minn Thurston [also spelled Charles Mynn Thurston and Charles Mynn Thruston¹] (he thinks had a commission from the State of Virginia, but he does not know whether in the State line or Militia) for a tour of three months. He marched with Captain Thurston through Fredericktown, Lancaster, York, and Philadelphia to Morristown in the Jerseys, where General Washington then had his head quarters. They arrived there, he thinks, in January 1777; and the same day they were marched to a place called Baskingridge about fifteen miles from Morristown, where General Sterling [William Alexander, Lord Stirling] was stationed, and they remained under the command of this officer during the winter. General Scott [Charles Scott] was at a place a little lower down. During this winter he was in two skirmishes with the British. The first took place near Quibble town [now New Market New Jersey, June 22, 1777], between a scouting party of the Americans, including about twenty of Captain Thurston's Company, and a foraging party of the British, and one of our sergeants was wounded in it. The second skirmish in which he was engaged was near a place or Creek called Piscataway² not far from Brunswick where the British had their head quarters. In this affair Captain Thurston and all the Company were engaged. Captain Thurston was shot through the arm and the bone shattered. Your petitioner carried him off the field, and with the assistance of James Gunn, a light-horseman put him into a sleigh by which he was conveyed to the hospital, about eight miles away. This affair he thinks was on the 3rd of March, & the snow was quite the. He marched through this tour of three months under

¹ [Charles Mynn Thruston Dis \[X806\]](#)

² There was a known engagement at Piscataway meeting house on May 10, 1777 but whether or not this is the engagement referred to by the veteran, I cannot say.

Captain Thurston, and was regularly discharged with the rest, but one discharge was given to a whole mess together, and he does not know what became of it. He has no doubt it has been lost or destroyed long ago.

In July 1778 he went through a tour of one month, under Captain Adam Heiskell [Adam Hiskill] – General Daniel Morgan being also with them, and perhaps having a general command of the Expedition. He volunteered in Winchester, Frederick County Virginia, and was marched into Hampshire County, where they arrested and took into custody divers men who were charged with being Tories, hostile to our independence, and friendly with our enemies. Some of these men afterwards took the oath of allegiance, and some volunteered and went with the troops against Cornwallis.

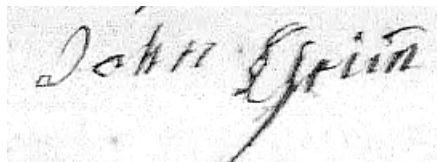
In August 1779 he again entered into the United States service for a tour of three months; as a volunteer, with Captain Samuel Gilkerson, and was immediately marched to Philadelphia, from Frederick County Virginia as one of the guard on certain British prisoners, who he thinks, had been taken with Burgoyne [Battle of Saratoga or Bemis Heights, October 7, 1777], and for a considerable time were kept near Winchester in said County and state.

Your petitioner served through each of the three tours above mentioned, until regularly discharged each time, but he has no documentary evidence of the same, the discharges been lost or destroyed as he believes. He was a volunteer in each, and he resided during the whole time except when in service, in Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia, to which place he removed from Pennsylvania, when he was only about three years of age. All the evidence of his service which he is able to procure to the best of his knowledge is annexed hereto.

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.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court the day and year first aforesaid

S/ John Grim

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Grim". The ink is dark and the handwriting is somewhat slanted to the right.

[George Reed, a clergyman, and John Sperry gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

John Sperry³ a witness sworn in open court states that he was in the company of Captain Thurston in the tour mentioned in the foregoing declaration; and that he believes the declaration is true as to that matter. Mr. Grim was not in his own but was in his brother's mess, other persons were brought into court as witnesses but the court being satisfied, did not examine more.

Frederick County to wit

Jacob Sperry,⁴ a credible witness and over the age of seventy-eight years, personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace for the said County, and having been sworn according to law deposeth and saith:

That he was a volunteer in the company of Charles M Thurston who marched from Winchester Frederick County Virginia, during the revolutionary war, to the headquarters of General Washington at Morristown in the Jerseys; & from thence to where General Stirling was stationed. They had a skirmish with the British in which Captain Thurston was wounded, but

³ [John Sperry R9992](#)

⁴ [Jacob Sperry W2187](#)

affiant was sick at the time & not with the Company. Affiant was in one slight skirmish. John Grim of Winchester was a volunteer in the Company, and through the whole tour, was in the same mess with affiant. John Sperry, a brother of affiant was also in the company but not in the same mess. The tour was for three months.

Given under my hand this 5th day of March 1833.

S/ Ch. H. Clark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$23.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 7 months in the Virginia militia.]