



annexed and by me subscribed. That since the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 the following changes have been made in my property.

I have possessed no property since March 18, 1818 save an old bed & chest & a few trifles of little or no value and I have been continually dependent since as well as at and before that time on some of my grown children & connections for a support & am now at the poor house of said county. Sworn to and declared on this 2d day of August before aforesaid court now sitting in & for the said county of Prince William.

Thomas Flatford x his mark

Schedule of the property or the estate of Thomas Flatford as referred to in the within declaration and sworn to by him:

Description of property	other rights and credits
One old bed	none
One old chest	I live at the poor house, my occupation
A few trifles about his	that of labourer tho I can do
Room of little or no value	little or nothing from extreme age & Infirmity

The above schedule is correct. Given under my hand this 2d day of August 1830

Thomas Flatford x his mark

[routine county certification]

George W Macrae, witness

Philip D Paine, clerk

[pp8-10] 24 Feb 1859 widow Chloe Flatford, age 75, deposition

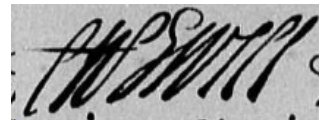
Various other papers due to pension interruption during the civil war.

Addenda and notes by C. Leon Harris.

[The following is in the file of John Franklin W19294.]

Thomas Flatford Enlisted I Beleve in 1776 or 77 In Gibsons Red't [regiment] & when I was Promoted as Capt. in that Red't. I found him In the Company, he served During the Terme of three years Til the Spring 1800 when he was Discharged from the servise to My Own knowledge He was a good Soldier & was in several Engagements, say Monmoth [sic: Monmouth, 28 Jun 1778], Stoney Pint [sic: Stony Point, 16 Jul 1779], & others; He now Lives in or neare my Neighbourhood & Verry In Needy He Certainly Is. June 25 1818.

[Charles Ewell W9432] formerly a Cap. in Gibsin Red



[The following is from [bounty-warrant records in the Library of Virginia](#) under the name Fradford, Thomas.]

I Do Certify that Thomas Fradford was a Soldier in the 1<sup>st</sup> Virginia State Regiment and I have reason to Believe he served his time.

Chas. Ewell Late Capt. in s'd. Regiment

January 6<sup>th</sup> 1812.

Copy Teste J. Williams

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Prince William County]

To the honorable the General Assembly of Virginia, the petition of the undersigned Thomas Flatford of the county of Prince William and state aforesaid; respectfully sheweth: that about the close of the year 1775 (as well as he now remembers) he entered the service of his country aboard the Sloop of War Congress commanded by Capt. Boucher and remained in that vessel for one year; that the company of marines (to which he belonged on board that vessel) was transferred to the army and that he with others enlisted for the term of three years in the first Virginia Reg't. commanded by Col. Gibson; and that he remained in that reg't. during the full term for which he had enlisted, until about the year 1780, when he received an honorable discharge, which he has since lost. Your petitioner served his country with zeal & fidelity, and participated, equally with his fellow soldiers, all the dangers, privations and sufferings of the awful contest in which they were engaged. He was at the battle of Monmouth, at the taking of Stoney-Point in numerous other affairs of less note; but of equal hazard; and he trusts that upon those occasions, he did not dishonor the flag under which he fought, or the state from which he sprung. Your petitioner is in a very necessitous condition, and considers himself entitled to all the consideration due from his country to long and faithful military services during the Revolution; and seeing that others, under like circumstances, have received pensions, he is induced with diffidence and respect, to lay his claims before the Legislature of his state. He feels no humiliation in submitting this application: for he has been nominally, and not really paid for his services owing to causes and circumstances which it is unnecessary for him to detail; and he is conscious, that, whatever may be the form of his address to your body, he is asking justice rather than charity. He first applied to the Federal government for relief, and was placed upon the pension Roll of the United States; but he was immediately stricken therefrom, upon the ground that his Reg't. was upon State and not upon Continental Establishment. He will not enquire into the justice or policy of the act of Congress which exclude from the bounty of the United States those veteran soldiers who were indeed enlisted and maintained by the several States, but fought for the common defence. He will only remark, that his services would have entitled him to the pension, had he enlisted in the service of the United States; and that he was denied it, on the sole ground that had enlisted in the army of his state. He cannot see why he should be prejudiced on that account; but he has been told that he must apply for relief to the State which employed him. Your petitioner has ever been impressed with the belief and enjoyed the reflection that his native state was behind none in liberality and justice: under that conviction, he ventures to hope that whatever pension he would be entitled to from the U. States will be granted him by the state as a soldier of the State, or at least that he will stand on an equal footing of merit and regard with those whose applications have been, heretofore, favorably entertained by your honorable body – and he will not fear that he shall be ignominiously turned from your doors, and invited to behold the enviable prominence of those who served the General Government & now derive from it protection & reward. To those who would measure their liberality by the standard of pecuniary economy, he would suggest that a pension to him for his life would not be likely to exceed the demand of sheer justice, or to become burthensome to the public treasury, for he is now above Eighty three years of age, is bound down by infirmities, & must soon in the ordinary course of nature, be removed beyond the wants which urge this application. Those wants are urgent and distressing in the extreme, leaving your petitioner in a state of mortifying dependance upon relatives who maintain a daily struggle with pressing indigence. He is not ignorant of the provision which the law of his state has made for the poor, but that same sensibility which prompted him in the days of his youthful ardour to the defence of his country, now bleeds at the thought that the febleness of age should subject him to the humiliating & inglorious relationship of a public mendicant nourished by the hand of charity: for the tear of remembrance starts from his eye, as he looks back to the period of his strength, when those energies were nerved in behalf of the struggle of infant liberty, which might have been employed in providing for the dark evening of old age, but that he preferred to throw himself upon the issue of fate by linking his private destiny with that of his country.

Thomas Flatford

Prince William County to wit:

Personally came before me the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the County afs'd Major Charles Ewell, and made oath that he knows Thomas Flatford who is he is informed about to present a Petition to the Gen'l. Assembly of Virginia for a pension; that s'd. Flatford enlisted (he thinks in the year 1776,) in the military service of the State of Virginia, and in the year 1777 upon the organization of her troops, he was assigned to the first Virginia Regiment commanded by Coln. Gibson; that he served in the Company of that Reg't. commanded by this affiant from 1778 to 1782 when he was discharged; that the s'd Regiment marched to the North, performed much hard service, was exposed to many privations, & fought in numerous battles; and that the s'd. Flatford, so far as the Affiant knows, & believes was a brave & faithful soldier, & participated equally with his compatriots the perils, fatigues, & sufferings of the service in which he was engaged. The s'd. Major C. Ewell further made oath that he knows the pecuniary condition of the s'd. Flatford; and that he, being destitute of property, &, from age, & infirmity unable to work, is dependent upon charity for a support, & stands in need of the assistance of the country which, in the vigour of his life, he gallantly helped to defend. Witness my hand this 17<sup>th</sup> day of Dec'r 1825.

James Gallagher

Dec'r 7<sup>th</sup> 1826 ref'd to Claims/ 1826 Dec'r 8<sup>th</sup> Reasonable/ 12<sup>th</sup> Reported/ 16<sup>th</sup> Bill drawn

NOTES: On 5 Dec 1865 Chloe Flatford applied for the restoration of her pension, which had been suspended during the Civil War, during which time "her means of subsistence have been for the most part derived from private charity."