

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Valentine (Volintine) Thrash ¹ W1332 Barbara Thrash f85NC
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 2/14/17

[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.]

[p 5]

State of North Carolina, County of Buncombe: Court of Common Pleas & Quarter Sessions July Sessions 1833

On this 3rd day of July 1833 personally appeared before the court aforesaid Valentine Thrash a resident of the County of Buncombe and State of North Carolina aged 84 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he volunteered in the service of the United States as a private in the year 1776 under Captain Falkner [John Faulkner] Colonels Ramsey [perhaps Ambrose Ramsey of Chatham County] and more [sic, William Moore ?] and General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and was marched from Orange County North Carolina (where he first volunteered) up the State after the Indians but was in no engagement he volunteered for three months and he received no written Discharge was discharged verbally by Colonel Moore. He states that he volunteered again for the term of three months as a private under Captain George Oldham and was marched from Orange County N. C. and Joined General Gates's [Horatio Gates'] Army then marched to near Camblen [sic, Camden] to Rugeley's Mill where General Gates and his Army was defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. He volunteered a third time as a private for three months under Captain Dudley Reynolds in the light horse Service who was under Colonel Paisley [John Paisley] and was marched to Salisbury and from Hillsboro and Joined General John Butler thence he was marched to the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin River in pursuit of the Tories he did not arrive till after the Skirmish was over. Then he was marched back to Salisbury and was dismissed – but received no discharge only verbally.

He states that he volunteered a fourth time as a private for the term of four weeks under Captain George Oldham who was under Colonel Moore who was under General Butler. And was marched to the Reedy fork of Haw River and was in a small Skirmish with the British then the Soldiers being dispersed we went home and in a few days was collected and marched to Guilford County and Joined General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] and on the next day was at Guilford Battle [March 15, 1781] he received no written discharge. He states that he volunteered the same year which he thinks was 1781 as a private (as was at all times before) for the term of three months under Captain Adam Saunders [Adam Sanders] who was under Colonel Moore who was under General Rutherford and Butler. And was marched to Cross Creek then to what was then called the North East Bridge and was in a small engagement with the British or Tories at a place called Brown Marsh [September 1781] then we crossed Cape Fear River and was discharged he received a written discharge from Colonel Moore but does not recollect what

¹ BLWt54232-160-55

became of it. And he further states that he has no other way of proving his Services only by his home of. That he knows of no witness living. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any State.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Valentine Thrash, X his mark

[Nathan Harrison, a clergyman, and William Brown gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories by the Court

Interrogatory 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: I was born in Germany in the year 1749

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Ans: I had once a record of my age in a Dutch sermon book belonging to my father which was sold at his decease in Maryland

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans: I was living in North Carolina in Orange County when first called into service and I lived there about one year after the war then I moved to Virginia in Botetourt County afterward divided and I lived in Montgomery part the whole term of my residence in Virginia was about 16 years then I moved back to North Carolina again to Buncombe County in the year 1798 where I have lived ever since and where I now live

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Ans: I never was Drafted – nor Substituted but volunteered in at [sic] five Different times during the war

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Ans: On first entering the Services Colonels Moore and Ramsey was Commanders, and General Butler, Colonel Caswell and General Caswell [Richard Caswell] of the militia was of my Regiment and General Gates of the Continental line latter part of my services I was under Colonel Moore General Rutherford and Butler and was generally in pursuit of the British and Tories and was in the Country about Cross Creek at Wilmington and Cape Fear

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Ans: I received no written discharge for any Tour that I served except the last which was in the year 1781 when I left the service I received a written Discharge from Colonel Moore who I had been generally under during the Services but being an illiterate man I took no care of my discharge for I saw it would never benefit made anything and the war being ended I never knew what became of it.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Ans: Nathan Harrison, Isaac [illegible last name], Andrew Plimons, William Brown, Benj. Radcliff and David Roberts are all old citizens resident in the same neighborhood with myself and can testify as to my character.

[p 19: In March 1853, Barbara Thrash of Buncombe County, aged 69, filed for a widow's pension stating that she married Valentine Thrash on the October 10, 1818; and that her husband died on March 3, 1835 or thereabouts. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 16: On July 26, 1856, Barbara Thrash, 73, a resident of Buncombe County filed for a bounty land grant stating that she was the widow of Valentine Thrash, a US pensioner at the rate of \$45.83 per annum; and that she is a pensioner under her application made February 3, 1853. She signed this document with her mark.]

[Facts in file: Barbara's maiden name was Barbara Younts; the only child of her union with Valentine named in the file is John Thrash who was living in 1866 in Buncombe County, NC; there appear to have other children of this union but they are not named in the file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$45.83 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 13 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]