

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Spencer W19388

Lucy

f88VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/27/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 7]

Declaration

In order to obtain the benefit of the 3rd section of the Act of Congress of the 4th of July 1836 –

On this 24th day of April 1838, personally appeared before me Samuel D Morton, a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and State aforesaid, Lucy Spencer, a resident of Charlotte County, State of Virginia, aged 79 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th 1836: That she is the widow of Thomas Spencer who was first a Lieutenant, then a Captain and last a Major in the Army of the United States, during the war of the Revolution: That being a woman, and not in camp with her husband, she cannot say as coming within her own personal knowledge what services her late husband rendered in the war of the Revolution; and therefore refers for particular information, to the public Records, and the evidence herewith filed. She states, however, her firm belief that he was in the service of the United States from about the 1st March 1776, to the "close of the war;" and held at various times, during his said service the Rank and Commission of Lieutenant, Captain, and Major – That he was engaged at in the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777], Germantown [October 4, 1777], Guilford [March 15, 1781] and the siege of Yorktown [September-October 1781]. That he was a resident of the County of Charlotte, at the time he entered the service and received his commission, and continued to reside in Charlotte until the day of his death.

She further states and declares, that she was married to the said Major Spencer, (for he held she recollects distinctly, that Rank in the Army, when she first became acquainted with him, and before her marriage, and was stationed near Petersburg) on the 5th of April 1781, at her Father's house in the County of Dinwiddie; and that her marriage took place before the expiration of the last period of his service –

That her husband, the aforesaid Major Thomas Spencer, died in the County of Charlotte on the 4th of July, 1806; and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, and is still a widow, [to] the present date; as will more fully appear by reference to the proofs accompanying this Declaration. As to the length of time her said husband was in the service, she cannot state with certainty; but has heard him state repeatedly in his lifetime that he was upwards of seven years in the Army in defense of his country, in the war of the Revolution. She refers to the Army Records, Certificates, and documents herewith filed, in proof of his services.

S/ Lucy Spencer

Lucy Spencer

[f p. 3: family register:

Lucy Spencer was born 29 August 1759

Thomas Spencer & Lucy his wife married 5 April 1781

Betsy Daughter of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 15 March 1782

Susannah Daughter of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 24 September 1783

Sion Son of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 28 April 1786

Patsey Daughter of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 17 March 1788

William W Spencer Son of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 5 February [year obliterated]

Thomas J Spencer Son of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 18 August [year obliterated]

Polley Daughter of Thomas & Lucy his wife was born 1 May [year obliterated]

Lucindy Daughter [text obliterated] & Lucy his wife was born 1 October [year obliterated]

James Thomas Spencer born January 22nd 1824

Lucy Ann Spencer born June 29, 1823

[f p. 16]

Rec'd 8 May 1780 of Mr. Beverley Man

by the hands of Cap. Tho. Spencer

Seven Pounds / his Acct. Pay [?] of 1779

H. Moseley, D. ?

*Rec'd 8 May 1780 of Mr. Beverley Man
by the hands of Cap. Tho. Spencer
Seven Pounds of his Acct Pay of 1779.
H. Moseley D.*

[f p. 17]

7 Augt. 1779 Rec'd of Tho. Spencer jr. [?]

one hundred & fifty Dollars for the

purpose of Recruiting in the Light

horse Service

Edm Read [Edmund Read]

7 Aug. 1779 Rec'd of Tho Spencer jr:
one hundred & fifty Dollars for the
purpose of Recruiting in the Light
horse Service
Edm Brady

[f p. 18]
Rec'd of Lt. Spencer four Rifles & four
Shott Pouches & three Powder Horns
Unfit for Service D Jackson Q M 4th V. R^t
Augt 4th
1777

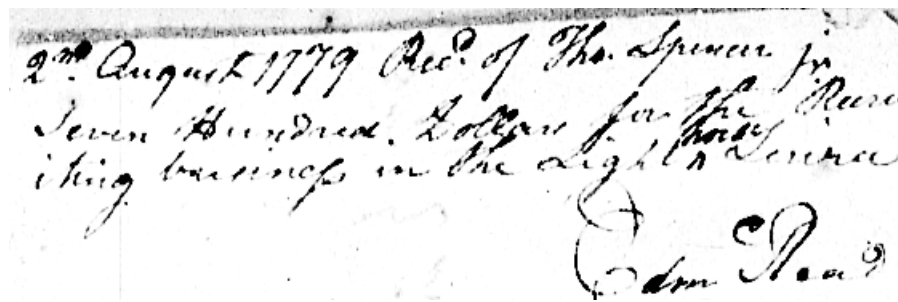
Rec'd of Lt. Spencer four Rifles & four
Shott Pouches & three Powder Horns
Unfit for Service D Jackson Q M 4th V. R^t
Aug 4th
1777

[f p. 19]
1780 Sept [?] 6th Rec'd of Tho. Spencer
jr. Two hundred and Sixty Seven
^{Pounds} his part for the hire of Sol
=dier for his division
W. Bouldin

1780 Rec'd of Tho. Spencer
Two hundred and sixty seven
Dollars for the hire of ~~the~~
- men for his division
W Bouldin

[f p. 22]

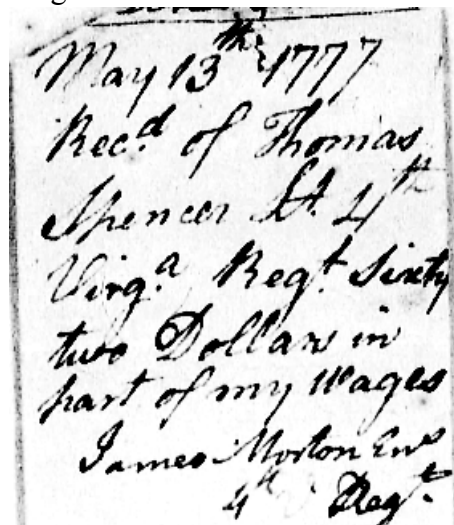
2nd August 1779 Rec'd of Tho. Spencer jr.
Seven Hundred Dollars for the Recru
iting business in the Light horse Service
Edm Read



2nd August 1779 Rec'd of Tho. Spencer jr.
Seven Hundred Dollars for the Recru
iting business in the Light horse Service
Edm Read

[f p. 25]

May 13th 1777 Rec'd of Thomas Spencer Lt. 4th Virga Regt. Sixty two Dollars in part of my
Wages James Morton Ens. 4th Regt.



May 13th 1777
Rec'd of Thomas
Spencer Lt. 4th
Virga Regt. Sixty
two Dollars in
part of my wages
James Morton ens
4th Regt.

[NOTE: there are a number of other receipts and brief certificates such as those set forth above,
but I didn't transcribe them all because he were relatively repetitive of the ones transcribed

above]

[f p. 32: affidavit dated May 19, 1838 given by Archibald D Alexander, a physician, stating that he was eminently acquainted with Thomas Spencer and his family; that his records as the family physician indicates that Thomas Spencer died July 4th, 1806 semi-by his widow Lucy Spencer and 8 children and that the family register is in the handwriting of the veteran except for the last 2 entries.

Arch. D. Alexander]

[f p. 68]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I William Vaughan¹ do hereby certify, that I was a soldier and sergeant of the Virginia Continental line, in the war of the Revolution – and know the fact (being a soldier under him the whole time) that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, now deceased, was a Lieutenant under Captain John Brent, and attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Colonel Lawson and General Stevens. The said company marched from Charlotte Court House about the 1st of March 1776 to Portsmouth in Virginia: and thence to the northern Army under General Washington – The said Lieutenant Thomas Spencer was engaged in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown &c &c whilst in the northern Army, and was a bold, active and efficient officer in every respect. In 1778, Captain Brent was promoted and made Major; at which time, or shortly afterwards, the said Lieutenant Spencer was promoted to the captaincy of the company, and continued as such until I was discharged. I left him in the northern Army, and was with him in the service, upwards of two years – I further certify, that I was credibly informed by soldiers and officers who were with him in the service, that said Thomas Spencer was transferred from the northern to the southern Army, was promoted and made Major under General Lawson; and engaged in the battle of Guilford and many others, and continued in the service to the close of the war. I know the fact (being a soldier myself on the occasion) that he was at the siege of Yorktown, and ranked as Major under General Lawson. I have no doubt (for he was truly a military man) he served the whole war, to the very conclusion thereof in 1783 – I am in the 89th year of my age – Given under my hand this 1st day of May 1838.

S/ William Vaughan

William Vaughan

[f p. 74]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I William Vaughan of Charlotte, do hereby certify, in addition to former certificate given by me, that I have a most distinct recollection, that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte was a Lieutenant in Captain Brent's Company about the 1st March, 1776, and acted as such when he received his commission, I am unable to say; but I feel positively certain, that said Thomas Spencer and Edmund Read worthy Lieutenant; Joseph Holt the Ensign & and Samuel Henry 1st

¹ [William Vaughan S14754](#)

Sergeant &c; about the 1st of March 1776 Captain Brent was promoted afterwards, and the said Thomas Spencer became Captain of the Company – Edmund Read resigned in 1777, and became an officer of Cavalry in the Virginia State line – Joseph Holt was also promoted, and made a Lieutenant. These facts come within my personal knowledge. Given under my hand this 14th day of June, 1838

S/ William Vaughan

[f p. 79]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 19th day of October 1784, in the name of Thomas Spencer, as a Lieut. of Infantry for £98.6.8, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

To wit – pay as Lt. from 1st January 77 to 25th July 1778

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
27th day of April 1838.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[f p. 80: William B Watkins of Charlotte County, gave an affidavit saying he was well acquainted with Major Thomas Spencer and his wife Lucy; that Spencer died July 4, 1806; that the family record in the Bible is in the handwriting of Thomas Spencer.]

[f p. 82]

Virginia – Charlotte County to wit:

I William P Hamlett,² do hereby certify that in the early part of 1781, I was drafted as a militia man under Captain Shelton for 3 months and no the fact from personal knowledge, that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, was a Major commanding the Regiment to which I was attached, and served 3 months – I further certify that in the same year, and shortly after my return from North Carolina, I was drafted again, in the militia, and marched to Point of Fork on James River, and the Pamunkey River, and found the said Thomas Spencer as Major commanding the same Regiment to which I was attached, and know that he served 3 months –, I am in the 79th year of my age.

S/ William P. Hamlett



[f p. 84]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit: I do hereby certify that I was a soldier in the war of the Revolution, and was engaged in the battle fought at Guilford Court House in 1781. I have a distinct recollection of meeting with Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, now deceased, on that particular occasion, who had been in the Army before, a considerable length of time – The said Thomas Spencer was engaged in the battle of Guilford and acted in the capacity and rank of

² FPA S13305

Major under the command of General Lawson. I do not recollect distinctly the line to which he was attached at that time; but presume, that he belonged to the Continental line, from the circumstance, that previous thereto, he was a considerable time in the Continental line in the Army of the North. How long the said Major Thomas Spencer was in the Army, altogether, I am unable to say: but have every reason to believe, that he was in the Army nearly, if not the whole war – I further certify that Lucy Spencer of Charlotte, is the widow of said Major Thomas Spencer, and has remained a widow ever since the death of said Major Thomas Spencer.

S/ Saml. F. Spencer [Samuel F. Spencer]



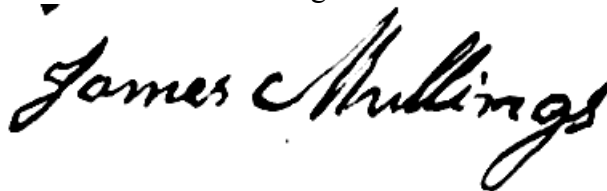
[In the attestation of the above affidavit, the affiant is referred to as "Major Samuel F. Spencer.]"

[f p. 87]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I James Mullings³ do hereby certify that I was a soldier in the War of the Revolution, and know the fact that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte was Lieutenant in Captain Brents Company in the Spring of 1776 when the Company marched from Charlotte; and continued as such until the year 1778 when Captain grant was promoted and made Major. After the promotion of rent, he was made Captain in the Continental service; and continued as such for some considerable time – on his return from the northern Army, he was promoted as Major under General Lawson; was engaged in the battle of Guilford, and in actual service of his country until the close of the siege of Yorktown in October 1781 – After that, I was not with him, and know nothing of his services – I feel no hesitation in saying, that said Thomas Spencer as Lieutenant, Captain and Major was in actual service of his country from the spring of 1776 to the siege of Yorktown – These bikes come within my personal knowledge. I am in the 78th year of my age – Given under my hand this 9th day of July, 1838

S/ James Mullings



[Fact in file: Edward Watkins, brother of Lucy Spencer, in 1838 was residing in a few miles of Petersburg, Virginia.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$292.45 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a Lieutenant, Captain and Major at various time during his service of 21 months & 28 days in the Virginia service.]

The [Virginia State Library](#) online collection contains the following documents relating to this veteran:

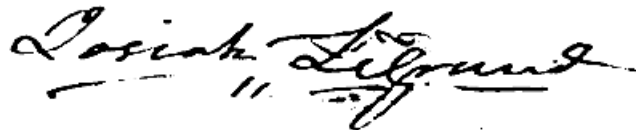
³ FPA S10251

Virginia Charlotte County to wit:

This day Captain Josiah LeGrand of the County of Charlotte personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for said County and being duly sworn according to law made a voluntary statement of facts coming within his own knowledge & belief touching the military service of the late Colonel Thomas Spencer of Charlotte in the Revolutionary war; that is to say:

That he the said Josiah LeGrand is now in the 74th year of his age and was a soldier, and also attached to the Commissary Department, during the Revolutionary War. He was intimately acquainted with the said Colonel Spencer, while in the service, and has a distinct recollection when the said Spencer entered the Continental Army as Lieutenant in the company commanded by Captain John Brent. That the said Lieutenant Spencer, in the month of March 1776, marched from the County of Charlotte for Portsmouth in Virginia, served there a while and afterwards was ordered to the North so far as regards the services of the said Lieutenant Spencer while in the Northern Army, he cannot say anything as coming within his own personal knowledge. In the early part of the year 1780 the said Spencer return from the northern Army either on furlough, or as a supernumerary officer (he does not recollect at this time which) After an absence from the County of Charlotte of more than three years. He saw the said Spencer shortly after his return, and was informed by him that he still belonged to the Army. About that time great exertions were making in this section of Country to raise volunteers for the Army and the said LeGrand enlisted in the Brigade of General Lawson as a volunteer. He marched from Morris old ordinary in the County of Prince Edward in the month of June 1780 and while on their march in the direction of Petersburg in Virginia, the said Thomas Spencer made his appearance in the County of Amelia and assumed the command as Major of the Regiment to which he the said LeGrand was attached. The said Regiment was stationed in the neighborhood of Petersburg while the said LeGrand was in the service, and he was discharged in November 1780 being the said Major Thomas Spencer and Lawson's brigade. That the said LeGrand again entered the Army in February 1781 and was attached to the Commissary Department. His duties as commissary called him the said LeGrand to the headquarters of the southern Army in North Carolina and a few days after the battle at Guilford, he again met with the said Major Thomas Spencer in the Army. He is clearly under the impression not only from conversations had with the said Thomas Spencer after the close of the war, but from information obtained from the most respectable sources and partly from his own knowledge that the said Thomas Spencer engaged in the Continental service for the war – that the said Thomas Spencer was an excellent officer, remarkably fond of the military life, and delighted in the service of his Country he was always considered a bold active and efficient officer.

S/Josiah LeGrand

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Josiah LeGrand". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/Josiah LeGrand".

Charlotte County to wit

Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the Peace for said County the 16th day of February 1833. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this day & year aforesaid.

S/ Saml. D. Morton, JP

Virginia – Charlotte County to wit: This day William Vaughn of the County of Charlotte, came before me a Justice of the Peace for the County aforesaid, being first duly sworn according to

law, made the following statement of facts, in relation to the services of the late Colonel Thomas Spencer of Charlotte, during the Revolutionary war, that is to say:

That he the said William Vaughn is now in the 84th year of his age, and was a soldier in the Virginia line on Continental establishment during the Revolutionary war; and is at this time and has been for the last 4 years, a Pensioner of the United States, and has drawn his pay regularly – That he well knows that Colonel Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, now deceased, was a Lieutenant in Captain John Brent's company, attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, and that Colonel Lawson commanded the Regiment under Brigadier General Stephens [Adam Stephen]. That he the said William Vaughan enlisted in the same company about 1st March 1776 and then were 1st marched to Portsmouth; and late in the fall of 1776, the said Regiment was ordered to the North. They went by water and landed in Maryland; then marched to Philadelphia, and were stationed at various places in the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland – They were engaged in the battles at Brandywine, Germantown, &c &c. In the year 1778, he the said William Vaughn was discharged, leaving in the service as well as he recollects, the said Thomas Spencer as Lieutenant, who was afterwards ordered to the South, and continued in the Continental service as he has always believed and understood until the close of the war. That the said Lieutenant Thomas Spencer was always considered a bold, brave and efficient officer, and rendered much service in the revolutionary war – And further he saith not.

S/ William Vaughan

Virginia Charlotte County to wit

I do hereby certify that I have been well acquainted with the family of Colonel Thomas Spencer late of the County of Charlotte and State of Virginia and that he died about the 1st of July 1806 leaving a widow Lucy Spencer, and the following children, Elizabeth, who married John D Richardson; Susan, who married William B Watkins; Sion Spencer; Martha, who married Richard Morton; William W Spencer; Thomas J [?] Spencer who died in 1822 leaving his widow Ann Eliza Spencer and two children to wit James Thomas Spencer and Lucy Spencer, infants; Mary Spencer, married Daniel Allen who died in the year 1823 or 4.

Given under my hand this 25th day of January 1833

S/ Archibald D Alexander

[the file at the Virginia State Library contains the last will and testament of Thomas Spencer but the copy is largely illegible.]

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Some documents in the file are not legible enough for transcription. Is not explained why some of the documents are in this file.]

June 3^d 1776

Received by the Hands of Thomas Spencer
[several lines obscured by cellophane tape]
Some gun Flints
Some Cartridges
& a small quantity of lead

[Parts of the following are obscured by cellophane tape.]

R[ec'd] Feb'y 4th 177[?] Lt. Tho[mas] Spencer
Eleve[n] Guns Fi[?] Boxes [illegible] Bayonetts Four [illegible] & Baggs & Powder Horns [?]even
Blan[ke]tts D'd Jack[son] QM'r [David Jackson VAS1116 Quarter Master]
4th [Virg'a] Reg't

Rec'd from Lt. Spencer 83 [illegible] Dollars my Pay as Second Lieut from 20th Dec'r to the first April.
Given und'r my hand this 11th may 1777.

Mo Hunter Lt. [Moses Hunter]



[The names on the following lists are virtually undecipherable in the online image. Spelling has been corrected according to muster and pay rolls, and the numbers of pension applications have been added.

Drawn Sep'r 24 th 1777	Shirt	[undeciphered]
James McDearman	1	
Serj't Lawton [Robert Lawton]		1
Jasper Pillar [VAS201]	1	1
Thos Balding [Thomas Balding]	1	
John Guill [S35998]	1	
Wm Chandler [William Chandler]		1
Rich'd Rutledge [Richard Rutledge]		1
Abner Watkins [S6341]		1
Anderson Cocke [S9232]	[illegible]	
Wm Davidson [William Davidson]	1	
Wm Gillispie [William Gillispie]	1	
William [undeciphered]	1	
Sept 28 1777	Overalls	Shoes
John Fraser Serj't [S13080?]	1	
Tho Tuggle [Thomas Tuggle W6335]	1	
James Jennings [W7897]	1	
Isham Chaffin [VAS2944]	1	
John Spaulding	1	
John Thompson [S40575]	1	
Edw'd Davidson		
[Edward Davidson W3958]	1	

A list of the men [undeciphered] in Capt Holcombes [John Holcombe X361] company that drew Cloaths
 Sept 16th 1777

	Overalls	Shoes
Robt Lorton [Robert Lorton]		1
Wm Wright [William Wright W6596]	1	
Abner Watkins [illegible]	[illegible]	
Wm Walker [William Walker S6340]		1
Wm Ascue [William Ascue]	1	
Wm Gillespie [William Gillespie]	1	1
Jasper Pillow	1	1
Thos Balding	1	1
John Cunningham [W10696]	1	1
Wm Davidson	1	1
Rich'd Rutledge	[illegible]	
Wm McGehee [William McGehee] [illegible]	1	
	<hr/> 10	<hr/> 10

[illegible] 25 th 1777	Overalls	Shoes
Benoni Overstreet [VAS352]	1	
[illegible] Chandler	1	1
[illegible] Guill	1	
[Ens]jign Holloway		1

[illegible] have rec'd pay from [?] of Sept'r of [illegible] 28th [illegible]

George hisXMark Hawkins [George Hawkins]
 Solomon hisXmark Elam [Solomon H. Elam S17940]
 Clement hisXmark Sullivant [Clement Sullivan]
 Natt hisXmark Sullivant [Nathaniel Sullivan]
 Jesse Brown
 William [undeciphered]
 [illegible]
 Philip Holt
 Robert Bage
 John Badgett
 Jonathan Terrell
 Samuel hisXmark Lunderman [Samuel Lunderman]
 [undeciphered]
 John Lucas
 Tho hisXmark White [Thomas White]
 Robert Holleman
 Thomas Bedford
 Samuel Henry Sergt

Sir, please to pay to Mr. James Loggins the money in your hands Due me for servises done as a Soldier
 to the South under Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] Aug. 18th 1781.

Mall[?] hisXmark Williams [Mall Williams]

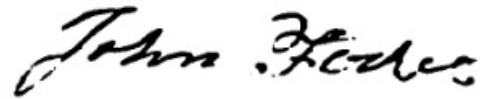
Surry County, June Court 1786

Ordered that it be certified to the Executive that Mourning Savidge Widow of Philip Savidge [VAS2111] who enlisted a Soldier in the fourth Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment and who died in the said service about the beginning of the year 1777, is still a Widow, with two Children one about thirteen and the other about eleven years old, and hath received a support for two years and no more
A Copy/ Teste/ Jacob Faulcon Clk Cur[?]

Virginia – Charlotte County to wit:

This day [22 Jan 1833] John Foster [S1515] of the county of charlotte, aged seventy nine years, personally appear before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, and being first duly sworn According to law, made the following statement of facts to wit:


That he the said John Foster was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War, and was in the state line of Virginia on Continental establishment. He was well acquainted with late Colo. Thomas Spencer of Charlotte from 1765 or there abouts, until the time of his death. That he saw the said Thomas Spencer in the continental army during the Revolutionary war and was attached to the same Ridgement that the said Thomas Spencer was, a Lieutenant in State line of Virginia on continental Establishment, he well knows and the s'd Spencer was engaged in Battle at Brandywine [11 Sep 1777], German Town [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777] and other places while he was stationed in the North. the s'd Thomas Spencer was a brave officer, and highley Respected by his Brother officers and the Soldiers generalley. Some time in the year of 1779 as well as he recollects, the s'd Lieutenant Thomas Spencer was ordered to the South, and continued in the Service until some time in the year of 1781.



Virginia – Charlotte County to wit:

This day [23 Jan 1833] William Vaughan [S14754] of the county of Charlotte came before me a Justice of the peace for the county aforesaid, being first duly sworn according to law, and made the following statment of facts, in relation to the services of the late Colonel Thomas Spencer of Charlotte, during the Revolutionary war, that is to say:

That he the said William Vaughan is now in the 84th year of his age, and was a soldier in the Virginia line on continental establishment, during the Revolutionary war; and at this time, and has been for the last four years, a Pensioner of the United States, and has drawn his pay regularly. That he well knows that Col Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, now deceased, was a Lieutenant in Captain John Brents [John Brent VAS2630] company, marched to the 4th Virginia Regiment on continental establishment, and that Col Lawson [Robert Lawson VAS850] commanded the Regiment under Brigadier General Stephens [sic: Adam Stephen]. That he the said William Vaughan enlisted in the same company about 1st March 1776 and they were first marched to Portsmouth; and late in the fall of 1776, the said Regiment was ordered to the north. They went by water and landed in Maryland, then marched to Philadelphia, and were stationed at various places in the States of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland. They were engaged in the battles at Brandywine, German Town, &c &c In the year 1778, he the said William Vaughan was discharged, leaving in the service as well as he recollects, the said Thomas Spencer as Lieutenant, who was afterwards ordered to the South, and continued in the continental service as he has always believed and understood untill the close of the war. That the said Lieutenant Thomas Spencer was always considered a bold, brave and efficient officer, and rendered much service in the Revolutionary War. And further he saith not.

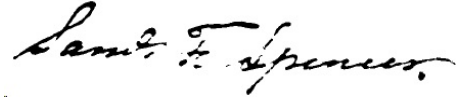


Virginia – Charlotte County towit:

This day [25 Jan 1833] Major Samuel F. Spencer of the County of Charlotte, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, and made the following statment, in relation to the services of Col Thomas Spencer Decd late of Charlotte, during the Revolutionary war, that is to say:

That he the said Samuel F. Spencer was a soldier in the army, during the Revolutionary war, and was engaged in the battle at Guilford, in North Carolina [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. He well recollects seeing the late Col Thomas Spencer of Charlotte, the night after the sd battle, while the troops were retreating; and that Col Lawson and General Stevens [Edward Stevens VAS1922], were commanding officers on that occasion. The said Thomas Spencer at that time, held the title of major, and acted in that capacity. How long afterwards the said Thomas Spencer continued in the service, he does not recollect.

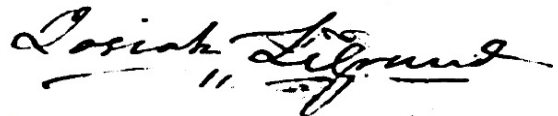
Sam'l. F Spencer



Virginia Charlotte County to wit:

This day [16 Feb 1833] Captain Josiah LeGrand of the County of Charlotte personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for said County and being duly sworn according to law made a voluntary statement of facts coming within his own knowledge & belief, touching the military service of the late Col Thomas Spencer of Charlotte in the Revolutionary war; that is to say:

That he, the said Josiah LeGrand is now in the 74th year of his age and was a soldier, and also attached to the Commissary department, during the Revolutionary war, He was intimately acquainted with the said Col Spencer, while in the service, and has a distinct recollection when the said Spencer enter'd the Continental army as Lieutenant in the Company commanded by Captain John Brent. That the said Lieutenant Spencer, in the month of March 1776, marched from the County of Charlotte for Portsmouth in Virginia, served there a while and afterwards was ordered to the North. So far as it regards the services of the said Lieutenant Spencer while in the Northern Army, he cannot say any thing as coming within his own personal knowledge. In the early part of the year 1780 the said Spencer returned from the northern Army either on furlough, or as a supernumary officer (he does not recollect at this time which) after an absence from the County of Charlotte of more than three years. He saw the said Spencer shortly after his return, and was informed by him that he still belonged to the army. About that time great exertions were making in this section of the Country to raise volunteers for the Army, and the said LeGrand enlisted in the Brigade of General Jameson as a volunteer He marched from Moore's old ordinary in the County of Prince Edward in the month of June 1780 and while in this march in the direction of Petersburg in Virginia, the said Thomas Spencer made his appearance in the County of Amelia and assumed the command as Major of the Regiment to which he the said LeGrand was attached. The said Regiment was stationed in the neighbourhood of Petersburg while the said LeGrand was in the service, and he was discharged in November 1780 being the said Major Thomas Spencer in Lawson's brigade That the said LeGrand again entered the Army in February 1781 and was attached to the commissary department. His duties as commissary called him the said LeGrand to the head quarters of the southern army in North Carolina and a few days after the battle at Guilford, he again met with the said Major Thomas Spencer in the Army. He is clearly under the impression not only from conversations had with the said Thomas Spencer after the close of the war, but from information obtained from the most respectable [undeciphered word], and partly from his own knowledge that the said Thomas Spencer engaged in the continental service for the war – that the said Thomas Spencer was an excellent officer, remarkably fond of the military life, and delighted in the service of his country he was always considered a bold active and efficient officer



[The following are from [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.]

To his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

The Memorial of the Heirs of Thomas Spencer late a Lieutenant, Captain, and Major of the State line of Virginia on Continental establishment in the war of the Revolution: Respectfully represent: That their Father, the said Thomas Spencer, entered the service of the United States about the 1st of March, 1776, and served as an Officer until the close of the war. That he first entered the service as an Ensign or Lieutenant in the Company of Capt John Brent, of the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, and upon the promotion of Capt Brent to a majority, became Captain of the Company. That subsequently, during the Southern campaign, he was promoted again and made major under the command of General Lawson [see endnote]. That he was engaged in many battles, and rendered much service to his country. That in 1833, his heirs were allowed for his services as a Lieutenant for three years 2666²/₃ acres of Land – your petitioners humbly conceive, that the said Thomas Spencer was entitled to Land Bounty from the State of Virginia, as a Major or Captain, at any rates as a Lieutenant, for service from the 1st of March, 1776, to the close of the war. All of which will more readily appear by reference to the accompanying documents and other evidence herewith filed – and to the evidence filed with the Petition for bounty land in the year 1833, now on file in the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

Your Memorialists, therefore, pray that the Executive will allow them additional Land Bounty, according to the proof submitted, pursuant to the Laws of Virginia, in such case made and provided. And as in duty bound shall ever pray &c

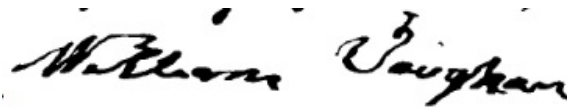
[19 May 1838] William W Spencer/ Susan Watkins/ Martha Morton/ Elizabeth Richardson

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I William Vaughan do hereby certify, that I was a soldier and Sergeant of the Virginia Continental line, in the war of the Revolution: and know the fact, (being a soldier under him the whole time) that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, now deceased, was a Lieutenant under Capt John Brent, and attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col Lawson and General Stevens. The said company marched from Charlotte Ct. House about the 1st March 1776, to Portsmouth in Virginia; and thence to the Northern Army under General Washington. The said Lieutenant Spencer was engaged in the battles of Brandywine Germantown &c &c whilst in the northern army, and was a bold, active and efficient officer in every respect. In 1778, Capt Brent was promoted and made Major, at which time, or shortly afterwards, the said Lieutenant Spence was promoted to the Captancy of the company, and continued as such until I was discharged. I left him in the Northern Army and was with him upwards of two years. I further certify that I was credibly informed by officers and soldiers, that the said Thomas Spencer was transferred from the Norther to the Southern Army; was promoted and made Major under Genl. Lawson; was engaged in the battle of Guilford and many others; and continued in the service to the close of the war. I know the fact, being myself on the occasion, that he was at the seige of Yorktown [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and ranked as Major under General Lawson. I have no doubt, he served the whole war to the very conclusion thereof in 1783. I am in the 89th year of my age. Given under my hand this 14th day of June, 1838.

Witness

A M Fecher[?]/ Wm Brookes

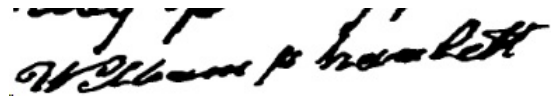


Virginia. Charlotte County to wit:

I William P. Hamlett [S13305] do hereby certify that I was a soldier for the war in the Revolution, and know the fact from personal knowledge, that Thomas Spencer late of Charlotte, was an officer in the Virginia Continental line from about the 1st of March 1776, to the close of the war in 1783. He first entered the service in March, 1776, as a Lieutenant under Capt Brent and attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col Lawson and Gen'l Stevens. The said Lieutenant Spencer was engaged in the Battles of Germantown Brandywine &c in the north. In 1778, Capt Brent was promoted and made Major, and the said Lieutenant Thomas Spence made Captain of the company. He acted as Captain untill the South, in 1780, became the seat of war; at which time he was promoted and made Major under General Lawson, and acted in that capacity untill the close of the war. He was engaged in the battle of Guilford, and the siege of Yorktown, and was an active, bold and meritorious officer the whole war. Given under my hand this 30th day of July, 1838.

Witness

Littleton Walker



1838 Nov 23

This application is rejected the proof not being satisfactory that Thos Spencer was a Major in the Continental line D. Campbell [Gov. David Campbell]

NOTES:

According to *Historical Register of Virginians in the Revolution* by John H. Gwathmey,, Thomas Spencer entered service as a 2nd Lieutenant on 23 Feb 1776, was promoted to 1st Lt. on 28 Sep 1776, and resigned on 30 July 1778. According to *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution* by E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra, John Brent was not promoted to Major until 4 Oct 1777.

Muster rolls list Thomas Spencer as a lieutenant in the company of Capt. John Holcombe of the 4th Virginia Regiment in April through Dec 1777. The muster roll for Holcombe's company dated 12 Feb 1778 was signed by "Thomas Spencer Lieut't." The muster rolls for February through May 1778 list Lt. Thomas Spencer as "On Furlough." A "List of the Officers who hath at any time since the first Day of January 1777 servd in the fourth Reg't. of Virg'a Forces..." shows Lt. Thomas Spencer as having resigned in July 1778.

After resigning from the Continental Army, Spencer appears to have served as an officer in the Virginia Militia under Brigadier General Robert Lawson, who had resigned as Colonel of the 4th Virginia Continental Regiment on 17 Dec 1777. The pension application of Anthony P. Lipford (W2623) states that Thomas Spencer was a Major in the 4th Regiment of Virginia Militia before the battle of Camden SC on 16 Aug 1780. The pension application of Edward Eanes (R3186) states that Thomas Spencer served as a Captain in the Charlotte County Militia at the time of the battle of Guilford Courthouse.

Thomas Spencer would not have been eligible for bounty land for his militia service, because Virginia provided bounty land only for serving at least three years or until the end of the war on continental or state establishment.

The bounty-land record also includes a copy of Thomas Spencer's last will and testament dated 30 April 1798, but the online image is mostly undecipherable. The will was proved on 1 Sept 1806.