

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Puryear W3452      Jane

f52VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/11/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

### Hanover County SS

On this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February 1825, personally appeared in open Court (being a Court of record) for the County of Hanover – Thomas Puryear a resident in the said County, aged sixty-five and three twelfth year, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820; that he the said Thomas Puryear enlisted out of the minute service in the year 1776 in the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia Continental line, for the term of three years on the \_\_ day of October in the year 76 in the State of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Bell, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Lawson in the line of the State of Virginia on the Virginia Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps until his time of enlistment expired, when he was discharged from the service in Richmond in the state of Virginia; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any state except Virginia, and that the following are his reasons for not making earlier application for a pension; I should have claimed a pension 40 years ago, but thought it a very difficult matter to accomplish and was ignorant of the mode I must pursue in order to obtain it, and still hoped it might please God to restore me my health, and heal up my wounded leg, and in that case I trusted I should be able to support myself and family without becoming a charge to my country; but how vain are all hopes; for after enduring the most acute pain and getting patched up, for more than forty-two years, I was at last obliged to submit to amputation in October 1824, and to throw myself on my country for support for the remainder of my life.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. That since the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, the following changes have been made in my property: Many years ago, I became [text obliterated by an ink blot], was sued in several instances, both in Hanover and [text obliterated by an ink blot and a tear in the paper] County Courts, and in the high Court of Chancery for the Richmond District and finding I could not get out of debt and keep my property, I advertised and sold at public sale all I had in order to satisfy my debts except an old wheat fan and cross cut saw, worth about one dollar and fifty cents, and the said Thomas

Puryear was bred a farmer, his wife Jane Puryear is aged about sixty years, one daughter named Polly aged about thirty odd, another daughter named Frances aged about twenty-seven years, one son named Thomas aged about twenty-six years, one other son named Morgan aged about twenty-four years, one other son named William aged about twenty-three years, one other son named Alfred aged about eighteen years, one other daughter named Sarah aged about fourteen years, and one other daughter named Jane aged about twelve years, Frances, Alfred, Sarah and Jane three daughters and one son of the above named live with me, and my wife, who are unable to support me and their aged mother.

Sworn to and declared on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February 1824 in open Court.

[No indication that this document was signed by the veteran]

[f p. 7: On May 28, 1839 in Hanover County Virginia, Jane Puryear, 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Puryear, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him May 6, 1785; that her husband died February 26, 1829; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 9: Copy of a marriage bond dated April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1785 issued in Henrico County Virginia to Thomas Puryear and Benjamin Johnson conditioned upon the marriage of Thomas Pourier [sic] to Miss Jane Johnson.]

[f p. 10: family record:

Thomas Puryear was born in the year of our Lord 19 of November 1759 & married Jane Johnson the 6<sup>th</sup> of May 1785

Elliza a Daughter was born the 4 October 1786

Poley Puryear was born the 4 of May 1789

Fliming Puryear was born the 25 of September 1791

Franky Puryear was born the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 1793

Thomas Puryear was born the 20 March 1796

Morgin Puryear was born the 30 July 1789

William Puryear was born the [paper torn text missing] August 1802

[paper torn, text missing] was born the [paper torn text missing] 1804

Abirt Puryear was born the first day of February in the year of our Lord 1806

12 Jay 1809 Margrit Puryear was born

Jane was born the 13<sup>th</sup> of April 1812

Alfred A. Puryear was born the first day of February 1806

Fiming Puryear was married to Harriet M. Bullington March 27 1823

Francis Puryear was married the 5 October 1825

[illegible entry]

Fleming dide [died] 14 August 1823 his son was born the 19 January 1824

Morgan died 22 September 1825

Reuben M. Ford was born the 11<sup>th</sup> of September 1826

Thomas [indecipherable]

Sarah Jane

[several indecipherable entries]

Ford was born the 5<sup>th</sup> of December 1829

Thomas Puryear Senior died the 25 February 1829

[f p. 14: On October 16, 1839 in Goochland County Virginia, Thomas Puryear gave testimony that he is a resident of Hanover County and the son of the late Thomas Puryear, the elder, husband of Jane Puryear now applying for a pension; that since the death of his father his father's papers have been in the affiant's possession including a certificate signed by Thomas Meriwether dated June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1783 and a certificate signed by P. Muhlenberg at Richmond May 21, 1783.

 ]

[f p. 25: copy of a certificate dated June 16, 1783 signed by Thomas Meriwether stating that Thomas Puryear is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a private in the Virginia Continental line for 3 years service.]

[f p. 41: Copy of a document dated Richmond May 21, 1783 in which Peter Muhlenberg, Brigadier General certify that Thomas Puryear enlisted in the Continental service for the term of three years that he served two years and was discharged in August 1780 having been rendered unfit for duty by a rupture.]

[f p. 27: Affidavit dated May 27, 1839 given by Thomas Bowles, 79, in which he states that Thomas Puryear entered the service in the beginning of the revolutionary war under Colonel Charles Dabney, went to Portsmouth where he enlisted in the Continental Army for 3 years and went to the North "where he continued to serve for some years this affiant does not remember how long, and was marching to the South when he was afflicted with the disease for which he was discharged...."

 ]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836, for her husband's service as a private in the Virginia Continental line.]

---

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

[File contains another copy of the certificate of General Muhlenberg transcribed above.]