

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Spencer (Spenser) W41 Elizabeth f57VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/26/12

[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.]

State of Tennessee [indecipherable word or words]<sup>1</sup>  
[indecipherable word]<sup>2</sup> Judicial Circuit

This day personally appeared before me, Alfred M Harris one of the Circuit Judges in & for the State of Tennessee, the undersigned, Moses Spencer, who being solemnly sworn deposeth & saith, that he is a citizen of the United States of America & resident in the County of Maury & State of Tennessee. That he did on the 10th of February 1778 in the County of Charlotte & State of Virginia enlist as a private soldier, for the term of one year, in a company commanded by James Batup [James Baytop] in the 7th Virginia Regiment of Continental troops, commanded by Colonel Wm Heath [William Heth] in Woodford's Brigade – That he served faithfully during his said term of enlistment against the common enemy Great Britain in the War of the Revolution and was at Middlebrook in New Jersey on the 16th of February in the year 1779 honorably discharged by Major Webb [John Webb] who was then the commanding officer, which said discharge he hath lost through time or accident so that it is out of his power to produce the same – he knows of no person living convenient to him by whom he can prove his said services – During his said service he was transferred to a company commanded by Captain \_\_ Young [probably Henry Young] in the same Regiment & Brigade before mentioned –

That he was in the battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] – That he served his country afterwards as a Volunteer militia man; & fought against the enemy at the battle of Guilford [Guilford County Courthouse, March 15, 1781] – the pay he received was in Continental money which was so much depreciated as to be of but little benefit to him.

He is now in the 75th year of his age; and not able to get anything like a comfortable living by his own labor – He has no property except a small stock; and no person to attend to them. He stands in need of assistance from his country for a support. He hath never received a pension from his government; and therefore releases all pensions heretofore granted him by the laws of the United States, except the one hereby prayed for – He prays to be placed upon the pension list agreeable to the provisions of the late act of Congress in such cases made and provided 28th of December 1818.

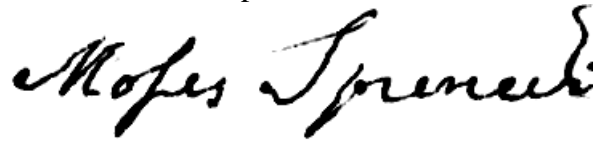
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[Sixth, according to the attestation]

Sworn to & subscribed before me the day and year above written  
S/ Alfred M Harris, Judge of the 6th Judicial Circuit of the State of Tennessee  
S/ Moses Spencer



[f p. 15]

District of West Tennessee

On this 4th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record of Pleas and quarter Sessions Holden for the County of Lawrence and State of Tennessee Moses Spencer Senior aged Seventy-six years on the 16th day of last January Resident in Lawrence County and State aforesaid who being 1st sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows (to wit) in Colonel William Heath commandant of the 7th Virginia Regiment and General Woodford's Brigade in Captain James Battupt company in the Virginia line which he claimed on the 28th day of December 1818 and has received a Pension certificate No. 13789 and 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

S/ Moses Spencer

Sworn to and subscribed on the 4th day of October 1820

S/ Maximilian H. Buchanan, Clk

A Schedule of my property at this time Bed stand necessary clothing excepted, to wit one horse, mare, and colt three cows two yearlings and two calves one sow and six shoats not quite one year old and indifferent lay grown, \$28 in money owing to me that I expect to get. My Occupation is nothing on account of being dim sighted and lame, no person to work for me, my youngest son supports my stock, by wife and son are all the family my wife's name Elizabeth Spencer my son Amassa Spencer

[Attested by Maximilian H Buchanan, Clerk]

[f p. 18: Veteran filed another application dated October 1, 1821 in which he addresses objections raised by the War Department to his 1820 application reading and relevant part as follows:

"I further swear that my family consists of myself aged as aforesaid and I am a millwright by trade but have by reason of Blindness been unable to do labor of any kind for several years and unable to provide for myself my wife named Betsy in her 70th year, She is infirm and unable to support herself my youngest son named Amzi aged 23 years healthy and strong and he has been my only support for some time but I have no securities of his staying with me for he is his own and has only continued with me through a sense of gratitude and my entire helplessness.

S/ Moses Spencer

A Schedule of my property at this time thence & necessary clothing excepted to wit one mare one horse and one colt three cows two yearlings and two calves one sow and six shoats not quite one year old this is my property at present having collected the \$28 mentioned in my former

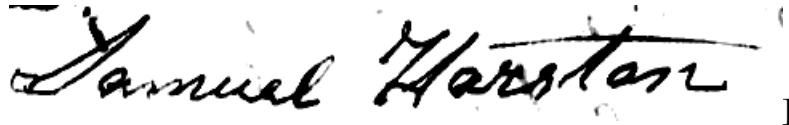
Schedule and spent it on my support as I have no income from labor or otherwise.  
S/ Moses Spencer"

[f p. 22: On September 1, 1843 in Lawrence County Tennessee, Elizabeth Spencer, over 80, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act as the widow of Moses Spencer a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she was married to Moses Spencer November 20, 1779 by Dutton Laign a Baptist Minister in the presence of her father Thomas Tinsley and that family of Parson Laign in Henry County Virginia; that her husband died March 27, 1826; that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. 11: On July 1, 1850 in Lawrence County Tennessee, Thomas Spencer, 65, filed for the amounts due the children of Elizabeth Spencer deceased under the act of July 7th, 1838 and subsequent acts; that he is the lawful son of Moses and Elizabeth Spencer; that his father was a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$96 per annum; that his father died March 27, 1826; that his mother Elizabeth Spencer was the widow of Moses Spencer; that her maiden name was Elizabeth Tinsley; that she died in Lawrence County Tennessee August 13, 1849; that his mother had made application for a pension but for reasons unknown to the affiant her claim was disallowed; that Moses & Elizabeth Spencer died leaving three children surviving them now living whose names are Tabithy Woods, Ellen Blithe [also spelled Ellen Blythe] and Thomas Spencer; that his parents were lawfully married by a Baptist clergyman named Dutton Land [??] in the County of Amelia, state of Virginia in 1777 or 1779; that at the close of the revolution his parents moved to North Carolina where they resided but a short time then removed to South Carolina and about 50 years ago resided in Mercer County Kentucky where they lived a few years then moved to the County of Barron, Kentucky and in about the year 1810 resided in the County of Maury in the State of Tennessee where they resided at the time Moses Spencer died; that his parents never kept a record of births of their children.

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[f p. 9: On April 26, 1851 in Allen County Kentucky, Samuel Harston, 71, gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Moses and Elizabeth Spencer; that he was acquainted with them in the state of North Carolina several years prior to General Wayne's victory over the Indians in 1794; that they were respectable people; that he, affiant, was married in South Carolina April 9, 1801 of which he has a record; that in the month of November of 1801 he settled in Kentucky in the neighborhood of Moses & Elizabeth Spencer who at that time had a daughter Tabitha who was married and had 3 children.

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[facts in file: Tabitha Woods, oldest daughter of the veteran and his wife, had 3 children, namely James, Moses and Betsy all born prior to November 1801; the veteran's oldest child (not named) was born February 9th, 1781.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing December 28, 1818, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]