

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Quirk W5958 Jane Buford VA
 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 Oct 2014.

State of Virginia Montgomery County Ss.

On this 13th day of March 1843 personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace for the said county; (who is authorized by the law of this state to administer oaths) Jane Buford a resident of said county and state aged about Eighty two 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 and the act explanatory of said act passed March 3rd 1837. That she was married to Thomas Quirk who was an officer in the War of the Revolution, and who served as herein after stated. That soon after the commencement of the War of the Revolution the said Thomas Quirk entered the service in the county of Botetourt in the state aforesaid as a recruiting officer, (perhaps in the grade of a Captain) this was in the year 1775 or 1776, as shown by the affidavit of R. Breckenridge, that the company to which he belonged marched to the lower part of Virginia, where it is supposed he was attached to one of the Regiments then organizing for the defense of the state. she is not now able to state the particulars of his service or under what officers they were performed, or how long he continued in service, but she is inclined to the belief that he continued in service until some of the Virginia Regiments were united, which perhaps took place about May or June 1778 [probably a reference to the White Plains arrangement, 14 Sep 1778]. She is under the impression that he then entered the Illinois service in December following in the grade of Captain, and continued in the service until August 1779. He then again entered the service as a recruiting officer, and according to the statement of Hugh McGavock [pension application S16948], rendered some three or four years service in this capacity, in the western part of this state; She does not know at what period he was promoted to the grade of a Major. She verily believes that much of his service (after his return from the Illinois service) was against the Tories and Indians who were very troublesome in the western part of Virginia. That after her intermarriage with said Quirk, he rendered some service which was against the Indians, who were annoying the settlements of the whites in the counties of Montgomery, and other counties west of the same. She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Quirk about the 9th or 10th of September 1783; That her husband the aforesaid Thomas Quirk died on the [blank] day of [blank] 1803. That she was afterwards married to Henry Buford who died about the 1st of December 1814. and that she was a widow on the 4th of July 1836 and still remains a widow as will fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

Jane Buford

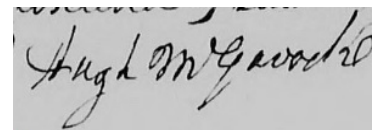
[Copy certified 21 Feb 1843:]

Pay Roll Capt Thomas Quirks Company of the Illinois Regiment raised for the defence of the Western Frontier of Virginia Commanded by Brig Gen'l George Rogers Clarke [sic: George Rogers Clark]. [In the original surnames precede given names.]

Names	Rank	Commencing	Ending
Thomas Quirk	Capt	17 Dec'r 1778	10 Aug't 79
Joseph Ramsey [S7348]	Lieut	1 Jan'y 1779	28 May 80
Joseph Kincaid [R15697]	Ens	" " "	60 July 79
James Kincaid [S16907]	2 L	10 " "	28 May 80
George Campbell	Serg't	" " "	D'o
Thomas Jamison	D'o	12 " "	D'o
John Breeding	D'o	19 " "	D'o
John Caudry	Priv	10 " "	D'o

State of Virginia }
Wythe County } to wit:

Be it known, that on the 25th day of February in the year 1843, before the subscribers, Robert Crockett and Ephraim McGavock, acting justices of the peace in and for said County of Wythe, personally appeared Hugh McGavock, a citizen of said County of Wythe, and being first duly sworn, on his said oath, made the following statement – that is to say – that he is in his eighty second year of age – that he was an officer of the Revolution, attached to Colonel Joseph Crockett’s Regiment, being the same individual, to who, in his name, Half Pay and a pension has been allowed – that he was intimately and well acquainted with Major Thomas Quirk, who was attached to Colonel John Montgomery’s Regiment in the Revolution – affiant and said Quirk having resided in said County of Wythe (then Montgomery County), in the same neighbourhood, only some two or three moles apart, for several years during the Revolution and until the removal of said Quirk to the State of Kentucky some year after the close of the Revolution. Affiant states, that he was at no time in actual service with the said Quirk; said Quirk having been attached, as before stated, to Col. John Montgomery’s Regiment. Affiant, as well as he recollects, first became acquainted with said Quirk very shortly after said Quirk came into said County. He thinks that he came into the County in the capacity of recruiting officer for Col. Montgomery’s Regiment. When affiant left the County to join Col. Crocketts Regiment, he left Major Quirk acting in the same capacity of recruiting officer, and on his (this affiant’s) return from service to said County of Wythe (then Montgomery) he found said Quirk still acting in the capacity of recruiting officer for Col. Montgomery’s Regiment, as aforesaid. Affiant thinks that said Quirk held the office of Major, during his service in the Revolution, he having always heard him called “Major,” and it having been affiant’s understanding as was also, as affiant believes, the general understanding of the country, that said Quirk held the grade of Major. Affiant does not know, that said Quirk was engaged in any other service, than that of recruiting officer, as above stated except as hereinafter stated. Affiant’s recollection is, that said Quirk was considered a very successful recruiting officer, and that his understanding, from the country on his (affiant’s) return home from service, was, that said Quirk had been kept on that sort of service. Affiant’s belief is, that said Quirk was engaged in service, as aforesaid, some three or four years. Affiant also states, that it was his understanding, during his acquaintance with said Quirk, that he, said Quirk, had been engaged in service as an officer of the Revolution before he, said Quirk, came into this portion of the Country. He cannot state how long, nor does he recollect that he ever heard the capacity in which such service had been rendered. Affiant well recollects, however, that said Quirk was calle “Major” the first time affiant saw him. Affiant’s service continued to the disbanding of the Western troops, and when it was understood the Revolutionary war had closed; and finding said Quirk in service on his (affiant’s) return home, as above stated, he, said affiant, has no doubt that said Quirk continued in service to the close of the war.



[Copies certified 30 Oct 1849]

To the Hon’ble, the Judges of the district court now sitting The petition of Thomas Quirk humbly sheweth

That your petitioner engaged in the armies of the Untied States early int he late war & was after some time appointed a Major in the Illinois Reg’t. in which service he continued until the end of the war. That he thinks himself entitled to half pay for life or to five years commutation in lieu thereof; certificates for which the Auditor refuses to issue; From this decision, your petitioner prays an appeal to the Hon’ble Court, & that the Auditor may be directed to issue to him such certificates or warrants, as he is by Law entitled to.

And your petitioner as in duty bound, will ever pray &c.

“To be entered by consent in lieu of the other pet.”

Richmond Dec;r. 20th 1790

I do hereby Certify that Thomas Quirk served as Maj'r. to the Illinois Rg't. to the end of the war, & that he is Intitled to the five years pay as Maj'r.

Given under my Hand Jos. Crockett/ Late Col. Com'd. (several letters omitted that are not plain)

[Copy certified 7 Nov 1849]

Richmond Virginia the 17th July 1783

Illinois Department

Warrant to Thomas Quirk (out of the Military fund) for forage not drawn from Jan'y 1st 1782 to the 15th Feb'y 1782 agreeable to the orders from the Executive 2.16.3

Warrant to ditto for one years interest on a certificate dated this day in fall for forage not drawn from 17th Aug't 1779 to 31st Dec'r 1782 as a Major of Infantry No 392 3.10.0
£ 6. 6.3

NOTES:

On 1 May 1844 Jane Buford, about 82, stated that she had received a pension for the services of Thomas Quirk as Captain but had not applied for his services as Major because she did not previously know when he achieved that rank, but that she had since learned that it was 17 Aug 1779.

A letter from the Auditor's Office of Virginia states that Thomas Quirk served as a Major at least after 1 Sep 1782, when he was a member of a Court of Enquiry.

The file includes a copy of a bond signed by Thomas Quirk and James McCorkle dated 9 Sep 1783 in Botetourt County VA for the marriage of Quirk to Miss Jane Kent of the Parish of Botetourt.

On 4 Feb 1845 Jacob Kent, administrator of the estate of Thomas Quirk, successfully applied for pay under the act of 5 July 1832. On 16 Sep 1856 the attorney for Jeremiah Quirk, great nephew of Thomas Quirk, inquired whether such money had already been claimed.