

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Spiceley (Spicely)¹ W6150 Martha H. Spiceley f71VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/30/12: rev'd 8/30/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 14]

Chesterfield County Virginia to wit

I Richard Jones² of the County and state aforesaid do certify that after enlisting for eighteen months in the Virginia Continental line of light dragoons under Captain Gunn attached to the first Regiment under Colonel White, & after serving about nine months in the South enlisted for during the war in the same company and Regiment and served out my term faithfully and received my discharge that I knew James Spiceley who entered the same service with me as a private in the regular Army and was afterwards made a trumpeter of the same Regiment of Dragoons I and enlistment at the Pedee and Great Lynch Creek with me, at the same time that I did and for during the War – under the bounty that was promised by the Act October 1780 of sixty pounds in gold or silver or a Negro of between ten and thirty years of age, and three hundred acres of land in lieu of all former bounty and knows that the said James Spiceley served out his time faithfully and we returned home together. Given under my hand this 13th of November 1824.

S/ Richard Jones, X his mark

[p 6]

Received 17 November 1832

Konnaday's Post Office

Brunswick County August 3rd 1832

The Secretary of War

Sir,

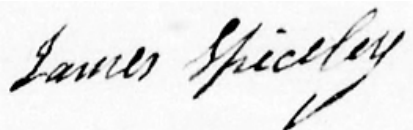
I have the honour to address to your department of the Government my Claim for Revolutionary Services in conformity to the resolve of Congress conferring bounty land and to the act of Congress of 18th May 1828; according to the accompanying documents. You will fill [file] my warrant with the Commissioner of Gen. Land Of. to be sarified [certified], and you will address your Communication to me in answer hereto to the above post office, whither a Warrant upon the U. States Bank at Richmond for my back pay would be satisfactory.

Respectfully

¹ BLWt53748-160-55

² [Richard Jones S38097](#)

Sir
Your Obedient Servant
S/ James Spicely



Signed in my presence
S/ Abner Adams, JP

[p 7: envelope for the above letter]
(Revolutionary Claim)

Oak Grove Virginia
8th August 1832

Secretary of War Cass
Washington City
District Columbia

No 5389
[undeciphered work or initials]
free
respectfully ref'd
to the Secretary of
the Treasury, Pension Office
Nov. 17, 1832

[p 8]

Pay Claim
of Trumpeter James Spicely
of Colonel White's [Anthony Walton White's] Cavalry

Declaration of James Spicely

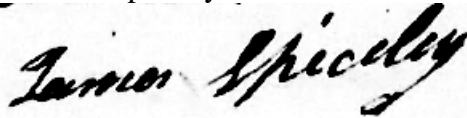
For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the Act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved on the 15th of May 1828, I, James Spicely of the post office of Kenneday in the County of Brunswick in the State of Virginia do hereby declare, that after having entered into the company commanded by Captain Culbertson [perhaps James Culbertson] in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Campbell, at Chesterfield C. H. as a substitute for John Bishop, and served out his time of eighteen months, I enlisted, at Pedee [Pee Dee River] and Great Lynches Creek in South Carolina under Captain Gunn [James Gunn] in the Regiment of Cavalry commanded by Colonel White on the 21st of March, as well as I remember 1781, for during the War, and was appointed trumpeter having been commended by the Trumpet Major Keiser, and continued in this rank (having been promised \$10 a month but never got anything) until I was discharged in the year 1783 at Hampton in Virginia, having declined to purchase my horse and preferring to take water at Charleston South Carolina, an option given to the soldiery for returning to their respective homes, when the Army was ordered to be disbanded about the middle of June 1783, at which time I was a trumpeter in the Troop commanded by the said Captain Gunn and in which a Throckmorton [perhaps Albion Throckmorton] was Lieutenant and in the Regiment of Dragoons commanded by Colonel White as aforesaid.

And I further declare that at Richmond I received eighteen dollars cash and from an officer there, Baker, perhaps German [?], I received a certificate for 27 pounds and this is all I received for four years service.

And I further declare that I am not now upon any pension list, and that I was not on the 15th of May 1828 on the pension list of the United States.

Witness my hand this 3rd day of August 1832 on the 57th year of the Republic.

S/ James Spiceley



[p 10]

Dinwiddie County to wit

Before me Abner Adams a magistrate for the County of Dinwiddie duly empowered to administer oaths in the State of Virginia, this day personally appeared James Spiceley of the County of Brunswick and State of Virginia, and after signing the foregoing Declaration in my presence, made oath to the truth of his certificate and declaration. And I certify that he has been always recognized by old people of this part of the world as a revolutionary soldier and upon Lafayette's arrival at Petersburg³ he was invited and partook of a dinner provided for that occasion in consequence of his revolutionary services at which I was present. I have heard him blow the trumpet in a troop of cavalry of this County and I always understood that he was a trumpeter during the revolutionary War.

3rd August 1832

S/ Abner Adams, JP

[p 12]

Dinwiddie County Virginia to wit

I, James Bishop aged Seventy three in about November next, do certify that I was born and have lived in this County to this day. That James Spiceley of this County until he removed to Brunswick about five years since was substitute for my brother John Bishop in the war of the Revolution. That I knew him to before he went into the service and since up to this time. That I never knew him to have been a trumpeter before he went into the war, but knew that since he came out he was a trumpeter and I have always understood that he has ever since the Revolution been deemed a soldier of the said Revolution.

Given under my hand this 4th day of August 1832

S/ James Bishop



[p 66]

Before me John Wyche a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Brunswick in the State of Virginia personally appeared James Spiceley of St. Andrews parish in the County of Brunswick and State of Virginia known to me as a person of good repute and entitled to credit who being first duly sworn does on his oath say, that he entered the service of the United States as a substitute for John Bishop in the year 1779 and was stationed at Petersburg for the purpose of guarding the Magazine at that place a Colonel Gibson was the Commanding Officer he recollects no other Commission Officer but there was a Sergeant named Connell, he remained there until he was marched to Chesterfield Court House and put under the command of Colonel Campbell and Culberson Captain and marched under them to Guilford Court House North Carolina and got there a day or two before the Battle and was in that Battle. That a few days after the battle

³ I believe this is a reference to the tour of the US that Lafayette took in the years 1824 and 1825.

aforesaid in the year 1781 he enlisted in the Army of the United States for & during the War under Captain Gunn in the Regiment commanded by Colonel White and continued in the service until its termination, that he was sent to Staunton under the command of Sergeant Butler and was delivered over to by him to Lieutenant Throgmorton and by him marched to Petersburg and put under Captain John Hughes who commanded a company of Horse and was by him appointed trumpeter to the said company and marched to Charleston South Carolina and remained with him in the capacity aforesaid until the termination of the War, was in no regular fought Battle after he was placed under Captain Hughes but was in several skirmishes, and one in particular he recollects was with the Indians near Savannah in Georgia. And In testimony whereof he has hereunto annexed his signature.

S/ James Spiceley

[p 22]

State of Virginia Brunswick County to wit

On this 23rd day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Brunswick James Spicely a resident of the County of Brunswick State of Virginia, aged Sixty nine years the 22nd March last, has no record of his age, 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 enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1779 as a Substitute for John Bishop and was stationed in Petersburg for the purpose of guarding the magazine at that Place, Colonel Gibson [John Gibson] was the commanding Officer, does not recollect any other Commissioned Officer he served six months for said Bishop as well as he recollects. In the year 1780, he volunteered his services under a Sergeant by the name of Connell who was stationed in Petersburg and after remaining there some time and was marched to Chesterfield Court House and placed under the command of Colonel Campbell, there was a Captain Culverson also, immediately upon arriving at the Court House he was marched to Guilford court House North Carolina, and arrived there a few days before the battle [March 15, 1781]; his tour of duty as a volunteer was nearly or quite twelve months. That a few days after the battle of Guilford in the year 1781 he enlisted as a private during the War under Captain Gunn in the Regiment commanded by Colonel White who commanded a Regiment of Horse, that he was marched shortly after his enlistment to Staunton Virginia under Sergeant Butler and delivered by him to Lieutenant Throgmorton and by him marched to Petersburg and placed under Captain Hughes (John) [John Hughes] who commanded a company of horse, and by him appointed trumpeter to his company at as well as he recollects in the month of May 1781 and continued in that capacity until he was dismissed in Richmond in the year 1783 until further orders, which was the ending of the War. From Petersburg he was marched to South Carolina to the town of Charleston under Captain Hughes. He was in no regular fought battle under Captain Hughes but was in several skirmishes and one in particular with the Indians near Savannah in Georgia. He has no documentary evidence of his services, and knows of no person who can prove the same. That by reason of Old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot positively swear to the precise length of time of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned hereafter to went as a substitute for John Bishop 6 months, as a volunteer 12 months, and after his enlisting during the war 2 years and 6 months, and served as a trumpeter 2 years and 4 months of that time.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present

and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ James Spiceley

[Littleberry Orgain and Robert Turnbull of Brunswick County gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 49]

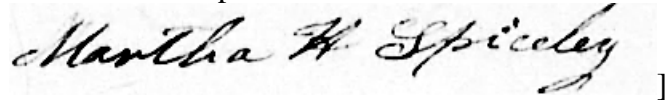
This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 21st day of August 1783, in the name of James Spicely, as a trumpeter for £27.0.0, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to himself and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
12 day of May 1834.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[p 30: On September 17, 1855 in Dinwiddie County Virginia, Martha H Spicely, 59, filed for her pension as a widow under the 1853 Act stating that she is the widow of James Spicely, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$120 per annum; that she married him February 19, 1829; that her maiden name before her intermarriage was Martha H Edwards; that her husband died at his residence in Dinwiddie County Virginia March 18, 1855. She signed this application with her mark.]

[p 26: On September 23, 1856 in Dinwiddie County Virginia, Martha H Spiceley, near 60, filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of James Spiceley a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$120 per annum who died in Dinwiddie County Virginia March 18th, 1855.

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[p 17: Copy of a marriage bond dated February 16, 1829 given in Brunswick County Virginia to James Spicely and Robert Turnbull conditioned upon the marriage of James Spicely to Martha Edwards.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a trumpeter. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

Addendum to James Spiceley (Spicely) W6150

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 27 Aug 2021.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Spiceley, James.]

Dinwiddie County to Wit.

I James Scott aged fifty four years, a Colonel of Militia do hereby Certify, that I have for about forty years known James Spiceley who during that time except for a few years last past, has resided in this county that

I have always understood that he was a regular soldier of the Revolutionary War and a Trumpeter in a troop of Cavalry while he was in that service, that in consequence of his excellence as a Trumpeter he had been employed many years since as a Trumpeter to troop of horse raised in this County, and Commanded by Colonel Robert Pegram – and that no man has sustained a Character for veracity and conduct more unimpeachable since I knew the said James Spiceley than he has done. And I have no doubt but that he has performed the services stated by him in the foregoing declaration.

Given under my hand this 4th of August 1832 James Scott

Dinwiddie County & State of Virginia to Wit.

I Joseph Goodwyn of the County and state aforesaid do hereby certify that I have known James Spiceley forty year or upwards who was a resident of this county until a few years past now of Brunswick, and have always understood from may of the officers and soldiers of the Revolution as well as from himself that he was a revolutionary soldier and served principally in the latter part of the war in the southern army and was a Trumpeter in [Lt. Col. William] Washington's Corps of Cavalry and I further certify that James Spiceley for sound integrity and honesty stands as high as any man. Given under my hand this 4th day of August 1832.

Jos. Goodwyn