

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Nathaniel Mothershead (Mothershed) W8472

Ruth f74VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/28/13

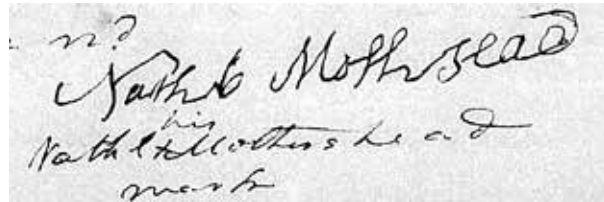
[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have 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.]

[p 20]

Scott County State of Kentucky Sct.

The application of Nathaniel Mothershead for a Pension for wounds received in the Revolutionary war to wit the said Nathaniel states that he entered the Service of the U. States in the year 1775 4 one year – this year he served principally under Captain John Green & Captain Richard Taylor & Captain Tarlton Payne [Tarleton Payne] & was stationed at Williamsburg that towards the close of his first year's service as aforesaid there was a call for regular troops to go to the North & at the call of his Country he enlisted for three years under Captain Richard Taylor & served under him till he was promoted. That this applicant served his three years & then returned home & soon after his return he was called on to serve in the militia & from time to time served till the close of the war – that during the services, he was in the Battles of Princeton [January 3, 1777] & Trenton [December 26, 1776] & helped to take the Hessians at Trenton. He was at the Battles of Brandywine [September 11, 1777 & Germantown [October 4, 1777 & at the Battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] & at the Siege of Mud Island [Fort Mifflin, October 10- November 15, 1777] & many skirmishes & he was at the taking of Cornwallis at Little York [October 19, 1781] in Virginia – that he was wounded in the right arm at the commencement of the Battle of Brandywine. That he has been unwilling to call on his country for a Pension till he has been compelled by infirmity of old age & loss of the most of his property & he now is in great need of the aid of his Country & he makes this application at the age of 72 years for a pension to which he has been so long entitled – He has lived in the State of Kentucky since 1788 & lived in Virginia previously in Orange County – that he is very infirm & unable to do any kind of hard labor & his right arm weak & much disabled by the wound before received.

S/ Nathl Mothslad [sic]

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive ink. The signature reads "Nathl Mothershead" in a large, bold hand. Below it, in a smaller hand, is "his Nathl Mothershead" and "marks". There is a question mark above the signature.

The deposition of Shadrach Pierson. He states that he has read the statement of Nathaniel Mothershead & he knows the statement to be true in every particular. That he served with said Nathaniel in the revolutionary war, that they were in the same Company that said Nathaniel served as orderly Sergeant & was a most worthy & brave soldier for the term of 4 years in the regular Service as stated by him & after in the militia until the taking of Cornwallis in Virginia – that said Nathaniel was wounded with a musket Ball in the right arm as stated by him & that he

was present & saw the wound of said Nathaniel – that the said Nathaniel is a worthy & respectable Citizen & being now infirm & unable to work on account of age & his wounded arm has called on this deponent to prove his statement as above.

S/ Shadrach Pierson,¹ X his mark

The deposition of Meshach Pierson. He states that he has heard the statement of Nathaniel Mothershead & he knows that statement to be true that this deponent was in the Army of the Revolution at the same time with the said Nathaniel & he knows that he served as stated by him & that he was in the Battles enumerated & that he was wounded at the beginning on the Battle of Brandywine as stated by him in his right arm with a Ball from a gun. That he has known said Nathaniel ever since & he is the same person who served in the war of the revolution; that said Nathaniel has ever maintained a good character & he is now very infirm & unable to do any hard labor.

S/ Meshach Pierson,² X his mark

The Deposition of Doctor Richard Emmons. He states that he has examined the wounded arm of Nathaniel Mothershead as proven to have been received in the revolutionary war at the Battle of Brandywine. The right arm seems to be disabled & totally disqualified him for any kind of hard labor or labor to support him, & he has no hesitation in saying that he is entitled to a full Pension from this date.

S/ Richard Emmons



The deposition of Doctor G M Bower he states that he has examined the wounded arm of Nathaniel Mothershead as proven to have been received in the Revolutionary War at the Battle of Brandywine. The right arm seems to be disabled & totally disqualifies him for any kind of hard labor or labor to support himself.

October 1st, 1828

S/ G. M. Bower

State of Kentucky Scott County Sct.

On this 10th day of September personally appeared before me Nathaniel Mothershead a Resident of the County of Scott & State of Kentucky aged about 80 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he was born in March 1754 according to the Registry of the family Bible, in Westmoreland County Virginia, that at the commencement of the revolutionary war 1776 he lived in Orange County Virginia. In the summer or fall of 1775 he enlisted as a regular soldier in the Continental Army for one year & after the expiration of that term he enlisted for three years & finished that service – he had an Honorable discharge but has lost it. He served under Captain Richard Taylor, also under Captain Payne, his memory is very frail he cannot recollect any other at this time – under Major John Green promoted to a Colonel in the war Major Taylor promoted from Captain also under Colonel Parker & Colonel Ball, & General Mulenburgh [Peter Muhlenberg] – some of the officers under whom he served died, some were changed 2 other positions, old age has so impaired his memory that he can recollect no more. He served at

¹ [Shadrach Pearson \(Pierson\) S35551](#)

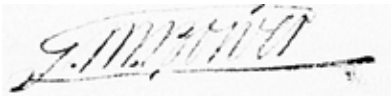
² [Meshecke \(Meshac, Meshach\) Pearson \(Pierson\) S35555](#)

Williamsburg Virginia, he was then marched to the North & joined the Regular Army at New York City. & He served in New Jersey at Princeton. Besides the skirmishes he was at the Battles of Trenton [December 26, 1776] & helped to take the Hessians & at the Battle of Monmouth [June 28, 1778] & at Brandywine [September 11, 1777] where he was severely wounded for which he received a Pension; a pension of 96 dollars he refers to the proof in his papers in that case to prove his services to obtain his Pension under the Act of June 1832. He also states that he was at the storming & taking Stony Point [July 16, 1779] under General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] – he is about 80 years of age – he moved from Virginia to Kentucky & has lived in Scott County his present residence forty years & that has known Richard Johnson ever since then a lad & refers to him for his character he has been a member of the Baptist Church about 40 years – he has admitted to State & he now states that during his 4 years service he served three years as an orderly Sergeant.

In the Israel keep of the Fokker He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any state except.

S/ Nathaniel Mothershead, X his mark

[John T Johnson (a teacher of the Christian religion) and Roll Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]



[p 8: On September 2nd, 1832 in Scott County Kentucky, Ruth Mothershead, 73 as of the 2nd day of next November, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of Nathaniel Mothershead who died December 29, 1834; she signed her application with her mark. This application does not contain a statement as to the date on which she married Nathaniel Mothershead.]

[p 10: Supporting affidavit dated September 19, 1836 given by Isaac Adams and Moses the Mothershead (relationship, if any, not stated).



[p 12: Supporting affidavit dated September 19, 1836 given by Martha Gipson who states that she is the sister of Ruth Mothershead, widow of Nathaniel Mothershead; that the marriage between Ruth and Nathaniel occurred in Orange County Virginia August 27, 1781. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Facts in file: The veteran and his wife had the following children: Elizabeth, wife of James Greer; Alvan Mothershead; Tabitha, wife of Walker Chambers; Sally, wife of John Chinn; M. B. Mothershead; Barzilla Mothershead; Polly, wife of James Ross; and John L Mothershead. The widow died April 15, 1840.]

[Veteran was initially pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing January 23, 1830. Veteran was later pensioned under the 1832 act at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Sergeant in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was

pensioned in a like amount.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 1-page file

This is to Certify that Nathaniel Mothershead Sergeant of the first Virginia Regiment has faithfully served the full term of his Enlistment in the Army of the United States [text too faint to discern] commenced on the first day of August 1776 and ended on the first day of August 1779 being 3 years service.

Given under my hand this first day of August A.D. 1779

S/ P. Muhlenberg, BG

A Copy

S/ J Pendleton, Junior

Please deliver Mr. John Pannill a Land Warrant due me for my Services as a Sergeant in the Continental Service

S/ Nathaniel Mothershead

2nd October 1783

The Register of
the Land Office