

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Mynn Thruston Dis__ [X806]

f6VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/11/11

[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.]

[Note: there are no papers in this file other than summary letters. A summary letter dated June six, 1933 reads in relevant part as follows:

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter in which you request the Revolutionary War record of Colonel Charles Minn Thurston or Thruston, of Virginia.

The Revolutionary War records of this office show that Captain Charles Mynn Thruston received a pension at the rate of \$20 per month on account of disability incurred in service. He was pensioned from July 14, 1806, under the Act of March 3, 1807. He died prior to December 13, 1813.

There are no papers on file which contained his statements in his application for pension because of the destruction of papers in very early applications for pension when the War Office was burned in 1800, therefore this office has no further information in regard to him. It is suggested that further information in regard to his military service might be obtained from the Adjutant General, War Department, this city.

Very truly yours

A. D. Hiller

Assistant to Administrator]

The Virginia State Library has a 32 page file relating to the bounty land claim pertaining to this veteran posted on its site at http://1val.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/F/C62DE42R54JIXDREURJ9MHJB96P43PL5A494672EFNLPMLJP4R-16701?func=full-set-set&set_number=002044&set_entry=000004&format=999

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 *22^d* day of *November 1787*, in the name of *Thruston* as a Colonel *in* for *£ 192.00*, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to *himself* and was given for services prior to the 1st January, 1782.

{ No Seal
of
Office }

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this

first day of *May* 1832.

M. Hall

AUDITOR.

[VSL p 15]

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled

The Petition of Buckner Thruston in behalf of himself and other Representatives of Charles M Thruston respectfully represents. That for some years before and at the commencement of the War of the Revolution, Your Petitioner's Father, the said Charles M Thruston, was an officiating clergyman of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the County of Frederick and State of Virginia: that in the earlier part of that contest, he was actively engaged in zealous and patriotic exertions to provide arms and ammunition for the service of the Country and in exciting the young men of his neighborhood to turn out in its defense: That in the beginning of the year 1777, prompted by the same spirit, he laid aside his clerical gown, raised a company of volunteers, and marched to join General Washington, who was personally known to your Petitioner's Father from there having served together in the campaign of 1758 under General Forbes: That shortly after arriving at Head Quarters, then in New Jersey, he prevailed on the Commander in Chief, to give him the command of a detachment of about five hundred men for the purpose of attacking a British Redoubt, defended by a superior force, near a place called Quibble-Town or Piscataway in New Jersey, as evidence of his extraordinary ardor, he took with him into the action, his little Son the younger Brother of your Petitioner of about 12 years of age, as is proved by testimony herewith submitted: That your Petitioner's said Father had his left arm badly fractured by a musket ball in the said action which so disabled him that he was obliged to be taken from the field, in consequence of which, the troops retreated, or as your Petitioner believes and recollects often to have heard, at that period, his said Father would have made an effort to have carried the said Redoubt my storm.

Your Petitioner further states, that his said Brother behaved with great gallantry in the said action, as was proved by many respectable witnesses, soldiers in the battle whose depositions were taken by your Petitioner under a substitution from the District Judge of the State of Virginia in order to have your Petitioner's Father placed on the pension roll, under the Act of Congress of 1806, granting pensions to wounded officers and Soldiers in the Revolutionary War: but unfortunately the said depositions and other papers and documents filed there with in the pension Office were burnt in the war office, by the British in the year 1814.

Your Petitioner believes the same facts may be proved even now, by some few persons who may be still living in whose testimony might be procured but with considerable trouble and expense: he has however the good fortune to have preserved one testimonial which will in part establish the foregoing statements which he accidentally obtained in the year 1819 for his own satisfaction when it was impossible to have foreseen the use he now makes of it & which he begs leave to present herewith.

Your Petitioner further states that immediately after his Father's wound was healed and being still with the Army, he was appointed by General Washington a Colonel of a Virginia Regiment on Continental Establishment: but as the Regiment could never be completed, your Petitioner's Father was not afterwards called into active service, although your Petitioner has no knowledge whatever that he ever resigned but has reason to believe that he continued in service until the close of the War. Your Petitioner knows that his said Father's Arm was rendered stiff by the wound during the residue of his life, the bone having been much fractured but has no doubt, that had his services been required he would cheerfully have engaged in active service to the end of the War.

Your Petitioner thinks it proper to state that his said Father received as a Pensioner the half pay of Captain the grades he held when he received his wound from 1807 to 1812 when he departed this life your Petitioner therefore prays that an act may pass to grant to the Representatives of his said Father the commutation of five years full pay pursuant to the Resolution of Congress of three October 1780 – 21 October 1780 and 21 March 1783 and such other remuneration in the land or money as had been allowed to other Officers of the Army of the Revolution in light cases, in your Petitioner is in duty bound &c &c

B. Thruston

Affidavit of Charles Chapline, of Jefferson County, State

I, James Chapline, of Jefferson County, state of Ohio, do certify that in the last of February or the first of March I was a Lieutenant in a volunteer Company and was in a battle with the British under the command of Captain Charles Thruston at a place called Piscataway in New Jersey. That the said Captain Thruston had with him about 500 men that the British were in a readout and were said to be 1500 strong, that in advancing to the [indecipherable word] the said readout the said Captain Thruston had his arm broken by a musket ball which shattered the bone near the shoulder, after which a retreat was ordered in consequence of Captain Thruston's disability who was obliged to be carried from the field: That in a Council of Officers before the action, I well remember the said Captain Thruston being the first to propose that they should advance and stormed the said Readout, which proposition was opposed by an officer of the detachment, a Captain Van Swearingen of the Pennsylvania Line, as desperate. That about 14 men of the Americans were killed at the time of the Retreat and that it was said about 40 of the enemy were killed in the said action – I further declare that had not the said Captain Thruston been wounded, it is my opinion an attempt to storm the readout would have been made. I further declare a little son of the said Captain Thruston was in the said battle with his Father, apparently 12 or 13 years old. Given under my hand at Washington this 10 day of December 1819

S/ James Chapline

[Note: there are other documents of interest in this file, but the pages are split in images that don't match up. If anyone ever has the time to visit the Library and transcribe the originals, I would very much like to post them here.]