Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to John Scurry VAS2034 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection/ Charlotte County]

To the Hon'ble the Speaker & members of the House of Delegates of the Common Wealth of Virginia The Petition of John Scurry humbly sheweth that in the month of February in the year 1781 he inlisted as a Volunteer in the Militia of Charlotte County to march against Lord Corn Wallis [sic: Cornwallis] at the time he was making his rapid March from the South to the North that there are several members of your Honourable House who were eye witnesses to his gallantry as a good Soldier particularly in the action at Gilford [sic: Battle of Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] where bravely fighting in his Country's cause he received two Wounds one in his hand the other in his side which have rendered him incapable of supporting himself by labour Your petitioner is therefore under the disagreeable nesessity of applying to your Honble house for such support as will raise him above penury & want by giving him some small gratuity from the year he was wounded & placing him on the pension List in future that the remainder of his days may be spent in a gratiful remembrances of the kindness of his Countrymen. & your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray &c

Charlotte Sct. This is to Certify that John Scurry enlisted as a volunteer under me in February 1781 at the time that Lord Coin Wallace was making a rapid march from the South to the North that he demeaned himself as a gallant & brave Soldier & was wounded in the hand & side at the battle of Gilford which happened in March 1781 – Given under my hand this 3^d October 1791

Wm Morton [William Morton] Capt. of a Volunteer Militia Comp'y of the County of Charlotte

Chesterfield Nov'r the 15th 1791

This is to Certify that John Scurry lived with me three years as a Labourer and I found by the wound receiv'd in a battle at Gilford that he was not a man capable of geting his living by his Labour. Given under my hand the date and year above written Joseph Mann Test/ Allen Whitworth

Chesterfield Nov'r. 15th 1791

This is to Certify that I have been Acquainted with John Skurry, for Seven years past, and have seen his arm swel'd to that Degree, (which was wounded in the Army) that he could hardly carry it up to his Head: and from the repeated complaints I have heard him make, I believe that he is not able to get his liveing by his labour.

Given under my hand the day and year above written John Newby

I do hereby certify, that I some time ago, at the request of the worshipfull Court of Chesterfield County, examined a wound in the wrist of the bearer hereof, John Scurry, said to have been received at the Battle of Gilford, when acting as a soldier in the Charlotte Militia, under the Command of William Morton Cap'n., and from the nature thereof, did then conceive it sufficient to incapacitate him for acquiring a livelihood by his regular Occupation, which he informed me was that of a Blacksmith, or by any other calling that might require much exertion. My Certificate to the above purport, having been neglected to be entered on the Clerks minute Book, is, he says, the reason for is now applying to me for a second – Given under my hand, this 18 Day of November 1791 Tho's. Aug's Taylor/ Surgeon

12 Nov'r 1791 Ref'd to Claims/ reasonable/ £8.0.0 from time of app. to [two undeciphered words] £8.0.0 p Annum/ reported 18th 9^r [November] 97 Specially

[The following are from pension records in the Library of Virginia.]

Sir [Jacqulin Ambler Esq'r Treasurer of the CommonWealth of Virginia] Charlotte February 12th 1792

The bearer John Scurry is the person in favour of whom an act did pass at the last Session of Assembly placing him on the list of pensioners with the allowance of Eight pounds per Annum since October 1789 & the like sum during life. He is desirous of drawing the pay due him to this period & as I negotiated the business for him in the House of Delegates have given you this information that you might not be deceived in the identity of this person. By refering to the above recited acts you will find him incorporated with several others of the like description I am Sir your mo. Ob't.

Bernard Todd

John Scurry a private in the line of this State during the late War, in the course of which, he has received wounds, which render him unable to support himself by labour, is put on the list of Pensioners with an allowance of eight pounds yearly commencing the first day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, pursuant to an Act of Assembly passed the 15th December 1791.

Given under my hand as Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia at Richmond this 13th March 1792

Sam'l. Coleman

Henry Lee

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Rec'd of the Shf [Sheriff] of Amelia the sum of Eight pounds in full for the within contents Test/ Sherwood Wolten/ John Foster Jno. Scurray

[The file contains many documents similar to the above, the last being a receipt for 1816.]