## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

## Pension application of John Thruston<sup>1</sup> R18489 Transcribed by Will Graves

f96VA 12/11/11: rev'd 10/10/18

[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' 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.]

[p 12]

At a Superior Court of law for Henrico County, held

November 13th 1830

William D. Wren Committee of the estate of

John Thruston deceased

against

Appellant

from a decision of the
the Commonwealth

auditor of Public

accounts refusing to allow a certain claim of the appellant against the Commonwealth, for services rendered by the said John Thruston in his lifetime as an Officer in the Revolutionary War

This day came as well the appellant by his attorney, as the Attorney General for the Commonwealth, and it appearing by the evidence on the part of the Appellant filed in this cause, that the said John Thruston was a cornet in a Troop of Cavalry attached to the Regiment of the Virginia State line, known as the Illinois Regiment, in the revolutionary War, and became a supernumerary before the close thereof, the Court is of opinion that the said John Thruston was entitled to half pay during his life, and that the Auditor of Public Accounts a erred in rejecting the claim thereto presented by the Appellant. It is therefore ordered that the said Auditor do issue and deliver to the Appellant a warrant on the Treasure up of this Commonwealth, for the said half pay, to wit; from the 14th day of December 1783, till the death of the said John Thruston which occurred on the 15th day of January 1802.

From which Judgment the Attorney General for the Commonwealth prayed an appeal to the Court of Appeals which is allowed.

I, John Robinson, Clerk of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Henrico and City of Richmond on the common law side, having in my possession, and under my care, the records and papers of the former Superior Court of Law for Henrico County, do certify that the preceding is a true copy of a Judgment rendered in the Superior Court last mentioned – And I further certify that it appears by the records of that Court the said Judgment was affirmed by the Court of Appeals.

S/J. Robinson

[p 16]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Va. Half-Pay

Virginia State Line 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, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 16th day of December 1783 in the name of John Thurston as Cornet Cav: and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £157.19.10 delivered to himself but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the First Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 16th day of February 1850

Jail Healt

S/ Jas. E. Heath 1st Auditor

[No Seal of Office]

This is to certify, That it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia

Line 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, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of the said Officers and Soldiers from the 1st January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the day of Acc 1783 in the name of School Thurston and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him for delivered to himself but as the original settlements or copies thereof are not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

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

day of Jeb \_\_\_\_ 1830

[No Scal of Office.]

[p 64: Note that John Thruston was a cornet in Captain John Rogers' troop of Light dragoons in the Illinois Regiment.]

[p 84]
Pay Abstract of a Troop of Light Dragoons in the Service of the State of Virginia commanded by Captain John Rogers commencing the first day of January 1782 and ending the 13th day of February 1782

Names	Rank	In Service		Pay pr	Subs	Amount	
		mo	days	Month			
John Rogers <sup>2</sup>	Capn	1	13	50 Dolls	10	£15.16.0	ncd himself
James Meriwether <sup>3</sup>	Lt.	1	13	33 1/3	5	16.9.8	Delv'd Capt Rogers

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> John Rogers X648

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John Thruston	Cornt	1	13	26 2/3	5	13.12.4	do Capt. Rogers
Henry Goodloe	Sergt	1	13	10		4.6	delv: do
Dominick Walch <sup>4</sup>	Private	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
Gasper Galer	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
Wilm Frogget	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	ncd himself
[William Frogget] <sup>5</sup>							
James Corder	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	deliv: Capt. Rogers
Michael Glass <sup>6</sup>	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
James Durrett	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
George Smith	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
Flanuce Mahoney	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
John Wheler	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
[John Wheeler?]							
Dick Richards	do	1	13	8 1/3		3.11.8	do
						96.0.8	

City of Richmond

Sworn to by John Rogers before me this 10th day of June 1783

W Foushee<sup>7</sup>

I certify that the foregoing is truly copied from the first Volume of "Illinois Papers" now in this Office.

Auditors Office Virginia

16 February 1850

S/ Jas. E. Heath, Aud.

[p 95]

State of Kentucky Jefferson County to wit

Personally appeared before the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for said County Captain William Meriwether<sup>8</sup> who being duly sworn, saith that he was a Sergeant in Captain John Rogers' Troop of Light horse in the Regiment of the Virginia State line, commonly known as the Illinois Regiment in the Army of the Revolution, and he says that John Thruston was a Cornet of the said Regiment, and faithfully served as such until after the capture of Cornwallis and the disbanding of Rogers Troop part of said Regiment. And after this deponent and said Thruston were discharged they returned to Virginia together from the falls of Ohio. That said Thruston removed from Virginia to Kentucky and settled near to Louisville where he died some years since, having several children and further he saith not.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 19th day of April 1830 S/W Tompkins, JP JC

S/W Meriwether

[John Robinson, Clerk of Court, certifies that the above is a true copy of the affidavit given by Meriwether as appears in his records.]

[pp 6-7: power of attorney dated August 20<sup>th</sup> 1849 given by Charles M. Thruston administrator of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> James Meriwether (Merewether, Merriwether) R16407 1/2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Dominick Welsh W6461

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> William Frogget S16383

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Michael Glass S16830

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> William Foushee R14223

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> William Meriwether (Merewether, Merriwether) S47954

the estate of John Thruston, Dec'd.

[From bounty land records in the Library of Virginia] 7-page file

To the Governor of Virginia

From Petitioner Charles Minge Thruston respectfully states that his father John Thruston was a Cornet in the Illinois Light Dragoons of Virginia State line in the Revolution – that he was appointed a Cornet in May 1780 and continued in service until the end of the War, during the latter part of which he was a supernumerary.

Your Petitioner last winter forwarded his papers to Richmond claiming the benefit of Half-pay, and is advised that whether he be entitled to that or not, he is certainly entitled to the land, which has heretofore been allowed by Virginia to each of the other officers of the Troop to which his father belonged – Cornet Thruston was the only officer of the Troop who did not draw his land warrant. Your Petitioner prays.

S/ C. M. Thruston by his attorney-in-fact T. Green 19 June 1830

"15<sup>th</sup> December 1783 Illinois

Warrant to John Thruston for one year's half pay as a Cornet of Cavalry the 14 \_\_ 1783 agreeable to an act of Assembly entitled "An act for directing the Auditor's to issue warrants in certain cases £48.0.0"

I do certify that the foregoing is a true copy of an entry in the Auditor's Journal of the date prefixed thereto.

Given under my hand at the Auditor's Office this 28 July 1830 S/ Jas. E. Heath, APA

Auditor's Office June 19, 1830

I do hereby certify that among the papers filed in this Office by Judge Cabell relative to the claims of the Revolutionary Officers, – there is one marked No. 9 and endorsed "Illinois troops of Light Dragoons" appearing to be a Return made by Captain John Rogers of the names Rank &c of the Illinois troop of Light Dragoons on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1782 subscribed by said Rogers, and that on that List is the name of "John Thurston" [sic] as then holding the rank of Commission of Cornet in said Troop – The Commission bearing date May 1780; and that said John Thurston [sic] was a supernumerary on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1782.

S/ Jas. E. Heath, APA

## Illinois Regiment

[Name, Rank of Officers]	Date of his
	Land
	Warrant
Colonel John Montgomery [R16522]	3 March 1784

Major Thomas Quirk [W5958]	4 July 1783
Captain Ro. Todd [Robert Todd R18517]	21 February 1784
Captain Isaac Taylor [W601]	3 March 1784
Captain Abraham Keller [R15580]	12 July 1785
Captain John Bailey [John Baley R19354]	3 March 1784
Captain Richard Brashiars [Richard Brashear R12756]	Do Do
Captain John Jerault [John Gerault]	3 March 1784
Captain Michael Parault [Michael Perrault]	Do Do
Lieutenant John Calvit	
Lieutenant James Montgomery [R16521]	Do Do
Lieutenant Abraham Chaplin [Abraham Chapline R13134]	Do Do
Lieutenant Richard Clark [X149]	Do Do
Lieutenant Jerret Williams [Jarratt Williams ?]	Do Do
Lieutenant William Clark [VAS1866]	Do Do
Illinois Light Dragoons	
Captain John Rogers	26 February 1783
Lieutenant James Meriwether	11 February 1783

Cornet John Thurston [sic] – Returned as a Cornet in May 1780 remaining and an supernumerary on the 13<sup>th</sup> February 1782 the date of the Report

## Richmond 29 July 1830

The above is a Correct List of the Officers of the Illinois Regiments as will appear by reference to the Official Returns by the Officers – now in the Auditor's Office.

I have added the dates when they received their land warrants. And by reference to the term when the duties of the Commissioners of War on the Executive (see page 133 of 11<sup>th</sup> Henings Statutes at Large) it will be manifest at a glance, by what authority the claims were allowed –

The reason why none of these claims have been before the Council in the last 15 or 20 years will also be manifest. Every Officer but Thurston (except Calvin perhaps whose name I do not see on the list of those who have received land) obtained his warrant before 1785 – and after that date it was useless for Thurston to apply until the present time.

It is hardly fault necessary in the application of the last applicant to examine the principle of the claim of this Regiment, after it has been [image of the document cut off at this point] [next page]

shown the Executive has sanctioned the right of every previous one –

A question may be raised whether Virginia was liable to this Regiment, as to others of the State line for the Half pay – but this arises under the provisions of the Act ceding the Western Country, transferring the obligation in Congress. – This however no one imagined extended to the land which Virginia reserved (or intended to reserve it was adjusted by Congress) for the purpose – the certificate from the Auditor (now filed) shows that Thurston actually received Half pay under the Act (see 265 of 11<sup>th</sup> volume Hen. St: Large) until after or about the close of the war & would have continued to receive it but for the act or resolution prohibiting all issues of such warrants.

S/ Thomas Green