

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Arthur W5636 Sally Arthur VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 5 May 2015.

State of Virginia

Bedford County . S . S .

On this 15th day of June 1843, before me Lewis C. Arthur a Justice of the peace, in and for said County personally appeared Mrs. Sally Arthur, a resident of said county Aged 77 years; who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her Oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision, made by the Act of Congress, passed July 7, 1838, entitled, An act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows,: That she is the widow of Thomas Arthur dec'd who was a private of Malitia, in the revolutionary war – and served four several tours as such to wit, one tour at the lead mines, in Virginia on New River [near present Fort Chiswell] – in the Fall of 1778. one tour at Gates defeat Campden S.C. in the summer of 1780 [defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates, Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] – one other tour at the seige of 96 in the spring and summer of 1781 [sic: Siege of Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] – and one other tour at New London (in then Bedford County [now Campbell County] the place of rendezvous – to guard the magazine. The 3 first tours was of 3 months duration each, the latter a little over two months – making in all over eleven months service, which her husband the aforesaid Thos. Arthur dec'd. performed in all during the Revolutionary war. She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Arthur on the 29th day of November 1782 – in said County of Bedford, by the Rev'd Wm. Johnson, and that her husband the aforesaid Thos. Arthur died on the [blank] day of Nov'r. 1805. that her maiden name was Dixon – that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of Jan'y. 1794 – Viz. at the time above stated: That her husband the aforesaid Thos. Arthur was rather a low man, say about five feet seven or eight inches high; all of which facts, as above stated, will more fully appear by reference to the proof annexed. Her husband was called Squirrel Tom, to distinguish him from another man by the same name.

Sally herXmark Arthur

Test Ro. U. Gray

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written

Before me – Lewis C Arthur J.P.

In presence of [signed] Admirl Arthur [signed] Armisted Arthur

State of Virginia Bedford County S . S

I Lewis C Arthur a Justice of the peace, in and for said county, do hereby certify that Mrs. Sally Arthur, who has this day sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration before me, is the widow of (by reputation) Thos. Arthur dec'd of said county – who was also by repute a soldier of Malitia during the Revo'y war and died, as he is informed near 40 years ago in said county leaving his present widow Sally Arthur above, whose maiden name, as he is informed – was Dixon – and who must have been married to said Thos. Arthur at least 60 years ago – as I am well acquainted with two of said Thos. and Sally Arthurs children, to witt, Henry and Thomas Arthur – and also John Arthur – the latter he should suppose was 58 or 60, and Henry and Thos. about 57 and 55 years old. And further that said Sally Arthur is still a widow and too infirm to attend Court so great a distance – say 20 miles. Given under my hand this 15th day of June 1843.

[signed] Lewis C. Arthur J.P.

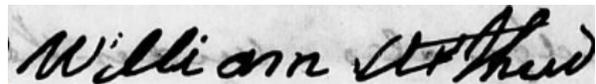
State of Virginia

Bedford County S.S.

On this 15th day of June 1843, before me Lewis C. Arthur a Justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Mr. William Arthur [pension application S6528] a respectable resident of the County of Henry – who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – That he is 80

years old – that he recollects distinctly that Thos. Arthur dec'd. of said county – who married Miss Sally Dixon in said county in or about the Fall of 1782 – served 3 several tours of duty in, and during the Revo'y. War to witt, one tour, in the malitia, under Capt. Rob't. Adams, at the Lead Mines on New River in Virginia, in the Fall of 1778 in company with Reuben and Nath'l. West [Reuben West and Nathaniel West], and Joe Hunly a U. S. pensioner [sic: Joseph Hundley, S5581]. Deponant recollects distinctly of said Thos. Arthur's performing said tour of service – that he left home the last of August or 1st of Sep'r. 1778 under said Adams and marched out to the lead mines as above – where he served three months at least, dep thinks more; and returned about the last of Nov'r. or 1st of Dec'r 1778 in company with Jno. Pratt [John Pratt] who was also at said place; it being very cold weather when he returned as above.

That dep. also recollects distinctly, that said Thos. Arthur performed another tour of duty at Campden S.C. Gates defeat so called – in the summer of 1780, in company with Jno Arthur [John Arthur, W5635], Thos. Dixon [see endnote], and Joseph Wooldridge also under the command of Capt Thomas Leftwich of the Bedford malitia: That they, Thomas Arthur and others left N. London the place of rendezvous – the last of May or 1st of June 1780; marched to the South – was at Gates defeat the 15th Aug 1780 – and returned home about the 1st of Sep't. 1780 – it being at the time dep. was engaged at his fathers, beating of peaches to make Brandy – said Thos. Arthur, Jno. Arthur, Thos. Dixon, and Joe Wooldridge all called and got dinner, on their way home – where they arrived about the first of Sep'r. 1780 having served 3 months or more on said occasion. Said Thos. Arthur also served another tour at the seige of 96 in S. Carolina in company with Jno Arthur, and Thos. Dixon, in the Spring and Summer of 1781 but dep. can give no particulars of said tour, or the captain that he was under – but is perfectly satisfied that he the said Arthur was at 96 and served 3 months on said occasion. That the said Thos. Arthur also served another tour of duty at N. London, in then said county – to guard the magazine – of more than two months duration but does not recollect the captains name. Said tour of service was performed during the latter part of the Fall of 1781 and early part of the winter of said year; it being after the capture of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] – dep. recollects the fact distinctly – for he dep. had just served a tour at said place before him. Thos. Arthur aforesaid was married to Sally Dixon, in the Fall of 1782 – dep. being married about a year afterward which was in 1783. Said Arthur died about 38 or 40 years ago leaving his present widow Sally Arthur – whose maiden name was Dixon – and who has remained a widow ever since, to the present time. That the said Thos. Arthur was a small man about 5 feet 7 or 8 inches high – and by nick name was called Tom Titt during the Revo'y. war, and while a boy – but after he was married was called “Squirrell Tom” to distinguish him from a man by the same name.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William Arthur". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes.

State of Virginia

Bedford County S. S.

On this 15th day of June 1843, before me Lewis C Arthur a Justice of the peace, in and for said county personally appeared Mr. Jno. Arthur a respectable resident of said county, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – That he is 85 years old – that he was well acquainted during the Revo'y. war, with Thos. Arthur dec'd of said county – the same person who married Miss Sally Dixon – he thinks in the Fall of 1782 – it being about one year after the capture of Lord Cornwallis. That deponant, and said Thomas Arthur, performed two tours of service together, in the malitia, during the Revo'y. war of 3 months each, to witt, one tour at Gates' defeat so called – at Campden S.C. leaving N. London the place of rendesvouz, the last of May, or first of June 1780 – under Capt. Thomas Leftwich; Augustine Leftwich Lieut, and Dan'l Mitchell [Daniel Mitchell] Ensign. marching by the way of Dixes Ferry [Dix's Ferry on Dan River 1 mi W of present Delila in Halifax County], to Hillsborough N.C. the place of Gen'l. Rendesvouz – where we remained 6 or 8 weeks – from thence a cross the Pedee [sic: Pee Dee River] to Campden S.D.; at which place the Americans under Gen'l. Gates, was defeated by the British on the 15th day of August 1780 – the malitia being thrown into such disorder, that the greater

portion returned home; Capt. Thos. Leftwich's company, including dep. and said Thos. Arthur among the number: Thos. Arthur and and dep. served about 3½ months on said occasion returning home about the 1st of Sep'r 1780. Said Thos. Arthur, was also at the seige of 96 in S.C. in the summer of 1781 – leaving N. London the place of rendesvouz in May 1781 and arriving at 96 in June 1781 – which place the Americans beseiged for some time – being compelled to retreat (under Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene) the British having rec'd. reinforcements. dep. and said Thos. Arthur served three months together each on said occasion to 96 S.C. in 1781 returning home in Agust 1781 being at home but a short time, before he again marched to york to capture Lord Cornwallis. the said Thos. Arthur served 2 other tours of service in the Revo'y. war – to witt, one tour, at the lead mines on New river in Virginia in the Fall of 1778 under cap. Rob't. Adams, and Lieut Thos. McReynolds – dept. recollects distinctly said thos. Arthur's performing said tour – that he left home in Aug. or Sep'r. 1778 and returned home in Nov'r. or dec'r. 1778 having served his 3 months tour faithfully out. Reuben, and Nath'l. West, and Joe Hunly was with him the said Thos. Arthur, on said occasion, under the said Rob't. Adams in 1788. The said thos. Arthur served also another tour of duty in the Revo'y. war, at N. London to guard the magazine at said place of a little over 2 months duration – making over 11 months service he the said thos. Arthur performed in, and during the Revo'y. war. The tour to guard magazine was performed in 1781 he thinks in the latter part of the Fall, and winter of that year – for said Thos. Arthur performed said service at N. London, after dep. returned from the capture of Lord Cornwallis in Oct'r. 1781. dep. recollects distinctly when he left, and returned home. Said Thos. Arthur was called “Squirrel Tom” to distinguish him from a larger man by that name. Said Arthur died about 38 or 40 years ago – leaving his present widow Sally Arthur, (whose maiden name was Dixon) and who has remained a widow ever since. Dep. does not recollect either of the captains names, that Thos. Arthur was under at 96 or N. London – but at the 96 tour the captain was from Pittsylvania County.

John hisXmark Arthur

State of Virginia

Campbell County S . S .

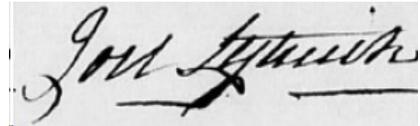
On this 16th day of June 1843, before me Charles Anthony a Justice of the peace in and for said county personally appeared Mr. John Prebble [John Pribble pension application S5951], a respectable resident of said county, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath say – that he is 83 years old. That he served a tour of duty of three months duration in the Revolutionary war at the lead mines on New river in Virginia under Robt. Aams [Robert Adams] as captain, and Thos. McReynolds [Thomas McReynolds] as Lieut in the year 1778; leaving home (in then Bedford Co) in, or about the latter part of August or first of Sep't. 1778, and after having performed said tour of service he was regularly discharged, about the latter part of Nov'r. or first of Dec'r. 1778; and that during the whole of which period of service Thos. Arthur, a man about five feet 7 inches high – was with deponant, in the same company with him under Capt. Rob't. Adams, and Lieut Thos. McReynolds – regularly drafted, and that he the said Thomas Arthur faithfully performed his said tour of service out with deponant under the said Rob't. Adams – which was of three months duration, to wit, from the last of August or 1st of Sep'r. 1778 to the last of Nov'r. or 1st of dec'r. 1778; and that said Thos. Arthur was discharged with deponant. Said Arthur lived in Bedford at the time between the waters of Goose creek and Staunton river and was of the family of Arthurs that lived in that – now the south part of Bedford County. Deponant was allowed for said tour of service in obtaining his pension under the Act of June 7, 1832 – it being after the termination of his tour of service, under Capt. Cha's. Watkins [Charles Watkins], out on the Kentucky frontier at Fort Boon [sic: Fort Boonesborough] – said tour commencing on or about the 1st day of July 1777 and terminating the 1st day of May 1778. Joe Hunly, a pensioner, and Reuben and Nath'l West, was in said tour of service under Adams with dep- and said Thos. Arthur. That the said Thomas Arthur as above described was known, or went by the nickname of Tom-Titt-Arthur to distinguish him from a larger man by that name. Nath'l West was at Guilford also [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781].

John hisXmark Prebble

State of Virginia

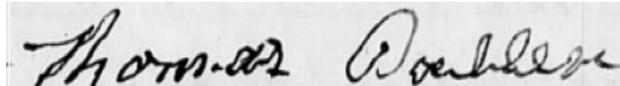
Amherst County S . S .

On this 21st day of July 1843, before me Benjamin Taliaferro – a Justice of the peace, in and for said county personally appeared Gen'l. Joel Leftwich [S8830] a resident of the county of Bedford, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – that he is 83 years old and recollects distinctly that in the tour of service which he performed at Gates defeat at Campden S.C. in the summer of 1780 in captain Thos. Leftwich's company there was a small man in the said company by the name of Arthur whose given name he dep. does not recollect – but that he dep. understood he the said Arthur was from Bedford, and the brother of Jno Arthur in regard to whose services in said tour under said Thos Leftwich he dep. gave a certificate from Bedford County in his own hand write and qualified to before Jno. S. Cobbs a Justice of the peace in and for said County. And that said Arthur, the brother of Jno. Arthur – served in said company with dep. from about the first of June 1780 to the 15th August 1780 – the time of the defeat [sic].

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joel Leftwich". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of Virginia, Bedford County S.S.

On this 26 day of June 1843, before me Harwood Majer a Justice of the peace, in and for said county, personally appeared Mr. Thos. Pullen [Thomas Pullen, S15847] a respectable resident of said county, also being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath say – That he is 82 years old and was well acquainted with Thos Arthur a man about 5 feet 7 Inches high – the same person who married Sally Dixon soon after the Revo'y. war. That dep. served a tour of service with said Thos. Arthur during and towards the close of the Revo'y. war – in the Fall and Winter of 1781 – that said tour was of 3 months duration – and served und Cap. Nathan Read [Nathan Reid] commencing on the 1st day of Sep'r. or thereabouts – and terminating on the 1st day of Dec'r. 1781 or thereabouts – dep. and said Arthur served said tour at N. London under said Read to guard magazine, and Tories. Said Arthur lived on Goose Creek in said County at the time.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas Pullen". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: Thomas Dixon who served from Bedford County did not claim in his pension application (S30387) to have served at the Battle of Camden.