Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Abraham Shepherd[1] W19343 Eleanor f31VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/5/12

[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.]

[f p. 7]
State of Virginia Jefferson County: 2 with – On this 5th day of September 1837 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the said County, Eleanor Shepherd, a resident of said County and State aged 77 years in June next 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 4th, 1836.

That she is the widow of Abraham Shepherd who was an Officer, and she believes a Captain in the Virginia Continental line in the War of the War of the revolution. That her said husband was taken prisoner at Fort Washington. He was in the service to the North many of the circumstances of her said husband's services, which he has heard him speak of have escaped her recollection. She remembers that her said husband was not exchanged immediately after being taken prisoner. She declares that she was married to the said Abraham Shepherd on the 27th day of December 1780. That her husband the aforesaid Abraham Shepherd died on the 7th day of September 1822, and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. That she was married to her said husband in Berkeley County, Virginia. She further states that her said husband many years ago received his military land for his services in said war of the Revolution.

Eleanor Shepherd

[f p. 11: copy of a marriage bond issued to Abraham Shepherd and Henry Bedinger in Berkeley County Virginia on December 27, 1780 condition known the marriage of Abraham Shepherd to Eleanor Strode.]

[f p. 5: copies of documents from the Virginia Council/Executive records:
Council Chamber April 2nd 1783
I do certify that Captain Abraham Shepherd is entitled to the portion of land allowed a Captain in the Virginia Continental line for 3 years service.
Benjamin Harrison Thomas Meriwether
(Vo. M 290) a Warrant for 4000 acres issued to Captain Abraham Shepherd April [illegible] 1783

Abraham Shepherd is entitled to the additional proportion of land allowed a Captain of the

[1] BLWt1914-300 – Capt. Issued Aug. 25, 1789 Also recorded as above under Wt. 2529 No papers.

Virginia Continental line for the seventh and eighth years service.
Council Chamber Sam Coleman
6 March 1807
Wm H. Cabell

Warrant No: 5043 for 1333 1/3 acres issued to John Stockley assignee and delivered the said Stockley the 7th of March 1807

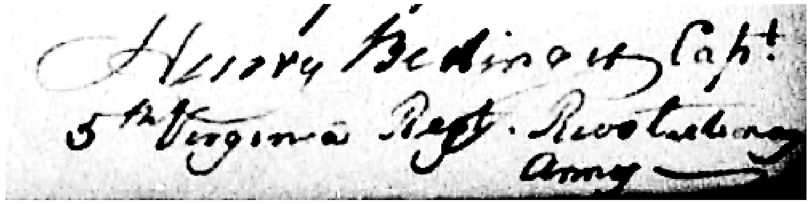
[f p. 4: family record:
Abraham Shepherd born November 10th 1754
Eloner Strode born June 27, 1761
married the 27th day of Decr. 1780
James Strode Shepherd born June 19th 1782
Rogin [?[Davis Shepherd born Augt. 1st 1784
James Shepherd departed this life May 5th 1787
Abraham Shepherd born June 13th 1787
James Harvey Shepherd born May 5th 1790
Henry Shepherd born January 4th 1793
Ann Shepherd born June 13th
Eliza Shepherd born July 26 179?
Moses Shepherd born April 11th 1800

[f p. 24]

I do hereby certify that Abraham Shepherd late of Jefferson County Virginia was the same identical person who was a Captain in the Virginia Line on Continental Establishment in the War of the Revolution. And that he was the same identical person who drew 4000 acres from Virginia on the 5th April 1783 for his military services and several additional parcels thereafter on account of his services. I drew my 1st land of 4000 acres at the same. As above stated, and we employed the same man to locate I will warrants from said lands. I have carefully inspected the certificate of the Register of the Virginia land office dated 12th September 1837 now before me, and I think it correctly states the amounts of land drawn by Captain Abraham Shepherd. Said Abraham Shepherd & myself were nearly connected, and lived not far distant from each other till his death. His widow Mrs. Eleanor Shepherd (who prior to her marriage was Eleanor Strode) is now living in Jefferson County Virginia – and on an inspection of the family Bible leaves, which has been submitted to my view, I find that it truly states the day and date of her marriage with said Abraham Shepherd – which I certify took place on the 27th of December 1780. Captain Abraham Shepherd was the only officer of that name that I know or heard of either in the Virginia lines, or the lines of any other State. He was a meritorious officer – and was so considered by all his brother Officers. He was selected as often as twice by Colonel Rawlings to take the advanced to meet the enemy at Fort Washington. After the close of the War I recollect seeing a certificate from Colonel Posey speaking in the highest terms of praise of Captain Shepherd, which in my estimation he well deserved. Given under my hand this 21st day of November 1837

S/ Henry Bedinger[2] Capt.
5th Virginia Regt. Revolutionary Army

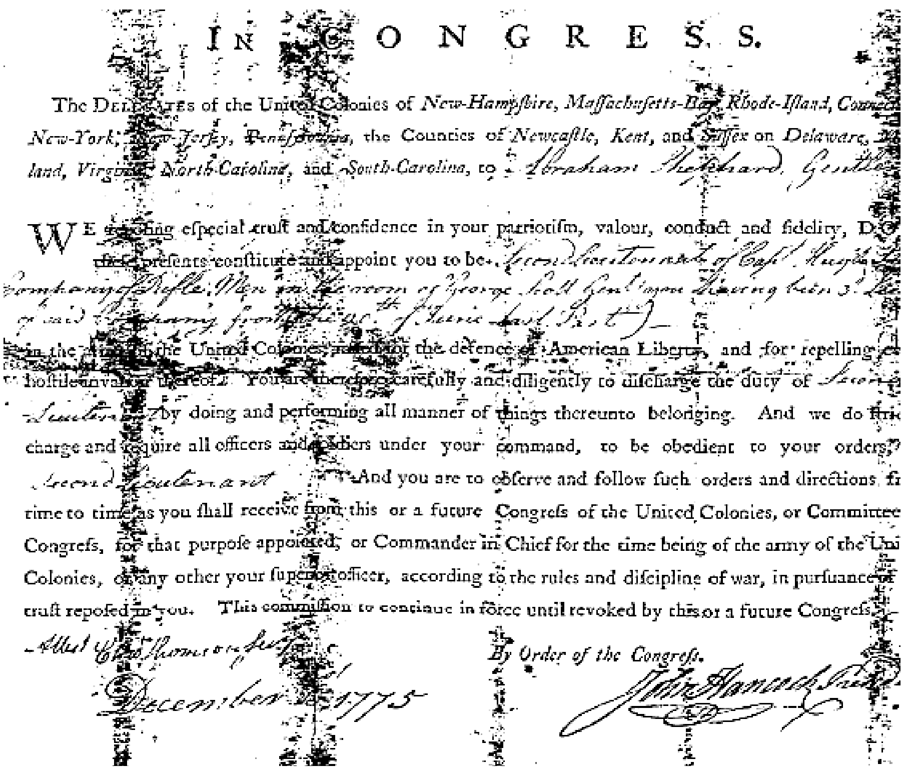
[2] **Henry Bedinger S8059**



[f p. 26: in a document dated March 21, 1848 filed in Jefferson County Virginia, the widow, then 87, stated that she is the widow of Abraham Shepherd who was a Captain in the Regiment of Infantry commanded by Colonel Hugh Stinson.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of $480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a Captain for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

From the online digital records posted by the Virginia State Library are the following:



IN CONGRESS.

The DELEGATES of the United Colonies of *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connect*[illegible] *New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania,* the Counties of *Newcastle, Kent,* and *Sussex* on *Delaware,* [illegible]*land, Virginia, North-Carolina,* and *South-Carolina,* to Abraham Shepherd, Gentle[illegible]

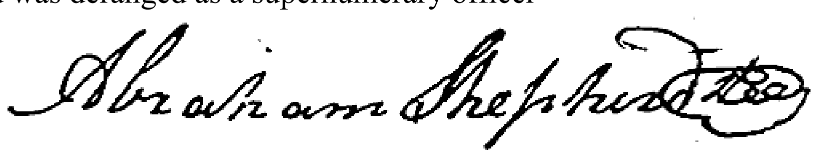
WE reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, valour, conduct and fidelity, DO by these presents constitute and appoint you to be Second Lieutenant of Capt. Hugh [illegible] Company of Rifle Men in the room of George Scott Gent'man having been 3d Lie[illegible] of said Company from the 20th of June last Rest—

in the Army of the United Colonies, raised for the defence of American Liberty, and for repelling every hostile invasion thereof. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Second Lieutenant by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under your command, to be obedient to your orders as Second Lieutenant. And you are to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time as you shall receive from this or a future Congress of the United Colonies, or Committee of Congress, for that purpose appointed, or Commander in Chief for the time being of the army of the United Colonies, or any other your superior officer, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This commission to continue in force until revoked by this or a future Congress.

Attest Chas Thomson Secy — *By Order of the Congress.*

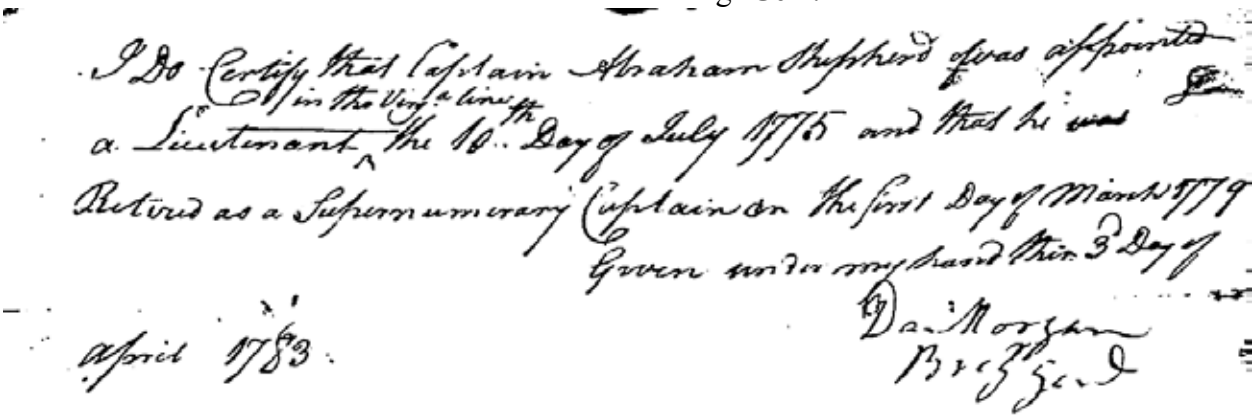
December 1775 — John Hancock Presid.

A power of attorney dated January 29, 1807 signed by Abraham Shepherd in which he describes himself as being of Jefferson County in Virginia formerly a Captain in the late war between the United States and Great Britain having entered the service in the month of July 1775 and continued in the service to the end of the war excepting the time that he was a prisoner of war and was deranged as a supernumerary officer



I do Certify that Captain Abraham Shepherd was appointed a Lieutenant in the Virginia line the 10th day of July 1775 and that he is returned as a Supernumerary Captain on the 1st day of March 1779
Given under my hand this 3rd day of April 1783

Daniel Morgan
Brigr Genl.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