

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Thaxton R10483

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/25/17

[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 6]

State of Illinois, Greene County

On this 28 day of May 1848 personally appeared before me the undersigned probate Justice of the Peace in and for said Greene County William Thaxton aged Eighty-one years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he is blind and has been for nineteen years, that his father and mother died when he was very young, that he never received any Education that he enlisted as a Substitute for one Nathaniel or Nat Reede in the Company commanded by Tillman Dixon [sic, Tilghman Dixon]¹ in the Regiment of drafted troops that his memory does not serve him as to the time but he thinks he entered or enlisted in the service as aforesaid some six or eight months before peace was made between the United States and Great Britain and that he was hired as a substitute for a term of three months which time he served out, does not recollect if he ever received any Discharge for the aforesaid service that he served in the County of Caswell in North Carolina, that he was marched to and was in the battle of Camden² in South Carolina where De Kalb the French general was killed and General Gates [Horatio Gates] was defeated that he was in a Battle on Stono River³ some he thinks fifteen miles from Charleston South Carolina before Gates was defeated that he was not old enough to be drafted that he was a private in the foregoing revolutionary Service that he served another three months Term of service in the Revolutionary war again as a Substitute in the company commanded by Samuel Yarber [sic, Yarborough?] for one Henry Coble in the Regiment of drafted men commanded by Colonel Hal or Henry Dixon in this Service he was at the Battle of Guilford Court House⁴ and helped to guard the ammunition wagons. That he was driving a Baggage wagon and heard the firing in the Battle of the Eutaw Springs⁵ that while he was in said service he has often seen General Francis Marion, General Greene] Nathanael Greene], General Gates that he recollects a Colonel of the Dragoons named Washington [William Washington] he thinks by his given name was William, that he recollects another Colonel of Light horse named Lee [Henry [”Light Horse Harry”] Lee] his horses were all Blacks that for this last service he recollects after peace was made he was honorably Discharged he thinks by Captain Yarber or Col. Dixon that he has lost his discharge. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or any annuity except the present and he

1 [Tilman \(Tilghman\) Dixon BLWt611-300](#)

2 The Battle of Camden occurred on August 15-16, 1780

3 The Battle of Stono occurred on June 20, 1779

4 The Battle of Guilford Court House occurred on March 15, 1781

5 The Battle of Eutaw Springs occurred on September 8, 1781

declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State that this is the first time he ever made any application for a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year first above written.

S/ M. S. Link, PJC

S/ William Thaxton, X his mark

State of Illinois, Greene County

I Mathias S. Link probate Justice of the peace in and for the County of Greene and State of Illinois do hereby certify that I was sent for by William Thaxton who lives some 8 miles from Carrollton Greene County Illinois to aid him in obtaining a pension for Revolutionary services that I found him as I believe unable to stand before a Court as required owing to his Bodily infirmity and old age that I found his memory of time very defective that he gave me but one date directly and that the length of time he has been blind that his recollection of names and events appeared good that I have long heard him spoken of in this community as a Soldier of the Revolution but was not acquainted with him that he referred me to a preacher of the gospel named Abner Hill of this County who he said was acquainted with him and he supposed could certify for him that the said Hill has moved off to parts to me unknown that E. L. Cooper and William Waltrip are good reparable Citizens of Greene County Illinois man of Truth and veracity and that I believe as well their statements as to the statements of William Thaxton the foregoing declarant that I believe the said William Saxton was a Soldier in the Revolution for the following reasons first him and his neighbors say he was Second his Expression of hatred to the Tories of the Revolution when I was talking with him was even yet vindictive and his appearance and apparent great age is to my mind satisfactory that he was in the revolution as above stated was old enough from his appearance to have served his country in the revolutionary war I believe him unable to appear at court. In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed the seal of the Court of Probate at Carrollton this first day of July A.D. 1848 in the County of Greene and State of Illinois.

S/ Mathias L. Link, Probate Justice of the peace

[p 3]

Questions propounded to William Thaxton by Abraham Bowman Jr. Justice of the peace

Question Where and in what year were you born?

Answer in the State of Virginia does not remember in what year

Question 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer I have no record

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer my residence was in the State of North Carolina Caswell County – have lived in the State of Kentucky, Breckenridge County & now live in the State of Illinois Greene County

Question 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer a substitute first four of Nathaniel Reed & second for Henry Cobb [could be Coble]

Question 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer General Butler don't remember his given name, Colonel H. Dixon, Major Donoho [Thomas Donoho]⁶, Captain Samuel Yarber (in the first tour) served three months

6 [Thomas Donoho W9838](#)

recollect General Marion, General Gates, General De Kalb & General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] was in the battle of Guilford Court house – recollect General Greene I was at the battle of the Eutaw Springs I was also at the Battle of Gates Defeat

Question 6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer I did – I think signed by Captain Samuel Yarber I have lost my discharge

Question 7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer E. L. Cooper & Wm Waltrip

S/ William Thaxton, X his mark

State of Illinois, Greene County

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 12th day of May A.D. 1848

S/ Abraham Bowman, Jr., JP

[E. L. Cooper and Wm Waltrip gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Power of attorney dated Oct. 4, 1852 in Greene County, Illinois given by Doctor Thaxton, 52, in which he states that he is the son of William Thaxton who died April 5, 1850 and his wife Sarah Thaxton who died October 16, 1840. Doctor Thaxton states that his parents were residents of Halifax County Virginia and that they resided about fifty years in Greene County, Illinois. The power of attorney was given to pursue whatever pension and land bounty claims Doctor Thaxton might have based on his father's revolutionary services.

Doctor Thaxton]