

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Thomas R10508

Rebecca (or Mary) f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/29/11

[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.]

[There is no application in this file. The clearest indication of the contents of the file is gained from a letter dated July 5, 1907 from the Acting Commissioner in response to an inquiry concerning this veteran's service. The letter reads in relevant part as follows:

In reply to the letter dated the 7th instant and received the 9th, you are advised that in the papers in the claim R. File No. 10,508, a witness [Thomas McClanahan] alleged that he first knew John Thomas, who was between 50 and 60 years of age in 1803, in Kentucky, and from frequent conversations on the subject, was persuaded that said Thomas must have entered the Army in 1775 under Captain Gibson, in the Regiment commanded first by Patrick Henry and afterwards by Colonel Green, as a volunteer for twelve months, and believed that he served the remainder of the war.

It is further stated that John Thomas married about 1780, and died in Shelby County, Missouri, in December 1837.

In 1855 his widow, Rebecca Thomas, resided in Macon County, Missouri. Her application for pension is not on file, and no claim was allowed, for the reason that proof of soldier's service and marriage was never file.

Very respectfully,
Acting Commissioner

[Notes: Other documents in the file and include a letter dated April 2nd, 1844 from B. W. Hall in Shelbyville, Shelby County Missouri asking a clerk [but the court not identified] to searched the records for evidence of the marriage of John Thomas to Mary Masman [partially written over, could Mary Marman] about the year 1780.

Additionally, there is a letter dated April 20, 1844 from what appears likely to be the clerk of court of King & Queen County Virginia in which she states that the records of that County were destroyed by fire about 1826 and consequently his office would offered no evidence of the marriage of Mrs. Thomas.

Finally, there is a power of attorney dated January 15, 1855 signed by Rebecca Thomas in which she states she is the widow of John Thomas deceased; she authorizes her attorney to pursue whatever claims her husband might have had for his services in the revolutionary war or war of 1812 or any of the Indian wars; she states in this document that her husband John Thomas died in Shelby County Missouri in the month of December 1837 and never received any pension. She signed the document with her mark.]