

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Thompson R10540

f18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/5/11

[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.]

State of Virginia Tazewell County

On this 31st day of March in the year of our Lord 1834 personally appeared before me William Thompson an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell and State of Virginia Colonel John Thompson a resident in the County & State aforesaid aged seventy years on the 27th of February last 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.

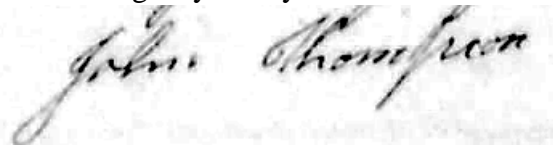
That he entered the service of the United States under the command of the following named Officers and Served as herein Stated.

That he moved from Augusta County in the State of Virginia in the year 1776 to the head of the Maiden Spring fork on Clinch River in what was then called Montgomery now Tazewell County and State of Virginia. That in the Spring of 1780 he was enrolled in a company of Militia which was commanded by Captain Thomas Mastin. That as early as the first of April in that year he volunteered to serve as a guard in Wittons [Wilton's?] Fort which was situated on the North fork of Clynych River that he was under the Command of the aforesaid Captain Thomas Mastin and that he continued in Wittons Fort with an embodied Corps until the first of November following at which time the Company of men stationed there he and those persons who had fled to the Fort for protection would usually disperse and go to their respective Homes where they could remain safely during the winter. That during this year 1780 he recollects of being out one tour after the Indians in company with James Whitton, Thomas Peary and some others that they were gone in this trip five or six weeks – That as early as the first day of April in the year 1781 he again volunteered to serve as before in Wittons Fort under the command of the aforesaid Captain Thomas Mastin and that he continued in Service that year until the first of November following that he recollects of nothing very particular that transpired during this year – That in the early part of the year 1782 he thinks it was in the month of March a small party of Indians came to the settlement about two miles above Wittons Fort and murdered two of the children of James Maxwell a party of nine persons & himself making the 10th were immediately dispatched in pursuit of the Indians – they followed on to the big cane Break on the Dry fork of Big Sandy River where they lost the track, that they then returned to the Fort. This circumstance created considerable excitement in the settlement and the People immediately betook themselves to their respective forts. That as early as 25th of March in that year (1782) he entered the service of his Country as a Volunteer guard in the aforesaid Wittons Fort where he continued to serve until the first day of November following. That in the year 1783 he again volunteered and served in Wittons Garrison from the first of April until the first of November following. That owing to the scarcity of men in the Settlement they were not able to defend themselves and there was a

company sent from the Eastern part of Montgomery County in each of the aforesaid years to their assistance a part of which were stationed at Wittons Garrison.

That the nature of his services was to guard the Fort and to go when commanded in pursuit of the Indians when they were seen in the settlement. That he was during the whole of the aforesaid time under the Command of the aforesaid Captain. That he was stationed during the whole of the aforesaid. In Garrison with an embodied Corps and was not engaged in any civil pursuit (First) That he was born in Augusta County and State of Virginia in the year 1764 on the 27th day of February which will make him 71 years old on the 27th day of February next (Second) That he was living when called into service on the Maiden Spring fork of Clynch River where he has lived ever since (Third) That he has no record of his age but has been told that he was born on the 27th day of February 1764. (Fourth) That he volunteered (Fifth) That he has named his Officer in the foregoing part of his declaration (Sixth) That he never received any written discharge for any of the services he rendered his Country (Seventh) that he is known to the Reverend David Young and Jeret Bolen who can testify to his good character for veracity and their belief of his services as he states and that he can further support his Declaration by the evidence of Thomas Witten who served in the same Garrison with him.

He hereby relinquishes all claims to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.



Sworn to & subscribed before me and Acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Thompson, JP

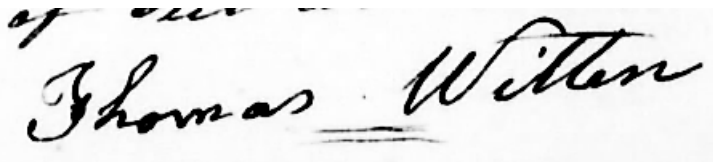


[David Young, a clergyman, and Jeret Bowlen gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Virginia Tazewell County

I Thomas Witten¹ an acting Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Tazewell & State of Virginia do hereby Certify that I am well acquainted with Colonel John Thompson who has subscribed and sworn to the above or foregoing Declaration that I well recollect the services of Colonel John Thompson in Wittons Fort & against the Indians as he states in the year 1780, 81, 82 and 83, that I believe him to have served at least is long in each year as he has stated in his declaration. I do solemnly affirm in my Official Capacity that the above Certificate contains the truth to the best of my knowledge in witness whereof I hereunto affixed my name this the first day of April in the year of our Lord 1834.

S/ Thomas Witten



¹ [Thomas Witten S6407](#)

[f p. 3: On December 28, 1852 in Tazewell County Virginia, William Thompson filed a power of attorney in which he states he is the lawful heir of John Thompson.

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