

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Thompson R10560

f52GA/NC/SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/3/09: rev'd 9/7/21

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 29]

State of Georgia Habersham County

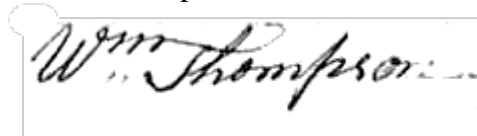
The Petition of Wm Thomson [sic]

Sheweth that he is now a resident of the State of Georgia, Habersham County that he is sixty-nine years of age; that he acted as a Soldier in the revolutionary Struggle commanded by Colonel Mccaul [sic, James McCall, Lt. Col. of the Upper Ninety Six District Regiment] was in a battle at the Flagreed or Long Cane [December 12, 1780]¹ retreated after this battle went to Mecklenburg County NC from thence to charge of a public wagon & drove it to Philadelphia & after his return joined the Service under General Pickens [Brigadier Gen. Andrew Pickens] and went in an expedition against the Cherokees [September 16-October 17, 1782]² -- and according to a provision made in Congress at the Last Session providing for all revolutionary Services; your Petitioner considers himself entitled in general with other Soldiers.

Sworn to & subscribed 3rd day of November 1832

before E. S. Norris, JP

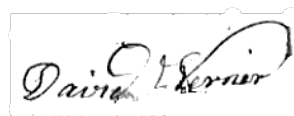
S/ Wm Thompson



State of South Carolina Anderson District: David Verner personally came Before me and made oath in Due form of law & saith on his oath that he was intimately acquainted with Wm Thomson in the Revolution and that he was true to his Country and that the above statement is a correct one. Sworn to 3rd day of November 1832.

Before S/ E. S. Norris, JP

S/ David Verner³



¹ https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_long_canes.html

² https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_last_cherokee_campaign.html

³ [David Verner S21550](#)

I do Certify that I have been acquainted with the above named David Vanna [sic] for a long time and thinks him to be entitled to credit -- Given under my hand & seal this 3rd day of November 1832.
S/ A. J. Liddell, QU

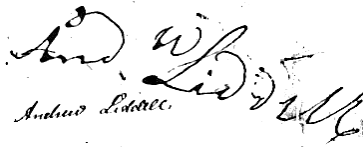
[p 30]

State of South Carolina Anderson District: Came personally Andrew Lidell Senior a revolutionary Soldier who after being sworn on his oath saith that he was acquainted with the Petitioner William Thomson during the Revolutionary Struggle was with the petitioner the most part of the time this deponent saith that they were in the battle of what is called long Cane, defeat under the command of Colonel McCall and that he was a true Whig to the close of the war and that he has known him ever since the above stated time and that he has always since that time supported a fare [fair] character as far as ever has come to this Deponent's knowledge.

Sworn this 3rd day of November 1832

S/ A. J. Liddell, JQ

S/ And^w Liddell⁴

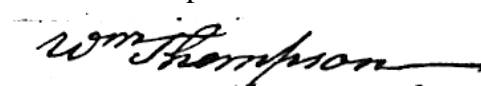
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrew Lidell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 2]

State of Georgia Habersham County} SS. On this Sixth day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of ordinary of said County now sitting William Thompson resident of said County and State aged Sixty nine 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 act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War as a volunteer under Captain Black in the Regiment commanded by Colonel McCall [sic, Capt. James McCall] in Abbeville District South Carolina that he served for about 3 months and was dismissed afterwards he returned to the service under General Pickens and continued in service for about 3 years when he was dismissed at the end of the War he received no discharge he was also during the War for a short tour of duty under General Elijah Clarke of Georgia who was in a battle at a place called Reedy Branch on long Cane [Long Cane] he was also in a small skirmish with the Indians at Long Swamp he has no record of his age in his possession he was born in Augusta County Virginia in the year 1764 he has lived in South Carolina where he lived at the time of entering the service and in Georgia ever since the Revolutionary War.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Wm Thompson

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Wm Thompson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

S/ Jonathan D. Chastain, G. Ga.

⁴ [Andrew Liddell \[Liddle\] SC3284](#)

In open Court personally appeared Thomas Townsend⁵ who after being duly sworn deposes and saith on oath that he was acquainted with the above named William Thompson in the Revolutionary War that he served some length of time with this deponent that this deponent frequently saw the said William in the service of the United States during the that War and that this deponent was in a battle with the said William at a place called Reedy Branch on Long Cane.

Sworn & subscribed in open court this 6th day of November 1832.

S/ Thomas Townsend, X his mark

[p 3]

Georgia Habersham County} An Amendment to the within declaration of William Thompson filed in the Clerk's office of the Court of Ordinary on the 6th day of November 1832 for the purpose the benefit of an act of Congress passed the 7th of June 1832 for revolutionary services, makes this additional declaration before the Inferior Court of the said County it being a court of record to obtain the benefit of said Act. That he entered the service first in Abbeville District South Carolina as a militia man under Captain Dun [sic, Josiah Dunn of the Georgia militia?], Dun left the service in about 2 weeks he was then under the command of Francis Carlyle, Colonel McCall marched to Ninety Six and got defeated at Reedy Branch, the battle was fought and General Few [Benjamin Few of the Georgia militia], was then marched and McCall to North Carolina and remained there some time with the Small pox, three months or perhaps more.

The Second Tour he entered the Service, in Mecklenburg [County] North Carolina under Captain John Harris a minute man was marched back to South Carolina, and was again marched back to North Carolina; he then went on to Philadelphia & returned. He then entered the Service under Captain Robert Anderson, afterwards General Anderson & Colonel John Cunningham, he then came on to South Carolina, and went out to the Cherokee nation under General Pickens & General Elijah Clarke of Georgia, General Clarke commanded the Georgians, and General Pickens the South Carolinians, we had a skirmish at the high Shoals of the Oconee [River], was then marched back to South Carolina he was then at the close of the War dismissed by General Pickens he was three years in this Service, & was called out by competent authority.

Sworn & subscribed in open court.

S/ Wm Thompson



[p 31]

State of Georgia Habersham County} On this fourteenth day of January 1834 personally appeared in the Inferior Court of said County being a Court of Record now sitting William Thompson a resident of said County and state aged seventy years the 14th of March next who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated that he entered the service of the United States in Abbeville district in South Carolina as a volunteer under Captain Dunn from Georgia from old age and affliction and consequent loss of memory he is unable to state positively as to the time he entered he recollects shortly after entering that our man were defeated at Long Cane our forces were commanded by General Benjn. Few [sic,

⁵ [Thomas Townsend W3889](#)

General Benjamin Few] of Georgia between the time of his entering the service and the said battle he was transferred from Captain Dunn's Company to the Company of Captain Black under Colonel McCall Captain Black and our first Lieutenant Raney Lockhart were both killed in the said Battle from Long Cane he marched under the command of Colonel McCall to the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina where he was taken with the Smallpox he was in service under the engagement was the term of six months from the month of January to the last of April he was driver of a public wagon he went on to Philadelphia and returned to Mecklenburg County he then returned to South Carolina under the command of General Pickens he was in the service as nearly as he can recollect from old age and consequent loss of memory three years under different engagements some time being for a few days permitted to go home and again called out he was always in readiness and was called out at short intervals for the last mentioned time during which he was under the command of General Pickens he was during this period engaged in no civil pursuit but principally engaged in the field or garrison unless when as he stated he was by the indulgence of his commander permitted to return home at the close of the war he served a three months tour under Captain William Baskins as a horseman they were under the command of General Pickens and during this last tour made an excursion to the Cherokee nation where they had a skirmish with the Indians at place in the Cherokee nations called long Swamp. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year first above written in open court.

S/ Andrew M. Norris, Clerk

S/ Wm Thompson

[p 23]

State of Georgia Cass County } SS. On this nineteenth day of September in the year of our Lord 1834, personally appeared in open Court William Thompson of the County and State aforesaid, residing in said State and County aged 70 years on the 14th of March 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States as a private in a horse company in the 1778 or 1779, in Abbeville District in the State of South Carolina as a volunteer under Captain Dunn from Georgia, from old age and affliction and consequent loss of memory he is unable to state positively as to the precise time he entered the service, that shortly after he entered the service that the detachment in which he served was defeated at a place called Long Cane⁶ in South Carolina where the American forces were commanded by General Benjamin Few of Georgia, between the time of entering the service and the battle of Long Cane, he was transferred from Captain Dunn's company to the company of Captain Black under Colonel McCall. Captain Black and first Lieutenant Raney Lockheart were both killed in said battle, from Long Cane he marched under the command of Colonel McCall to the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina where he was taken with the smallpox and confined for some time -- in this tour he served six months, was discharged verbally and received no written discharge. In the month of January, as nearly as he can now recollect, previous to the surrender of Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] he went on from Mecklenburg County in North Carolina to Philadelphia as the driver of a public Wagon, and returned in the April following with supplies for the southern Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene]. He then returned to South Carolina under the command of General

⁶ December 12, 1780 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/longcane.htm>

Pickens, and continued to serve as a volunteer private under different officers in the mounted Militia for three years in all, during which period he was occasionally permitted to return home for short periods of a few days. He was always in readiness and strictly obeyed all calls into service and during the period of three years he was not engaged in any business or employment other than that of a soldier, and engaged in the field or garrison duty, unless when by the indulgence of his commander he was permitted to return home for a few days at a time. At the close of the War he served a three months tour of duty as a private mounted militia volunteer under Captain William Baskins, who was under the command of General Pickens, and made an excursion into the Cherokee Nation where they had a skirmish with the Indians at a place in the nation called Long Swamp. That after the close of the War he removed to Pendleton District South Carolina where he resided until the year 1811, that in that year he removed to Franklin County in the State of Georgia and has continued to reside in Franklin and Habersham Counties in Georgia ever since until the present year when he removed to the County of Cass in the State of Georgia where he now resides. This applicant further on his oath doth declare that he never received any discharge in writing in any instance. That he does not know of any living witness by whom he can prove his services, unless it be a man by the name of Thomas Lesley⁷ whom this applicant has recently understood resides in the State of Tennessee and who served with him for more than two years for whose testimony this applicant intends to send and if he be still in life, to procure and forward with this application; and David Verner whose affidavit is herewith sent, and which has been heretofore sent with a former application of the applicant, as also the affidavit of Andrew Liddell who this applicant has understood and believes to be dead -- that he has no record of his age and that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity, except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency in any State. That he is well acquainted with General Andrew Miller and John C. Miller both of Cass County, and who are men of high standing and credit in this County and State. That from the newly settled State of the Country in which he now resides that he cannot procure the certificate of a clergyman at this time.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ John W. Harper, JIC CC

S/ Wm Thompson

[Andrew Miller and John C. Miller gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the said affiant doth answer to the Interrogatories⁸ propounded to him as follows first To the 1st . He says that he was born in Virginia on the 14th day of March 1764.

⁷ Sic, [Thomas Lesly W381](#)

⁸ The War Department promulgated regulations governing pension application format and requiring the following 7 interrogatories to be put to each applicant for a pension:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

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

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

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

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

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

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.

To the 2nd. That he has no record of his age.

To the 3rd. That he was living in this State of South Carolina Abbeville District -- that after the War he removed to Pendleton District South Carolina in 1811 he removed to Franklin County Georgia that since that time he has resided in the Counties of Franklin and Habersham in Georgia until the present year, and then removed to the County of Cass where he now lives.

To the 4th. He answers that he always volunteered.

To the 5th. He gives the names of Colonel Benjamin Few and Colonel McCall -- General Pickens and Generals Greene & Clarke. Captains Dunn and Black and refers to his declaration for the circumstances of his services.

To the 6th. He says he never received any written discharge.

To the 7th he gives the names of General Andrew Miller and John C. Miller.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me in open Court.

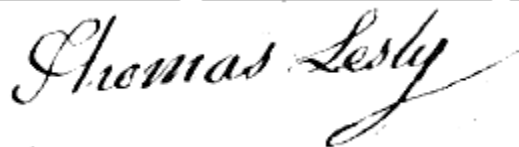
S/ John W. Harper, JIC CC

S/ Wm Thompson

[p 39]

State of Tennessee McMinn County} Personally appeared Thomas Lasley [sic] before me Hezekiah Witt one of the acting Justices of the peace for said County and after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is acquainted with William Thompson a Revolutionary Soldier that he became acquainted with him in Abbeville District South Carolina & intimately acquainted with said Thompson some three or four years before the battle at Ready Branch [sic, Reedy Branch] that previous to this Battle he had been bound an Apprentice to a James Steel to learn the wheel right [sic, wheelwright's] trade but from the commotion of the Country & the warm attachment he had for the liberties of his country he got the consent of said Steel and his mother (then a widow) to join the Whigs of his Country that I knew him to be engaged in the cause of Liberty a year or two previous to the Battle of the Ready Branch that he said Thompson joined with me as a volunteer under Colonel McCall of South Carolina and Colonel Clark of Georgia & fought by my side at the Battle of the Ready Creek under said McCall & Clarke in South Carolina Abbeville District between Whight hall [sic, White Hall] and Long cain [sic, Long Cane] against the British and Tories in which Battle we got defeated and loss in killed ten men supposed to be. And from that time I knew him to be engaged in the cause of Liberty as volunteer from said Battle at Ready Branch to the close of the Revolutionary War in scouting parties but time and places not now recollected and that I believe to the best of my knowledge and belief that he said Thompson was engaged in the cause of Liberty betwixt two and three years -- And since the revolutionary war he has lived in Abbeville District South Carolina thence he removed to Pendleton District in said State from thence he removed to Georgia Franklin County from thence to Habersham County Georgia from thence to Cass County Georgia from which last mentioned place he is living at this time and I further believe said Thompson to be seventy-two or three years of age and believe him to be fully entitled to a Pension under the Act of Congress of the United States passed at the first Session of the 22nd Congress -- Such pay to commence from the 4th day of March 1831. This 24th of September 1834

S/ Thomas Lesly

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Lesly". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Thomas Lesly".

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September 1834
Test: S/ Hezekiah Witt, JP

[p 34]

State of Tennessee McMinn County } Thomas Lesley a citizen of McMinn County came personally before me Hezekiah Witt one of the acting Justices of the Peace for the said County and made Oath in due form of law that he [was] well acquainted with William Thompson that he has personally known him in the time and since the revolutionary War that when he first knew said Thompson in the United States service he was then under General Few in South Carolina in the Horse service and was also under Colonel Elijah Clarke of Georgia & Colonel James McCaul [sic, James McCall] of South Carolina and was commanded by Captain Robert Black at the Battle of Reedy Branch in South Carolina between White Hall & Long Cane Creek in what was then called Ninety Six since Abbeville District the Battle was with a company of British and Tories then stationed in Ninety Six headed as well as Deponent recollects by a British Colonel named Crewger [sic John Harris Cruger]. In this Battle the Americans was defeated and Captain Black and Lieutenant Lockard [sic] was killed and about Eight or Nine others in the same Company killed wounded and taken prisoners. Deponent does not recollect the year in which this Battle was fought the next day after the Battle deponent parted with said Thompson and saw him no more for perhaps six months when he again saw him in North Carolina where he had fled as a refugee after which deponent recollects to have seen William Thompson again at the Bigshoals [Big Shoals] of Oconey [sic, Oconee River] in Georgia at a Battle fought there by Colonel Clarke of Georgia and Colonel Anderson [Robert Anderson] of South Carolina against the company of plundering Indians and some Tories and defeated them killed some two or three and lost one man killed and one wounded after that Battle deponent did not personally know William Thompson in the service but was informed and does believe he remained in the service when required until the close of the War deponent does not recollect whether Thompson got a regular discharge but he distinctly recollects that it was not common for the militia to get Discharges they were called Minute man and called when wanted and when done with were sent home to be in readiness at a moments Notice deponent Believe said it was about two years from the time he first saw Thompson in the United States Service until he last saw him in the Army.
Sworn to and subscribed before me this or came Day of April 1835

S/ Hezekiah Witt, JP

S/ Thomas Lesly

[Note: I did not find among the South Carolina Audited Accounts a claim which I could identify as relating to this veteran. I looked under the name of William Thompson and William Thomson.]