

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas H. Totty R10647

Sarah

f8VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/19/11

[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.]

[Note: This file contains no actual application. There is a letter dated April 3rd 1843 from Ezra Holstead in South Harpeth [Davidson County] Tennessee addressed to the Commissioner of Pensions stating that there is enclosed an application of Mrs. Sarah Totty for a pension under the 1836 act based on the services of her husband Thomas H Totty in the war of the revolution. The actual application, however, is not in this file nor is there any indication as to what may have happened to it other than the following which appears to be and extract from a letter in reply to Mr. Holstead's letter. The extract is dated May 10, 1843 and indicates that it was sent by the pension office to Ezra Holstead: "The declaration and proofs in the case of Sarah Totty are herewith returned that the claim may be asserted before the court or if she is actually unable from disease & consequent ability to attend court the proceedings before the magistrate be submitted to the court for its sanction. The alleged date of the marriage should be established by the certificate of the clerk of Chesterfield County Virginia. The pro-rider character of the pension indispensably requires as the regulations do that the length of the service should be ascertained with satisfactory precision. No term of service can be allowed unless its period – length & grade names of officers stations – battles &c are set forth in detail so as to enable the Department to decide upon it understandingly – The militia of Virginia were seldom called into service and rarely served as much as three months at a time to which the term of their service was limited. There were not a half dozen occasions from the beginning to the end of the war upon which any part of the militia of Chesterfield County was called out." [here the extract ends].]