

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Watson R11209 NC  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 Aug 2014.

State of Georgia } Inferior Court December Term 1832  
Gwinnett County } Personally appeared in open Court it being a court of record now sitting Thomas Watson a resident of the said County of Gwinnett & State aforesaid aged sixty eight 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 the 7th 1832– that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated towit that he entered the service in Wake County & State of North Carolina where he then resided as a drafted malitia man under the Command of Coln Hugh Tinnon [sic: Hugh Tinnen] Maj’r Taylor & Batalion Captain Theophilus Chambers Company Lieutenanat Wm. Nawls [William Nawls] for three months – he entered the service in March 1780 & received a parol in May following & returned home. was stationed in Charlestown South Carolina during said term – was in the Siege of Charleston when he was taken prisoner by the British [12 May 1780] received a parol from Sir Henry Clinton in May & returned home (which parol he has now in his possession) That afterwards in the year 1781 he entered the service as a substitute for Mathew Gentry who was a drafted malitia man from the County of Surry & State of North Carolina where he then resided under the Command of Captain David Humphries [David Humphreys] Benj Humphries [Benjamin Humphreys] Lieutenant – and Coln James Martin’s Regiment was in some skirmishes with the tories Served out his time and received a discharge which discharge he gave to Mathew Gentry the man for whom he served as a substitute – That he has no documentary evidence except his parol, and that he knows of no other person except Frederick Thompson [pension application W11618] whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service – That since the Revolutionary war he has resided first in North Carolina Surry County from thence he removed to the State of Georgia in the year 1789 Wilks [sic: Wilkes] County from thence he removed to Jackson County Now Gwinnett in said State of Georgia. That he was born the 14th of February 1764.  
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension role of the agency of any State.  
Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 10th Decr 1832 Thomas hisXmark Watson

(Coppay)

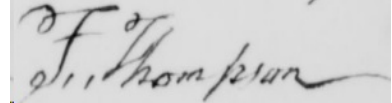
I DO hereby acknowledge myself to be a Prisoner of War, upon my Parole, to his Excellency Sir HENRY CLINTON, and that I am thereby engaged until I shall be exchanged, or otherwise released therefrom, to remain at my plantation in the parish of St. [blank] in the County of Wake & province of No. Carolina and that I shall not in the mean time do, or cause any Thing to be done, prejudicial to the success of His Majesty’s Arms, or have intercourse or hold Correspondence with his Enemies; and that upon a Summons from his Excellency, or other Person having Authority thereto, that I will surrender myself to him or them at such Time and Place as I shall hereafter be required. Witness my hand this 19<sup>th</sup> day of May 1780

Witness} I do hereby Certify that the above is a true Coppay of the parole  
Thos Hamilton [Thomas Hamilton] this day signed By Maj Stuart  
Comm’y pris’rs [Commissary of prisoners]

Georgia } I Frederick Thompson of Walton County in said State, do hereby certify, that  
Gwinnett County } Thomas Watson of Gwinnett County and State of Georgia: That he the said Thomas Watson from the County of Surrey North Carolina on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of August 1781, did Rendevous at Richmond the Cite [seat] of said County [near present Donnoha in Forsythe County], marched from thence to Horzer Town in said County, thence to Salem in said County, from thence toward Fayetteville

leaving it a little to the north – from thence to Capefear river [Cape Fear River], crossed it & went down to Elizabeth Town from thence recrossed the river, went on toward raft Swamp & drowning Creek – on our way toward Wilmington, and fifteen miles above Wilmington, and on the 8<sup>th</sup> day of November 1781 was discharged. He served under Gen'l [Griffith] Rutherford, Cols. James Martin Maj. McGuire Capt David Humphries, Benj Humphries Leut Ratliff Roon [sic: Ratcliffe Boone], Ensign, David Ridings [David Riding] & John Stillman seargts.

Sworn to and Subscribed to before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1833



Georgia } Before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of said County  
Gwinnett County } personally appeared Thomas Watson of said County who has applied for a pension & whose name appears on the annexed declaration and after being duly sworn he deposeseth & saith. That by way of explaining the facts refered to he makes the following statement towit that he arrived at Charleston from North Carolina in the early part of April but how long he had been in the service before he marched there he cannot positively say but is certain that his three months had expired when he returned home on parol from the British Commander and that he belonged to General Lincolns [Benjamin Lincoln's] Command & the service rendered in North & South Carolina – That in 1781 – he resolved to enter the service of his country again altho' it forfeited his life if he should be taken by the British as he was then bound to be neutral by his said Parol in order to deceive them he took the place of the said Gentry and passed under his name to avoid detection should he have been taken prisoner again and this was on his part a voluntary service & intended alone for personal security and received the discharge from Col James Mar[page torn; probably James Martin] in the name of said Gentry. – This last service was all performed in the State of North Carolina and under the command of Genl Rutherford – that he served out his last three months & was discharged as stated – That he has no record of his age – That he is well known to Hosea Camp a Clergyman & Elisha Winn Esq who have already born testimony & to John Tellartin Esq William Robertson Esq Willis Rowland Esq & many others of his neighbours who can testify to his character for veracity and of their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

That during his two several tours he was engaged in no civil pursuit and for this service he claims a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed }  
before me this 18 September 1833 }  
John Mills JP

Thomas hisXmark Watson