

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Camel (Campbell) R1609

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 July 2014.

State of New York Madison County SS On this Ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and thirty two personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas of said County now sitting, Thomas Camel a resident of the Town of Lenox in the said County of Madison in the State of New York aged 72 years as near as this applicant can recollect 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 is to say about the month of September 1776 as near as this applicant can recollect he enlisted for three years under one Captain Wilson of the County of Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] in State of Virginia where this applicant then resided believes the enlisting orders were presented to him by the said Captain Wilson of the Fourth Virginia regiment. The Colonel name as near as this applicant can recollect was Naval [sic: John Nevill], of the said Fourth Virginia Regiment, General Scotts [Charles Scott's] Brigade. That about six days after he enlisted they were mustered and marched Immediately to a place called Whitemarsh in the state of Pennsylvania that they there joined the main Army under General Washington that they were there some time five or six months as near as this applicant can recollect. that from White Marsh they were marched to a Place called Valley forge Forge [sic] in the State of Pennsylvania where he remained with the Army at Valley forge, from sometime in December 1777. through the Winter until June 1778 when the army was marched to Monmuth where he was engaged in the Battle which was there fought [Battle of Monmouth NJ, 28 Jun 1778] and there in consequence of being over heated and worn out with fatigue he was taken sick and was put in the hospital where he remained some weeks very sick that after he recovered so that he could walk the Doctor who took care of him let him go to live in a family near that place and the army was marched from there he does not know to what place. That he remained sick and unable to labour or perform any hard service for some three or four years and has never entirely got over the effects produced from being heated on that occasion. that he went from Valley Forge to the Town of Salem in the County of Washington & State of New York where he remained several years from thence he went into the County of Onondaga where he remained several years and from the County of Onondaga he removed to the County of Madison where he now resides That he has resided in the said County of Madison as near as this applicant can recollect about thirty years – That he was never Discharged only by the Doctor who told him that he might stay in the family above stated and if he became able to return to the army he might so do but Did not think he would ever be able to join them again that he has never since heard or seen any person who belonged to the Company or Regiment in which he served. That the Company to which he belonged were mostly killed In the Battle at Monmouth, that it was in the month of July or first part of the month of August 1778 as near as this applicant recollect that he was so left as above stated –

This Applicant can neither read or write and is unable from memory to state further particulars, that he has no Documentary evidence that he knows of that he can procure That he cannot from his own recollection state other facts and circumstances than what he has stated above and he knows of no person whose Testimony he can procure who can testify to his services The said applicant further states that when he enlisted he was as near as this applicant can recolect in the 16th year of his age was born at Culpepper aforesaid in the state of Virginia, was taken before one Daniel Blackman Esqr and sworn into the service and measured, height 5 feet seven[?] inches. has no record of his age is a Black man and from age and defect of memory can state no more

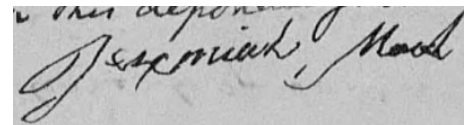
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State

Thomas hisXmark Camel

State of New York Madison County SS. Be it remembered that on this fifth day of June in the year of our Lord 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County of Madison aforesaid Thomas Camel or otherwise called Thomas Campbell a black man, whose name is signed to the Declaration to which this is annexed who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise time of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades – for nine months & twenty eight day I served as a private in the Regiment and under the officers mentioned in said Declaration which time I calculate from the first of September 1776 to the 28th day of June 1778 which I am informed and believe was the time of the Monmouth Battle. the said Regiment was an embodied Corps and called into service by competent authority as was then believed. There are no witnesses living within my knowledge who can testify to my service. That at the time I enlisted as stated in my said Declaration I was a slave to Col. Martin Pickett [sic: Martin Pickett] of Virginia who gave me my Choice Either to remain a slave as I was or to go into the Army and I chose the latter and entered as stated in my said Declaration. In the Battle at Monmouth I was with the Artillery and Drove the horses. that from & after the Battle of Monmouth in consequence of being over heated and fatigued I was sick and for not less than six months was unable to perform any service whatever and that he has never entirely recovered from said sickness occasioned by being over heated.

Thomas herXmark Camel (or Campbell)

State of New York Madison County Ss: Be it Remembered that on this 5th day of June in the year of our Lord 1833, personally appeared before me the undersigned, Justice of the peace in and for the said county of Madison, Jeremiah Mack [pension application S42932] of Smithfield in the said county aged seventy seven years who being duly affirmed deposes and says that he was a soldier in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary war, and now draws a pension in consequence of said service. That he was in the battle of Monmouth and that he lay with the army at Valley Forge the winter before said battle. That he is acquainted with Thomas camel, or Campbell a black man who now lives in the said town of Smithfield. And that this deponent has been acquainted with him for near thirty years last past, that this deponent has frequently and many years ago conversed with said Camel about the revolutionary war, and that in such conversations, said Camel has informed this deponent that he Camel served in the Army of the revolutionary war, and that he was in the battle of Monmouth & lay with the army the winter before said battle at Valley Forge, and that from circumstances and occurrences which said Camel has related to this deponent, and which this deponent remembered he has no doubt said Camel was engaged in said battle and lay with the army at Valley Forge at the time above mentioned. And further that the said Camel is a man of good character for truth and veracity & that he has never known said Camels moral character impeached – and further this deponent saith not

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jeremiah Mack". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTES:

The reason given for rejection of the application was “the proof required not having been produced.”

On 23 Dec 1854 James Campbell of Sullivan County NY stated that his father, Thomas Campbell, died in the state of Michigan on 6 May 1849.