

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Thomas Harvey R4715 Mary Harvey VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 8 June 2015.

State of Virginia. Charlotte County to wit:

On this 25th day of August, 1837, personally appeared before me John Harvey, a Justice of the peace in and for the county & state aforesaid, Thomas Harvey, (Butterwood) [see endnote] a resident of said County & State, aged 77 years, who being 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.

He states, that he was born in the County of Charlotte the 26th day of February, 1760, according to a Register now in his possession. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated: to wit: He was first drafted in the Militia in the Spring of 1780, under Capt Bedford. A few days after he entered the service, the company marched to Petersburg, and thence to Norfolk. When the company was about to march from Charlotte, Capt Bedford pressed the Waggon and team of John Harvey (the Father of this affiant) to carry the baggage, provisions &c of the company, and appointed this affiant to drive it; he being accustomed to drive the same Waggon long before that time. After the company had been some time in Norfolk say 8 weeks and the Waggon & Team not being any longer wanted by the company, Capt Bedford directed this affiant to return it to his Father, and stated that as he had his full compliment of men he need not return to Norfolk after delivering the Waggon and Team. This affiant left Norfolk for that purpose and at the "Long Ordinary" about 3 miles above Petersburg, he fell in with a portion of Genl Gate's [Horatio Gates's] Army on their march to the South. Here the waggon & team were again pressed into the services, and Genl Gate's persuaded this affiant to join them, and appointed him Waggon Master of Genl [Edward] Stevens Brigade. He received his appointment and commission or certificate as Waggon Master from Genl Gates and had the management and superintendencie of 8 Waggons. The Army marched to the South, crossing the Roanoke River at Taylor's ferry, thence to the Red House in N. Carolina, and on to Hillsborough. After remaining at Hillsborough 6 or 8 weeks, the Army marched in direction of Camden [SC], where Genl Gates and his army were defeated [16 Aug 1780]. The morning of the battle this affiant was ordered to take the Waggons with the baggage &c back to Hillsborough. He had proceeded about 18 miles, and was overtaken by the retreating American Troops, who were pursued by the enemy. He used every caution to save the Waggons, baggage &c under his control, but all were taken by the enemy except one. That he managed to get to Hillsborough in safety. In a day or two Genl Gates with the remainder of the Army came in and stationed themselves at Hillsborough. At this battle Genl Stevens got wounded in the thigh and left the service [sic: see endnote]. He was then attached to the command of Genl [Robert] Lawson, and still continued as Waggon Master. He was actually employed until the Spring of 1781 in the State of North Carolina, in the transportation of Baggage, Military Stores, provisions &c for the Army. He left Guilford just before the Battle [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] with orders to proceed to Halifax old Ct. H. in order to avoid the enemy; but the enemy not pursuing, the Waggons returned back and joined the Army at the Iron Works in Guilford Cty [on Troublesome Creek now in Rockingham County]. He still continued as Waggon Master until just before the siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] when he was discharged and returned home.

Upon his return home he was drafted under Lieutenant Joseph Fuqua and marched to Yorktown, but reached there after the surrender of Cornwallis. Shortly after the siege, he was discharged and returned home. That Genl. Gates, Genl. Stevens & Genl. Lawson, Genl. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], and Col. [William] Washington were commanding field officers during the periods he was in service. That from the Spring of 1780 until the Siege of Yorktown in October 1781 (with the exception of a few days) he was a soldier and Waggon Master in the service of the United States. That he recollects having received a written discharge as Waggon Master, which discharge with his Commission or certificate as Waggon Master with many valuable papers relative to the service were unfortunately burnt with his dwelling

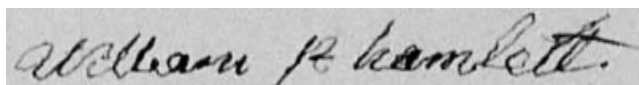
House many years since. That he is now old, infirm, very deaf, and nearly lost his eye sight, and scarcely able to move about. He has delayed his application for a Pension untill the present time in hopes of procuring more satisfactory testimony; but finds upon inquiry none now living within his reach, except John Thompson whose certificate is herewith filed. He only will claim a Pension for 12 months service in the whole as Waggon Master in the service of the United States. 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 Harvey

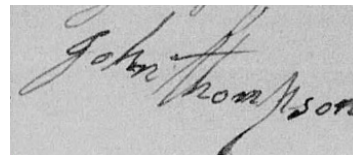
Virginia. Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I was at the battle of Guilford in 1781, and also at the seige of York in, 1781, during the Revolutionary war; and was well acquainted with Thomas Harvey of Charlotte at both places; and know the fact, that said Thomas Harvey was a Waggon Master at both places, and during the intermediate time, attached to the Continental line. I am in the 78th year of my age, and was a soldier of the Revolutionary Army. Given under my hand this 29th day of Dec'r. 1837.

[William P. Hamlett S13305]



I John Thompson [S41238] do hereby certify that sometime in the year 1780 I was marching to the south under general Gates and met with Thomas Harvey at Hillsborough he than had a waggon of his own and was appointed waggon master he was in General Stephens's Bregade and continued the whole Campaign. In the Spring of 1781 as I marched to the battle at Guilford I met with him again in north carolina he was still waggon master than in General Lawsons bregade and continued tell we marched to the sege of yorktown [3 May 1834]



NOTES:

The parenthetical word "Butterwood" distinguishes this Thomas Harvey, who lived on Butterwood Creek, from another man of the same name.

Gen. Edward Stevens was actually wounded in the thigh at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, not at the Battle of Camden.

On 10 June 1853 Polly Harvey, 80, applied for a pension stating that she married Thomas Harvey in Cumberland County VA on 12 Nov 1792, and he died 19 Sep 1844. On 5 May 1853 Drusilla Harvey, wife of Isham Harvey, certified the marriage of Thomas and Polly Harvey. On 12 Nov 1853 Polly Harvey amended her application, listing the names and ages of her eight children as follows: "Drucilla, who is now dead, if living at the present date, would be 60 years of age. Beverly, who is now dead, if living, would by 58 years of age – George, is 55 years old – Clement is 53 years old – Sarena, is 51 years old – William is 49 years old – Nancy, is 47 years old – and Jesse, who is now dead, if living would be 45 years old." On 12 Nov 1853 John Harvey, the Justice of the Peace, age 67, certified the marriage of Thomas and Polly Harvey. Her pension application was rejected for lack of proof of the date of marriage.

On 5 May 1856 William B. Harvey, 47, applied for arrearage of his father's pension, stating that his mother's maiden name was Mary Vauter or Vawter, that she had died on 2 May 1854, and that the other surviving children were George Harvey, 53, Clement Harvey, 51, Cyrene Johnson, 49, and Nancy Branch, 45.