

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Prather R8419

Delilah

f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/15/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Green County: November 10<sup>th</sup> 1851

Be it remembered that on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of November 1851 I A J Broyles one of the acting Justices of the Peace for the said County and State duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes attended at the residence of Delilah Prather widow of Thomas Prather deceased she being aged ninety years and I certify was and is unable to attend Court to make her declaration from age and bodily infirmity and in order to obtain the benefit of the Acts of Congress herein after mentioned made, marked & was sworn to the following declaration to wit: That she is aged ninety years, was married to Thomas Prather her only husband in the County of Green in the now state of Tennessee on the 11<sup>th</sup> day of March 1782 by the Reverend Samuel Doak Sr. a Presbyterian minister whose residence and services in this portion of territory now East Tennessee were [indecipherable word or words] with its earliest settlements, that from the organization of the first territorial government in what is now Tennessee up to the year 1815, there was no law requiring officiating ministers and magistrates to return the licenses for marriage and the said Reverend Samuel Doak being dead for many years, and diligent search having been made among the old papers of said Doak, she is unable to tell what disposition he made of the license or whether preserved or destroyed, but she herewith appends to the papers in this case the only Family record left by the said Thomas Prather marked B which is in his own proper handwriting which she undertake prove [undertakes to prove] by the evidence of Jonathan Prather and William Painter and such other presumptive evidence as may be annexed hereto, in order to supply the defect of license proof, lost no doubt in the lapse of years – She states that before she married the said Thomas Prather, as she universally understood from him and others, he had in the State of Virginia whilst a single man and prior to the year 1782 performed a tour of duty as guard at the Chisels Coal Mines now in Wythe County Virginia, at the time that the British were attempting to break through from South Carolina to the mines and take possession thereof, being as was generally understood the object of Ferguson, in attempting a pass at Kings Mountain which brought about the battle of Kings Mountain and the defeat of Ferguson. That after performing said tour the particulars of which she is unable to give further than from tradition, her said Husband Thomas Prather, being a resident of Green County in the Territory south of the River Ohio, and the Cherokee Indians being still hostile and depredating upon the settlements, was commissioned by the then territorial Governor William Blount as Lieutenant of a Company of Rangers commanded by Captain Gregg, in which Company as Lieutenant and under the commission here to annexed marked (A) he served 6 months and under his said Captain (who has been dead many years) fulfilled a 6 months tour as she is assured not only from her own knowledge, but from the proof of John Bailey and Samuel Broyles hereto annexed. –

She further states that she was ignorant of the provisions made by Congress for the relief

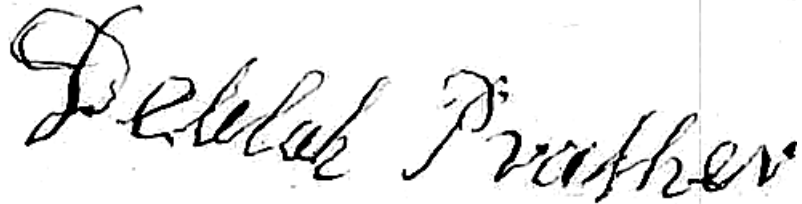
of widows of Soldiers until recently informed of the same –

She claims therefore on account of her said Husband's services a pension under the benign provisions of the Acts of Congress, he having died as will appear from the annexed affidavits on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of July 1813 without ever having received any pension or annuity of any kind from the United States.

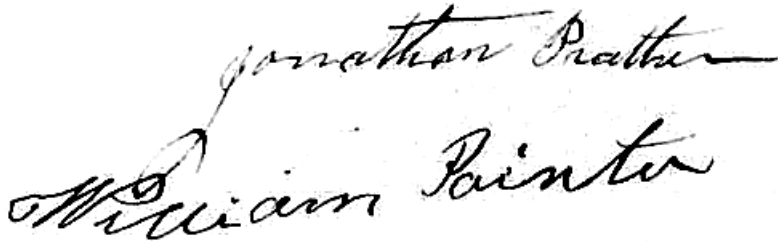
She therefore claims under the Act of 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832, the act of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1836 and 3<sup>rd</sup> section of the act of March 1837, as also the acts of 7<sup>th</sup> of July 1838, March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1843 and June 17<sup>th</sup> 1844 and the joint Resolution explanatory of said Acts, as also the Act 29<sup>th</sup> of July 1848 under which several acts and Resolutions she is entitled to an amount annually equal to that to which her said Husband Thomas Prather would have been entitled had he been living and sought the benefits of the aforesaid acts, inasmuch as she was married to him the said Thomas Prather before the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 1783 as required by the Act of 1836 and was widow of the said Thomas at the time of the passage of the several subsequent acts.

She further states that she never was again married but still continues the widow of the said Thomas Prather, Has no record evidence to her knowledge of the services of her said Husband except that given her by him and the general reputation of his services nor has she any record evidence of her marriage but that presumptive proof annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me  
S/ A. F. Broyles, JP S/ Delilah Prather



[Jonathan Prather, 54 and William Painter, 66, gave evidence on November 10, 1853 in Greene County Tennessee that the family record marked B is in the handwriting of Thomas Prather.



[f p. 6: On November 10, 1851 in Green County Tennessee, Samuel Broyles, 80, gave testimony that he was acquainted with Lieutenant Thomas Prather in the year 1793 when he, Thomas Prather served a 6 months tour as a Ranger in a company commanded by Captain Gregg; that Thomas Prather and Delilah Broyles were legally married at the time specified by the Lila Prather in her application.



[Ezekiel Broyles, 75, gave a supporting affidavit concurring with the statements made by Samuel Broyles.

Ezekiel Broyles ]

[f p. 8: On November 7, 1851 in Greene County Tennessee, John Baley, 74, gave testimony that he served in a company of Rangers in 1793 against the hostile Cherokee Indians; the company was commanded by Captain Gregg of green County; that Thomas Prather was Lieutenant of said company and that the company serve for 6 months.

John Baley  
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[f p. 10: family register:

Betsey Prather was born October 27<sup>th</sup> 1783  
Cate Prather was born 22 day of January 1786  
Polly Prather was born April the 6 day 1788  
Nansy Prather was born September the first day in 1790  
Lilley Prather was born the 25<sup>th</sup> day of October in the year 1792  
Tabbitha Prather was born March 18<sup>th</sup> 1795  
Jonathan Prather was born the 28<sup>th</sup> day of March in 1797  
Jamis Prather was born the 19<sup>th</sup> day of March 1800  
Jeremiah Prather was born the 17 day of April 1802  
Abigail Prather was born on the 20 day of May 1804]

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