

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Snale¹ R93

Elizabeth Snale

f10VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/10/12 rev'd 5/14/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

Norfolk 24th of February 1836

The Honorable J. L. Edwards Esquire

Commissioner of Pension Fund

Sir,

Herewith you will receive a power of Attorney &

Certificate duly certified in the claim of Lieutenant Thomas Snale deceased who was an officer in the Virginia State Navy in the war of the Revolution he died in the winter of 1781 in service and is entitled to Commutation pay. You will perceive from the enclosed Certificate in this claim that I have a conflicting claimant to contend with. I have therefore thought it proper to take the advice of Council his opinion is on the same Sheet, which will be used sufficient to show you that I represent the only true heir, who has given his consent and wishes me to administer the Estate of Lieutenant Thomas Snale wherein it may become necessary so to do, and agreeable to the Rules of the Department the consent of the Heir must he had before the administrator can receive the money. William N. Ivey at the instant of his Agent Charles Hatcher have applied to our Court for Admr. in the estate of Lt. T. Snale which was granted to him, But this has not been done by and with the consent of the Heir & the Heir William W Herbert through his Agent expressly requests the Department not to pay to Wm N. Ivey, his agent or any Substitution under them or either of them any Commutation or other money so that may be due or coming to the heirs of the said Lt. Thos. Snale as the sole object of these claimants are to get hold of the money and compel us to institute a suit to recover it & I do most ardently desire to avoid I yours is not the proper Department to which these papers all to be forwarded you will do me the favor to send them to the right destination & advise me of it.

I am with all due respect
your most Obedient Servant
S/ John B. Ogy

Norfolk Borough

At a Hastings Court continued and held the 1st day of November 1834

The Court doth certify that it has been made appear to the court by the oath of Elizabeth Martin that William Herbert deceased was twice married – that by his first wife Miss Godfrey he had one son Thomas Herbert – by his second wife was Miss Nancy Snale who was an only child of Thomas Snale deceased, who is represented to have been a Lieutenant in the Virginia State Navy

¹ VA. Half Pay, Va. Sea Service

during the war of the Revolution – that Lieutenant Thomas Snale deceased died many years ago leaving one only Miss Nancy Snale alias Nancy Herbert who died leaving only one child Mary Ann Herbert – that William Herbert died many years since leaving 2 children viz. Thomas Herbert by the 1st marriage and Mary Ann Herbert by the second wife. Mary Ann Herbert of lawful age died in the year 1824 unmarried and without issue and Thomas Herbert the half-brother died in the year 1825 leaving only one child William W Herbert. The Court being satisfied that Charles Hatcher agent for William N. Ivey and others the opposing claimants have had reasonable notice of the present application.

I John Williams Clerk of the Hastings Court of the Borough of Norfolk in the State of Virginia do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the records of the said Court. In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court the 24th day of November in the year of our Lord 1836 and of the Commonwealth the sixtieth.

S/ Jno. Williams CC

Case

Thomas Snale died intestate in the year 1781 leaving a widow & two children Robert & Nancy. Robert went to sea in 1805 and has not since been heard of. Nancy intermarried with William Herbert by whom she had one child Mary Ann Herbert and died about the year 1805. Her husband William Herbert dying some years afterwards. The widow of Thomas Snale is also long since dead.

Mary Ann Herbert died in 1824 above 21 years. She had a will in which she deposed of a part of her estate especially in which the land & pay in question is not embraced dying intestate as to all her other estate. She left a half brother Thomas Herbert who is since dead intestate leaving one child William Herbert

It seems the ancestor Thomas Snale was a Revolutionary officer entitled to land & pay.

It is inquired of me who is now entitled to the said Land & money. I answer that I have no hesitation in saying that in my opinion the land & pay along wholly [to] William W Herbert the son of Thomas Herbert.

Robert Snale the son who was entitled by the law as it then stood to the land and a moiety of the pay the other moiety to Nancy. He being absent for seven years (he has been absent thirty years) is presumed to be dead. On his death without issue whether under or above 21 years his estate passed & descended to his sister Mrs. Herbert if she was alive & if not [two indecipherable words] Mary Ann Herbert his niece by his full sister. Upon the death of Mary Ann Herbert far above 21 years of age her estate not disposed of by her will & as to which she died intestate passed wholly to her half-brother Thomas Herbert & from him to his son Wm W. Herbert.

S/ S. Whitehead

Feb. 24, 1836

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

In 1791 the widow of Thomas Snale represented him to the Legislature as a Lieutenant in the Navy & that he died in service in the winter of 79-80 – Her Petition was reported reasonably on the 2nd of December 1791 see Journal in Rolls Office page 231 – "Resolved that it is the opinion of this committee that the petition of Elizabeth Snale whose deceased husband Thomas Snale at the time of his death which happened in the year 1780 was a Lieutenant in the Navy of this State,

praying to be placed on the list of pensioners is reasonable" An act was passed conformably to the above resolution – see 13th Hou P 322

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

Norfolk Borough

At a Hustings Court held the 20th day of March 1780
Thomas Snale and Elizabeth his wife against John Ivy admr. of William Ivy dec'd –Oley-- This suit abates by the death of the plaintiff.

A Copy

John Williams F. C. [?]

See Journal of House of Delegates of 1791 – December 3 P 231 – Rolls Office – Report of the Committee on the Petition of Elizabeth Snale widow of Thomas Snale, deceased
Resolved as the opinion of this Committee that the petition of Elizabeth Snale whose deceased husband Thomas Snale was, at the time of his death which happened in the year 1780, a Lieutenant in the Navy of this State, praying to be placed on the list of Pensioners is reasonable, & that she ought to be allowed £15 per annum during life – Act passed 15th of December 1791
13th H. St. at Large P 322

Lieutenant Thomas Snale

Navy

Land Claim

4000 acres

Registered 7 January 1832

Advised to reject

14 June 1832

1832 June 14 Rejected

[From [pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 26-page file under the name "Thomas Snail"
[Most pages illegible as posted]

[p 6]

Norfolk Borough

At a Hastings Court held the 29th day of April 1794
On Application of Elizabeth Snale relict of Thomas Snale deceased, a pensioner of this State, It appearing to the Satisfaction of the Court, that she is entitled to the pension of 15 pounds,
Ordered that the sum the certified to the Altar of Public Accounts – \$50

Test: S/ Alex^r Moseley CMC

[There are similar documents for each year through 1803. Presumably, the widow died sometime after receiving the pension in 1803 and before she could draw the pension due her in 1804.]

[Note: Misfiled as pp 25 and 27 of the file relating to [John Rogers R88](#) are images of the

following documents relating to Thomas Snale:]

[p25: very poor image of this document posted online: use transcript with care]
[indecipherable word or abbreviation] 3 And it further enacted That Elizabeth Snale, widow of Thomas Snale, deceased who at the time of his death was an officer in the Navy of the State, shall receive as a pension the sum of fifteen pounds per annum. An excerpt from Henings Statutes at large Oct. [indecipherable word or abbreviation] Session 1791 volume 13 page 322
S/ John [surname signature indecipherable]

[p 27]

To the Honorable the Speaker & members of the General Assembly, the Petition of Elizabeth Snale humbly sheweth;

That her late husband Thomas Snale was a Lieutenant in the Navy of the State under the command of Captain John Rogers, – that in the severe winter of 79-80, he was for a considerable time beating off the coast in a vessel belonging to the State, which with the cargo was saved by his exertions. Your Petitioner further Sheweth that her said husband was so much exposed in his exertions to save the said vessel that he died in consequence of the hardships suffered by him, – that ever since his death she has lived in poverty & distress & hereby prays that a reasonable pension may be allowed her for her support &c &c

State of Virginia City of Richmond: to wit:

I George W Munford Clerk of the House of Delegates & Keeper of the Roles of the Commonwealth of Virginia do hereby certify & make known that the foregoing is a true copy of a capitation on file in my office presented to the Legislature in November 1791. Given under my hand this 20th day of June 1833.

S/ George W Munford, C. H. D. & Keeper of the Roles of Virginia