

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Whitlock S16020

f32VT[sic VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/2/12

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

State of Virginia County of Brunswick, SS

I, Thomas Whitlock, aged about seventy-five years, of the post office of Kennedy's in the County of Brunswick aforesaid, do, in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress approved the 15th of May 1818 entitled "An act for relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the revolutionary Army" make the following declaration, certifying as well as I recollect, that I entered from the County of Halifax into the company of Militia commanded by Captain Turner [James Turner], in the year 1778, as a substitute for Joseph Hopson, and was marched to Ninety Six. That after having been at that place perhaps six weeks, and having had to retreat from it owing to a reinforcement of Rodden [sic Lord Rawdon] by Cruger [John Harris Cruger]¹ from Charleston, that as one of the advance guard, I and several others of whom I remember Shields, Cruise, Patillo, Silkcock [could be Silkcook] were so many called at the home of a dutch man [??] to get some refreshment. That while we were there regaling and refreshing ourselves with buttermilk, Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] and part of his infantry came there perhaps for the same purpose. That upon discovering us Colonel Lee I suppose gave orders to his sergeant to put us under guard. That we remained under guard until sometime of the afternoon of the same day, when Colonel Lee came to us and told us that he had determined upon the following sentence by way of punishment; namely, That we must immediately submit to an infection of some hundred lashes, each man, (the number of hundred I think was about five), or enlist in his Legion in the infantry for during the war. That I felt indignant at the sentence & thought to refuse to comply, But that Patillo, Silkcock, Cruise and perhaps the whole of the rest enlisted for the war rather than submit to the dreadful alternative, and then I concluded to follow their example, and did with all the rest, enlist for during the war at the same time.

That I was then transferred, together with all the rest, to the first company of Infantry commanded by Captain Handy [George Handy], in Lee's said Legion, and that I continued in the said Corps until the surrender of Charleston.² That I remember that my name was placed upon the roll in common with that of Silkcock and that whenever Whitlock and Silkcock were mustered together in calling the roll it was always a subject of momentary risibility at the novelty of the association of ideas conveyed by the [indecipherable word]³ of the names.

¹ The veteran has confused who commanded at the Fort at Ninety Six. The Fort was commanded by John Harris Cruger who was reinforced by troops under Lord Rawdon. The reinforcement of Cruger by Rawdon required Nathanael Greene to lift the siege of Ninety Six [May 21 – June 19, 1781].

² Presumably a reference to the evacuation of Charleston South Carolina by the British in December 1782.

That Peter Johnson ^{(Cole Judge)[?]} I believe was Lieutenant and Clement Carrington in some inferior rank perhaps of Ensign in the same company. That Cusick was our orderly Sergeant and the fifers were Sutton & Phillips.

That upon our march into Charleston the enemy evacuated it and took to their shipping. That the enemy having ceased, of course, all hostile operations, we were discharged some short time thereafter, and many of the Infantry returned with me to Virginia, I having served under my said enlistment at least three years.

That my bounty of land I sold to a man by the name of Cheatham, by assigning to him all my claim of that nature; and that I do not remember to have obtained any certificate for any pay in consequence of my said services.

That I further certify that I have never been enrolled upon any pension list, and that I was on the 15th of May 1828 a citizen of the United States having been a resident of this County ever since the year 1807.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of September 1832.

S/ Thos. Whitlock



And I further certify that on my return to Halifax to the home of my brother-in-law James Medley, who is now dead, to whom I sold the horse I got from Joseph Hobson for being his substitute and with whom I worked two years after my return, I put my discharge signed by Captain Handy into his, said Medley's hands, to keep for me, as I was roving about and he at home – and in the hope of it being yet among his papers, I have written to his son Isaack to search for the discharge amongst his father's old papers and send it to me if it is possible to find it: and I have also (as very old men acquainted with me there that I know remember 15 or 20 in number are dead or removed) requested my said nephew Isaack Medley to state what he knows of my absence and returned from the said service, &c.

Given under my hand this 3rd day of September 1832

S/ Thos. Whitlock

State of Virginia in Brunswick County to wit

On this 23 day of September 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Brunswick now sitting Thomas Whitlock born in the County of Goochland, and now a resident of the County of Brunswick and State aforesaid aged seventy-seven years, but has no record of his age 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 7 1832.

That he was drafted in the County of Halifax and State of Virginia and served a tour of three months under Captain Duke Stanfield in the year ___ was marched to Norfolk by the way of Cabin Point where he remained a part of the time, does not recollect the names of any of the Officers. That in the year ___ he enlisted as a Substitute for Joseph Hopson under Captain ___ Turner in Halifax Virginia, and was marched to Ninety Six; Edmund King was a Captain, they remained at Ninety Six about three months as well as he recollects, and was driven away by the British, while retreating he enlisted under Colonel Lee in the foot service for three years or during the war, and served until the end of the War and received a Discharge which he has lost, from Captain Handy in the Town of Charleston, he does not recollect the name of any Officer

except Major Eggleston, he thinks he served nearly three years – he recollects for persons who enlisted at the same time to wit, Silcock, Shields, Pittillo and Cruise, but does not know where they reside if alive. That he was in the South all the time he was in the Service except the first Tour. That he was in no battle except the one at Ninety Six, That he has no documentary evidence to prove his Services. That by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, or the years that he did serve but according to the best of his recollection he served as above stated – He knows of no person by whom he can prove his service – 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Whitlock

[Littleberry Orgain, a clergyman, and Rob Turnbull gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: Veteran was born in 1756 in Goochland County Virginia; died August 24, 1842 [County not stated]; there is no family data in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Virginia service.]