

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Wood: S1604

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } S.S.
Wilson County }

On the 19th day of September 1832 personally appeared, before me James H. Davis Justice of the peace for Wilson County, Thomas Wood Sen'r. resident of said County and state of Tennessee, aged Eighty eight years the 11th of next January; being born January the 11th 1744. as appears by the family register 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 the 7 1832.

That he is not at this time on account of infirmity of body, able to attend at the Courthouse of this, or any other County of the State, to make out this declaration.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he entered the service, as a private soldier, in the year 1776 in the County of Henrico State of Virginia, as a volunteer, under Captain Thomas Prosser, Lieutenant William Burton and Ensign Hopson Owen, and was attached to the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Ennis [sic: James Innes] and Major Seldon, a part of the time under General [Thomas] Nelson, and a part under LaFayette. That he continued by intervals until the close of the war, during which time he served as much as twelve or fifteen tours, of two months or more each; making in all more than two years. That he served at and about Richmond City in Henrico County, at one time being stationed twenty miles below Richmond, intelligence was received that the British under the Command of Cornwallis were a few miles up the river on the oposite side. We were immediately ordered to march up the river, and in a short time came oposite to where they were encamped, when they commenced firing on us with their Cannons which continued for some time; they killed one of our men and crippled two others; the British then marched up the river, to Manchester, and we persued them, there they burnt some warehouses and tobacco [30 Apr 1781]; General LayFayette & Colo. [Alexander] Dick were then stationed near Richmond with two thousand regulars; the British after burning the warehouses &c. went down the river again and crossed five miles below; stayed a few hours and recrossed. they then marched down the river again and crossed some distance below and marched up the country as far as Charlottsville [sic: Charlottesville] we followed them sixty or seventy miles, they then turned and marched to Richmond without oposition. they stayed there of few days and then marched to little York we followed them to the lower part of New Kent County and then returned to Richmond.

That he knows of no person whose testimony can be procured who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pension or anuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any state

Interrogatories &c

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. I was born in Henrico County in the State of Virginia, on the 11th of January 1744.

Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in Henrico County Virginia, during the war; the fall after the war I moved into Halifax County Virginia. remained there twenty six and then moved to Wilson County Tennessee where I now live.

How were you called into service?

Ans. I was a volunteer.

State the names of some of the regular officers that were with the troops where you served?

Ans I recollect Gen'l. LaFayette, and Colo. Dick who commanded the regulars near Richmond. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service?

I do not think I ever received a written discharge, our Captain always marched us to

Richmond, and there discharged us.

State the names of persons to whom you are known, in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services, as a soldier of the revolution.

William Gray Esq'r. Major Richard Saunders and my neighbors generally I believe can testify to those facts. [signed] Thos Wood

State of Tennessee }
Wilson County }

On this 6th day of August AD 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for Wilson County duly commissioned and qualified to hold the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the said County of Wilson in the State of Tennessee - the same being a Court of record. Thomas Wood a resident of the said County of Wilson aged eighty nine years according to the family Register having been born on the 11th day of January 1744; who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent looss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise lenth of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less that the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. That he entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War as well as he remembers in the year 1776 as a voluntee in the Militia raised in Henrico County in the State of Virginia in the year 1776 he performed three tours of two months each making nine months service under Captaine Prosser Lieutenant William Burton and Hopson O[?] Ensign and was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colo. Ennis - a (distinguished lawyer in the State of Virginia) Miles Seldon acted as Major - during these different tours of duty in 1776 - he was principally engaged in defending the City of Richmond. it was in this year as well as declarant remembers that they were forced to retreat by an attack made by Gov. Dunmore who came for Williamsburg with about one thousand Troops. in the year 1777 he servd five tours of two months each making in this year a service of ten months and was engaged in defending Richmond Williamsburg and other places. in the year 1778 he servd three tours of two months making a service of six months under the same officers and was engaged in performing the same service as stated above. in the year 1780 he servd two tours of two months each making in this year a service of four months and was engaged in defending Richmond and the neighboring points where ever the British were expected to make an attack it was while he was engaged in Defending Richmond in this year that [Gen. Benedict] Arnold entered the town and forced the Militia to retreat [sic: 5 Jan 1781] Declarant in the year 1782 [sic] servd two tours of two months each making a service of four months at which time he was likewise engaged at Richmond and Williamsburg in defending those places and pursuing the British at various points until the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]. Declarant was discharged having served two years. he has no documentary evidence of his services and must rest his claim for a pension alone on tradition. Declarant was born in Henrico County Virginia. he moved from Va. to Wilson County Tennessee about twenty five years ago where he has resided ever since. a part of his service he was under the command of Gen'l Nelson and Gen'l Lafayette. the other officers as well as the different periods of his service he has stated as well as his memory will allow and must rest it with the Department for its action. he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Rool of the Agency of any State in the United States. [signed] Thomas Wood