

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Thomas S16271

f26VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/30/11

[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.]

[Note: the handwriting of the scribe of this application is very challenging—Researchers are urged to use the following transcript with more than the normal degree of caution. All suggestions for clarification/corrections will, as always, be more than welcomed.]

State of Ohio, Clermont County: SS

On this ninth day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable George P. Torrence President Judge of the Court and [indecipherable] Whitaker, Robert [indecipherable] and John [indecipherable] esquires associate Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Clermont County now sitting John Thomas of Wayne Township, Clermont County Ohio aged 68 years 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States and served under [the] following named officers, and served as herein stated.

He was born on the 11th day of November 1763 in Monmouth County, Freehold Township, State of New Jersey and when deponent was about 3 years old with his father moved into the State of Virginia to Fauquier County about 25 miles from Falmouth where he continued to reside & did reside when he entered in the service on the 3rd day of October 1779 he entered to serve under the command of Captain James Winn & he was drafted for six months as a militia man, William Daring was 1st Lieutenant, 1st Sergeant named Sanders, John O'Banyon or Banyon he is not sure which was 2nd Sergeant. At the time deponent entered the service there was [entire lines of text too faint to be decipherable] line of battle. The riflemen were under the command of Genl. Morgan were 200 yards in front, the orders were that not a gun should be fired without orders. The riflemen were to fire one round break in the centre and fall off to the right and flank of the musket line. They stood in this first position for some time until the Brigade Major rode up to Genl. Morgan and informed him that the British were in sight. Genl. Morgan then rode down to the riflemen and gave them orders to fire. They fired five rounds and broke in the centre and flanked the right and left of the musketry. The British then charged bayonet on the musketry. The musketry then had orders to fire but doesn't know how many rounds they fired before they retreated, they retreated then about 80 yards and were then ordered to wheel and fire, they did so, the British being within about 30 steps of them. The hot firing continued about an hour and forty minutes and then the British broke and run. The Americans took about 600 prisoners. The Americans had no cannon on that occasion, the British had two field pieces stationed about the centre of their division, Lieutenant Daring of the Company to which deponent belonged was wounded through his hand on this occasion and bled to death, he died the next day. The battle took place in the woods. The timber was mostly pine. The whole

American Army who fought at the Cowpens started with the prisoners for Salisbury and marched to the Catawba River. The militia from Fauquier, Augusta & Rockingham Counties Virginia left the Army and Major Triplett (who upon the resignation of Captain James Winn was made Major and commanded both companies that marched from Fauquier) took command of the militia (deponent with them) from the three before mentioned counties and conducted the prisoners to Salisbury. They gave the prisoners up at Salisbury and were then discharged. Deponent returned home was out six months. [He] Had a discharge signed by Major Triplett but does not know what became of it. After the war he moved from Fauquier County to the County of Hardy on the South Branch of the Potomac [River], there about 8 years, then moved into Montgomery County Kentucky, moved from Montgomery County to the place where he now lives about twenty-four or five years ago and still continues to reside in the same place. 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, he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. Sworn to in open court August 9th 1832

S/ D. Morris, Clerk

S/ John Thomas, X his mark

[Josiah Prickett of Stonolick Township County of Clermont Ohio and Jesse Woods of Cincinnati gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p 7: the following appears to be a miscellaneous page, perhaps from an amended or supplemental declaration or intended as an insert in the original, but neither Fold3 nor HeritageQuest appear to have the other page(s?) of the document to which it belongs. The handwriting is in the same very challenging script as the original declaration.]

beat up for volunteers to go to storm the house at that place and between four and five hundred men (deponent with them) turned out. They marched until they got within three miles of the mill and encamped that they might go in the night Colonel Washington who had been away from the camp for some time, had got to Rugeley's mill some time before and was besieging the [indecipherable word]. On the same day that the aforesaid company had encamped Washington had sent out and got a pine log and mounted it on a stump and ordered the Tories to surrender in the house, they did so and came out under Rugeley their commander and grounded their arms. There was about 300 of them. Washington brought them to the place where the before mentioned volunteer militia men were encamped, stay there that night Colonel Washington's troop guarded the Tories & the next morning the detachment and Colonel Washington's troop of Horse and the Tories went back to the main Army at New Providence. General Morgan commanded the last mentioned detachment. Stayed at New Providence until about the deponent thinks the first of January when he started under the command of General Morgan to storm 96 while on the march were overtaken by Tarleton and [more than one entire lines of text is overwritten and faint and indecipherable] to which he belonged and another commanded by Captain Frank Triplett, Crute was Lieutenant of that Company. The two companies only marched together to Hillsboro N.C. and when they got there Captain Winn resigned his Commission and gave his company to Triplett, marched from there to Salisbury in North Carolina and from there to a town called Charlotte, but whether that is in the South or North State deponent is unable to tell, marched from Charlotte to a place called New Providence and there joined the [indecipherable word or words] under the command of General Morgan and at New Providence took up their winter quarters while they lay there there was a company of Tories embodied at a place called Rugeley's Mill. General Morgan

[f p 21: On November 16, 1837 in Shelby County Indiana, the veteran filed for the transfer of his pension benefit to the Indiana agency stating that he entered moved there because three of his children now live in Indiana, one of whom he now lives with. In this document he describes himself as having been in the company commanded by Captain Frank Triplett in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Howard.]

[This file contains a letter dated in 1937 in which the writer is inquiring as to a veteran buried in a cemetery whose grave marker indicates his name was John Thomas born 1783 died 1842. That letter was written from Shelbyville, Indiana and presumably the cemetery in question is in that town.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]