

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas R. Musick S16987

f27NC[sic, VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/5/09: rev'd 10/12/17

[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.]

[p 7]

State of Missouri County of St. Louis Sct.

On this eleventh day of February in the year while Lord 1834 personally appeared before the County Court of the County of St. Louis in the State of Missouri Thomas R. Musick a resident of the Township of St Ferdinand in the County and State aforesaid aged Seventy-Six years on the 26th day of October 1833, who being first duly sworn in open court, according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States and served under different officers and served at different periods in the years 1775 or 1776 and in the year 1778 & 1779 as hereinafter stated. That is to say he first entered the said service in the County of Spotsylvania in the State of Virginia, in what was then called the minute service under Captain John Cragg¹ and was marched through Fredericksburg down the Rappahannock River, and there continued to serve the object being to prevent the enemy from ascending the River that a number of men under the command of Captain Cragg then enlisted in the regular service and the residue of the applicant was one were placed under the command of Captain Oliver Toles [sic, Oliver Towles], after remaining some time under his command the applicant and others were discharged with orders to be in readiness for service at a moment's warning but he the applicant was not again called into service on account of this engagement. He further says that he entered as [sic, and] served as a private as above stated, but by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot state positively as to the precise length of his said service; but according to the best of his recollection he served as a private under Captains Cragg and Towles as above said for a period not less than four months.

The said Thomas R. Musick further on his oath states that in the beginning of the year 1778, he went to Rutherford County in the State of North Carolina and volunteered as a private in a light horse company under the command of Captain William Neville and served in that company one year (being the period of his engagement) that after the expiration of this period of service in the [year] 1779, he the applicant took the place of one Hardin and again served as a private in the same company under the same commander for a further period of 3 months -- That the company commanded by Captain Neville was employed during the whole period of the applicants service as aforesaid in the protection of the frontier against the inroads of the Indians.

The said Thomas R. Musick on his oath further states that after the last mentioned service


¹ The War Department interpreted this name as Captain John Craig

he again served the United States under Captain Parsons [Major Parsons] of South Carolina in pursuit of Tories in that State, but by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot state positively the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served under Captain Parsons as aforesaid for a period not less than 60 days as a private. From the same cause he cannot state with certainty what field officers commanded the Regiments or Battalions to which the different companies in which he served belonged, that according to the best of his recollection, the companies of Captains Cragg and Towles in which the applicant served his first tour were a part of the command of Major Richard Johnson of Orange County -- that Captain Neville's company was part of the Regiment or command of Colonel Miller and the company of Captain Parsons a part of the command of Colonel Pickens [Andrew Pickens].

The said Thomas R. Musick further states that he has no papers or documentary evidence to prove the foregoing services, and knows of no person who can prove any of them except that he believes that Colonel David Musick of St. Louis County could testify to the service on a tour against the Tories last mentioned in this declaration.

And the said Thomas R. Musick hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any Agency of any State.

S/ Thomas R. Musick



you back

Sworn to & subscribed in open court the day & year aforesaid

S/ Henry Chouteau, Clerk

[Thomas A. Hensly, a clergyman, and Henry Walton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

And the said Thomas R. Musick, the applicant for a pension, being here present before the County Court of the County of St. Louis in open court, the said court are pounded to him the following interrogatories prescribed by the War department to wit:

1st Where and in what year were you born?

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

To which several interrogatories the said Thomas R. Musick on his oath aforesaid made the following answers, to wit --

1. That he was born in the County of Spotsylvania State of Virginia on the 26th day of October in the year 1757.
2. His age is recorded in his father's Bible and is transcribed by the father of the applicant in his

the applicant's Bible which is now in possession of the applicant at his residence

3. That when he was called into service he resided in the County of Spotsylvania, Virginia -- where he removed with his father into Albemarle County in the same State in 1776, after the termination of the first period of service mentioned in the foregoing declaration. He then went into North Carolina where he entered the service again under Captain Neville. He married in Rutherford County North Carolina where he continued to reside until the year 1798, when he removed to Lincoln County Kentucky, resided there 2 years then removed to Barren County in the same State, where he resided until 1803 when he removed to this province of Louisiana and settled in the immediate neighborhood of his present residence, which is near the village of Saint Ferdinand, Township of Saint Ferdinand, County of St. Louis State of Missouri where he has ever since resided.

4. That he was not drafted into the service at any time, but entered as a volunteer that he did no service as a substitute at any time other than for 3 months in Captain Neville's company, when he served as a substitute of one Harden as stated in the foregoing declaration.

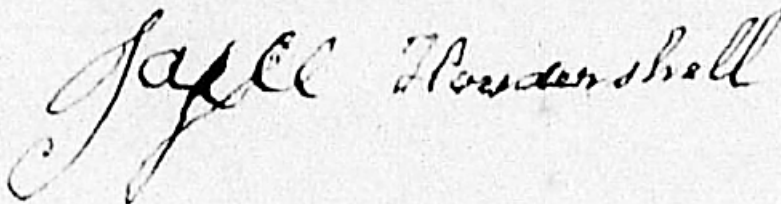
5. That he does not know or remember that there was any regular officer with the troops where he served, but he understood that Captain Cragg (after he served under him about 2 months) was commissioned in the regular service, and knows that he enlisted man for that service -- That he the applicant was not in any regular battle, but during the period of his service under Captain Neville was in some skirmishes with the Indians and also while under Captain Parsons had some skirmishes with Tories -- the residue of this interrogatory is answered as far as the applicant has any recollection in the application.

6. That he received no written discharge from the service.

7. The Applicant states that he is personally known to the three Judges of this court, to the Reverend Thomas Hensley and Henry Walton -- who have subscribed and sworn to the certificate as aforesaid to Colonel David Musick, Major Richard Graham and to all the inhabitants of his neighborhood and to the inhabitants of St. Louis County generally -- who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution -- though he does not know of anyone except David Musick who has any personal knowledge of his services, and he could only testify to the tour against the Tories in 1779.

S/ Thos. R. Musick

[p 16: Joice Howdershell [Joyce Howdershell?], daughter of Captain William Neville of Rutherford County, NC, gave testimony that Thomas R. Musick served under her father for 1 year and then served again under her father as a substitute for one Harding; she identifies herself as the wife of John Howdershell and as a resident of St. Louis County, Missouri; her affidavit is dated November 12, 1834. She clearly signs her name "Joyce Howdershell."



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