

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of William Thompson S17729

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Missouri }
Town of Boone } Sct.

On this 2nd day of July 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned David Todd Judge of the Boone Circuit Court for the County of Boone State of Missouri William Thompson, who being unable to appear in open court by reason of bodily infirmity being a resident of said county & state aged eighty four 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 in the county of Augusta Va. where he was living in the month of April 1777 [sic: see note below] and joined the army above Richmond, he was under Capt Bohannon [Bohannan], his Col name it is impossible to recollect. his service was performed principally about Richmond and down the country. we marched down as low as Portsmouth but when we got there the British had left that place. we returned to Richmond where he was discharged having served three months and above by ten days having waited the ten days after our time was out for the arrival of other troops to take our places. on that trip he knows of the British doing much damage about Portsmouth such as burning tobacco houses barns &c — he remained at home till his turn came again which was in the early part of the spring of 1781. he again was drafted or rather in the month of April about the first of it he turned out under Capt John Brown of Augusta and Col Boyers [sic: probably William Bowyer]. states that his service was principally about Richmond and down towards Williamsburg he in that trip was under Genls [Anthony] Wayne principally but saw Genls LayFayette [sic: Lafayette] & [Daniel] Morgan frequently and was sometimes with them. about half way from Richmond to Williamsburg they had a skirmish with the British at a place he now recollects called hot water [Battle of Spencer's Ordinary (Hot Water Plantation), 6 mi NW of Williamsburg, 26 Jun 1781] he was also in the battle as he now recollects the place to be at Jamestown [Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul]. he well recollects that when the Battle commenced the British part of them was said to be cross the river but returned, his Col was taken prisoner that day but was pardoned again in a few days. he was discharged below Williamsburg having served to the best of his recollection four months — he returned home. in three or four days after his return home in the early part of September his waggon was pressed into service part of the team belonged to him and part to one of his neighbours, he does not recollect who it was that pressed it but it was for the purpose of hauling fourage and provisions for the army. he doesnot know that he was particularly attached to any company. he went with his waggon & drove it rather than trust it with any other person. Shortly after the militia got to Richmond or they were discharged but the waggons with them his being one was pressed by Col Sampson Mathews who then resided in Richmond to go down to Petersburg to haul some loading over to Taylors ferry on Roanoak [sic: Roanoke River S of Boydton]. on our return arrived about 7 miles of Petersburg we were again pressed to go and haul fourage for the American light horse, which or a part of which was stationed there for the purpose of being recruited. after that service was performed he was discharged and got home about the middle of February. he served five month with his waggon team. he cannot now recollect of having any waggon master if there was he cannot now recollect his name he states that he got no written discharge for any of his tours he states that he has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any living witness by whom he can prove them and believes that such living witness some of he had. he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.
Sworn & subscribed the day & year aforesaid. [signed] William Thompson

NOTE: Thompson's first tour was most likely in 1779 in response to the raid of Portsmouth by Commodore George Collier and Gen Edward Mathew, 9 - 24 May.