

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Wilkerson S2025

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Transcribed by Will Graves

7/12/10

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State of Tennessee County of Jackson: August term 1832

On this 14th day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before John McCarver, John Wech, and Willeroy Pate Justices of the court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County of Jackson now sitting Thomas Wilkerson a resident of said County of Jackson and State of Tennessee aged seventy 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 under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

That he the said Thomas Wilkerson was drafted twice for three months each time, he was drafted the first time and entered the service of the United States sometime in December 1780, under Captain Dickerson, Colonel William Moore & General Butler [John Butler] the last of whom commanded the Brigade, & he (said Wilkerson) resided in Caswell County State of North Carolina when he entered the service, he marched under said officers from Caswell County over Dan River retreating from the enemy under Lord Cornwallis, he returned back through Hillsboro North Carolina through Caswell County, then to High Rock Ford of Haw River where he joined General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] at headquarters, then he marched with the Main Army to Guilford in the same State where the Battle was fought, in March 1781, he was not in the battle but sent off to guard the prisoners (being on the provost guard) he was discharged ^{on the day after the} bat^{bat}. Colonel William Moore gave him a discharge, which is lost. The names of the Regular officers whom he recollects to have been with the troops, where he served, were, General Greene who commanded the Army, Colonel Washington who commanded the cavalry, and Major Lee of the same corps and General Morgan who commanded the light infantry. Since the revolutionary war he (said Thomas Wilkerson) has lived in Russell County Virginia on Clinch River, in Greene County State of Tennessee on Nolichucky River, in Davidson County Tennessee State in Robertson County said state and he now resides in Jackson County Tennessee State. He was born in Caswell County State of North Carolina 14th March 1762 which appears from the family register in a Bible formally belonging to his father and the last he knew of it was in possession of

¹ At the time this file was viewed on Footnote.com, the page numbers assigned by Footnote.com to the digital images of each of the pages in the file were nonsensical. Footnote.com indicates that it is working on trying to resolve this issue with its software.

his brother who now resides in Indian Country in State of Georgia. He was discharged on the day after the battle of Guilford, to wit, on the ___day of March 1781.

After the said Thomas Wilkerson was discharged, he was again drafted about the middle of September 1781 for three months and entered the service of the United States and was placed in a Lieutenant's guard commanded by Lieutenant Wilson; At Cross Creek Cape Fear River State of North Carolina the said claimant was put under command of Captain Dickerson and served under said Captain in the balance of the tour -- Colonel Joseph Taylor's Regiment & Colonel William Moore's Regiment constituted General Butler's command under whom he said claimant served during his last term of service. He was drafted and entered the service of the United States in Caswell County State of North Carolina and set out or Little York State of Virginia but was halted at Harrisburg North Carolina to guard the magazine, whilst at Harrisburg an express arrived that Governor Burke of State of North Carolina was taken prisoner and he, said claimant, with the Army was ordered to his rescue and the magazine has said claimant understood was sent to the barracks in Virginia, but he did not effect his rescue, being taken by the enemy out of the State. He marched a force marched to headquarters at Cross Creek State of North Carolina then to North East fork of Cape Fear River in said State to storm a bridge but the enemy retreated before the American Army attacked them. He was then marched about with the Army to and fro through the country until the Army arrived at McLane's Bluff above Wilmington in said State when his term of service having expired he was discharged by Colonel William Moore which discharge is lost. He served out his full term each time making in all six months of service in the United States Army as above stated. During his last term of service there was no regular officers with the troops where he served. He has no documentary evidence of his service, and knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service except Elizabeth Johnson who can testify to his having entered the service of the United States -- whose statement will be annexed. The persons who lived in the neighborhood where he said applicant now resides and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution are Jonas Griffith and Johnson W. Hutchison.

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 any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Wilkerson, X his mark

S/ William Gailbreath, Clerk

I Elizabeth Johnson of Jackson County State of Tennessee being first duly sworn doth declare on oath that I know of Thomas Wilkerson the above applicant having entered the service of the United States during the revolutionary war and that he was in the service when the Battle of Guilford was fought. He entered the service of the United States twice during said war, being drafted but how long he served or under what officers I cannot state, nor do I know the particulars of his service. So help me God.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Elizabeth Johnson, X her mark

[Jonas Griffith, a clergyman, and Johnson W. Hutchison gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 175]

State of Tennessee County of Jackson: SS

On this 12th day of February 1833 personally appeared in open Court before John McCarver, John Graham and Tandy K. Witcher Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter

Sessions of said County of Jackson now sitting being a Court of record Elizabeth Johnson a resident of said County of Jackson and State of Tennessee aged about sixty-six years who being first duly sworn makes the following statement.

I Elizabeth Johnson, who was witness for applicant Thomas Wilkerson at August Term 1832 of said Court, am aged about sixty-six years. I am sister the said Applicant Thomas Wilkerson who was then unmarried and we both live with our father in Caswell County State of North Carolina. I heard him say he was drafted and saw him set out with a party of soldiers who said they were going to join the United States troops and I was at home when he returned. I think you was absent three months or more but cannot state positively. Applicant remained at home cannot say how long, when he again said he was drafted and I saw him set out with three men who said they were going to join the Army of the United States. I saw him return home. I cannot say how long he was gone but thought it was a long time. I have no doubt he was absent at least for three months but I cannot state under what officers he served nor the particulars of his service, nor the years in which he entered the service. To the best of my recollection he was in the service when the battle of Guilford was fought. I was young at the time and did not expect to be called to give evidence concerning his service. So help me God

S./ Elizabeth Johnson, X her mark

[Sic Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 6 months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]