

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Faris S30407

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 28 Jan 2014.

[Capitalization partly corrected]

State of Kentucky } SS

County of Madison }

On this 27th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open court before the county court of Madison now sitting Thomas Faris a resident of the county aforesaid aged seventy seven years who being first duly sworn as the Law directs doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832

that he was born 15th Sept. 1756 Pitsylvania County Virginia

[written in margin] I had a record of my age but it was destroyed by the British

that he entered as a private soldier early in the year 1778 under Captain Thomas Dillard in pitsylvania [sic: Pittsylvania] County Virginia & was to serve three months as a guard to the then Fort & inhabitants of Boonsborough [sic: Boonesborough] Ky that we ware marched by s'd Dillard to Ky & served our time nearly out when we ware ordered to march to the falls of Ohio [now Louisville] to join Col. [George Rogers] Clark since Gen'l. Clark that the day we joind said Clark our time of service expired for which we inlisted & our Capt being sick turned back that it was this applicants wish to have returned home but Col. Clark by persuation & promises succeeded in persuading this applicant to go with him to chastise the Illinois Indians & a govenor named I think Tochblave [sic: Rocheblave] who he said was a great cause of the massacres on our frontiers that after spending some weaks in repairing boats &c we went by water down the Ohio & up I think the Wabash for some distance then we marched by land & carried each of us I think five days provision on our backs that we ware out of anything to eat for near three days except Sassapack buds [sassafras buds?] & such like food that we seen plenty of game but feared to shoot for fear of alarming the enemy that the day before we arrived at the principle settlement called Kakaskia [sic: Kaskaskia] this applicant was ahead as a spie & discovered two men of which circumstance he gave notice to the commander Clark who had the men surround & taken who gave such information that enabled Clark to march us to the twon about midnight I believe the same day that before we made the attack this applicant was selected as one of twenty two to surround & take the fort or place which the governer resided & to take him dead or alive that we did surround his house & break open the doors & take the governer with the small gauard we found there [4 Jul 1778] that the remainder of Clarks army compleatly surprised the town secured their arms & the most prominant inhabitants that we ware in Kakaskias for several weaks during which time the inhabitants swore allegiance to the American states goverment that this applicant was verry sick with the ague & fever while there & when Col. Clark returned to the Falls with the army & prisons amongst which was the governer this applicant returned with them I rec'd a discharge from Col. Clark at the falls. that he was in a weak debilitated state of health & returned slowly to his fathers in Pitsylvania Va resting at Haradsburgh & the Crab Orched [sic: Harrodsburg and Crab Orchard] &c. that on his return home he is confident that he was nine months absent from he left home under Captain Dillard untill his return home & in the service of the Country as above and for such service he claims a pension he does not now recollect whether it was by the order of the Governor of Virginia or by Congress that Captn Dillard recruited his men but believes from what Col. Clark said it was part of their duty to aid him in his expidition as above that he is not able nor ever has to read or write that he may be rong in the year he was marched to Kentucky & Kakaskia but the facts & circumstances he has related he knows must in part be matters of Historical Fact. that in a few years after the close of the Revolutionary War he removed to Madison County Kentucky where he has resided ever since that he has no documentary evidence to shew having long since lost his discharge from Clark & does not know of any living testimony to substanciate his claim or services & has to rely upon his oath & the affirmation of his neighbours as to his credibility and as to his reputed services. That he is known to

the Rev'd Peter Tribble and Yelverton Payton who can so testify.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that this name is not on the pension rool of the agency of any state Thomas hisXmark Farris

State of Kentucky } Sct.

Madison County }

On this 7th day of April, 1834, personally appeared in open court, before the worshipful, the county court of Madison, now sitting Thomas Faris, a resident of Madison County, State of Kentucky, aged 77 years the 15th day of last September, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following amendotory declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers, and served as herein after named – He volunteereed his services in the Spring of the year 1781 under Capt. Thomas Huggins, in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. He belonged to Col. [Daniel] Morgan's Rifle Regiment. He was marched to Williamsburgh, Petersburgh [sic: Williamsburg, Petersburg], crossed York river and was stationed at Old James Town, where he done duty, and where the army lay in wait for Lord Cornwallis and his army, till he was discharged in September 1781, he thinks. He well recollect Cornwallis surrendered to Gen. Washington at Little York [19 Oct 1781] in a very few weeks after his discharge. He says at the time he made his original declaration he could not recollect the circumstances of this tour and the names of his officers with sufficient accuracy to place them in his declaration. That by his reflection and conversing with the old soldiers he is now enabled to recollect what he has detailed. He was then well satisfied that he served three months or upwards as above stated, but was unable to give the particulars, and of course left it out of his declaration. He was born in the year 1756 in September, – He has a record of his age at his house. He was liveing in Pittsylvania count Va when called into the service. He removed to the State of Kentucky in 1788, where he now lives. He volunteered his services. He has already stated the names of all the officers he can recollect, as well as all the circumstances of this tour. He would, however, state that he is entirely unable to write or read a word. He received a discharge for this touer, but has lost it. He thinks it was signed by Col. Morgan. He is known in his present neighborhood to Yelverton Payton, and Robert Burnside, who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the one he is now drawing, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state except the agency of Kentucky under the act of June 7, 1832. Sworn and subscribed to the day and year aforesaid

Thomas Faris