

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hay (Hoy) S31096

f25VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/4/14

[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.]

State of Kentucky Simpson County Sct.

On this 16th day of June 1834 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court for the aforesaid County & State, now sitting Thomas Hoy [sic], a resident of the said County & State aged seventy [obliterated by an ink blot] years of age on the 13th day of the present month, who being duly sworn according to law doth on oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated.

That¹ in the year of 1781 he was a resident of the County of Campbell & State of Virginia, and that he was drafted under Captain Webster Gilbert of said County & that he with the other Troops under said Gilbert were marched from said County in the Spring of 1781 the precise time in the spring of said year, he cannot now after so long a lapse of time recollect distinctly, down to a place called Cabin Point near Norfolk Virginia & after the troops had arrived at this place Captain Gilbert resigned & returned home in the aforesaid County of Campbell from whence he had come.

Captain Chiles of Bedford County Virginia then took command of this Declarant and the other Troops which said Captain Gilbert had conducted to and left at Cabin Point upon his resignation as aforesaid. Here at Cabin Point the troops & this Declarant lay near six weeks, then they were marched under the said Captain Chiles across the Dismal Swamp to Portsmouth Virginia near the British lines, and that Lord Cornwallis was the Commander in Chief of the British of the British Army at and near Portsmouth as this Declarant was then informed and believes & that Tarlton [Banastre Tarleton], was his Colonel.

Meulenburg [Peter Muhlenberg] was the General of the American Army at Portsmouth & Fleming was the Colonel of the Army and Jones was the Major, and that Colonel Fleming commanded the Regiment of the Army from Cabin Point in its march to Portsmouth as aforesaid and after some time had elapsed at Portsmouth Lord Cornwallis left it, and moved off after destroying his military Works and fortifications which he had erected at that place, to the South or to Little York and consequently this Declarant and the other Troops were forthwith dismissed by Colonel Fleming or General Muhlenberg this Declarant does not now recollect which, by parole sometime in the month of August 1781, but he cannot recollect the day of the month. But afterwards Captain Chiles gave this Declarant a written discharge and then this Declarant

¹ left margin note: "1st campaign this Declarant served 4 months under Captain Webster Gilbert part & under Captain Chiles the other part of the time in the Spring & summer of 1781"

returned home to his Father's in the aforesaid County of Campbell. In this Campaign this Declarant served four months, he was drafted for three months at first but remained with the Army one month longer by the persuasions of the Commanding Officers and others to stay and fight for the glorious cause of liberty and to rid the American people of the British Tyranny and oppression.

Within² a short time after the Declarant returned to his Father's in the aforesaid County of Campbell he was again enlisted as a substitute for John Welsh under Captain David Beard who was the Captain of the Company, he cannot recollect the day of the month, he enlisted under Captain Beard. This Declarant and the other Troops were then marched under said Beard down from said Campbell County to headquarters near Little York or York Town as some calls it where Lord Cornwallis had entrenched himself and his Army. And within a few days after this Declarant's arrival here he was detached under General Cogswell, who was wagon master General of Washington's Army, & who had lost his main Wagoneer, and as such after said General Cogswell had taken this Declarant from the ranks of the Army, he said Cogswell, carried this Declarant to the wagons and put five wagons under his Command. This Declarant with others to assist him in driving said wagons was engaged with them in hauling Cartridges, Bombshells, and Cannon Balls from the Parks at headquarters into the entrenchments and Fortifications, of the American Army which was then lying before York Town, and had laid a siege to it and to Gloucester a little Town or place on the opposite side of the York River to it, and also in hauling during the siege, and those who were very badly wounded were expected to live, from the American entrenchments and fortifications, to the General Hospital at Williamsburg, not very far distant from the siege, and upon his return from Williamsburg this Declarant and his other Wagoneers hauled provisions & necessaries for the support of the French Army, then in conjunction with Washington in carrying the siege against York Town, and Cornwallis with his Army besieged in it, and Gloucester on the opposite side as aforesaid. In the above named wagoning business in the manner aforesaid this Declarant was engaged at least eighteen days, according to the best of his recollection though it may be more or less. General Washington was the General and Commander in Chief of the American Army at this place during the long and protracted siege, and he was assisted by the Marquis de Lafayette, and many other officers of distinction not now recollected, that in their names by this Declarant, as he did not assist the besiegers in conducting the siege, but a few days upon his first arrival at York but was employed the remainder of the time in wagon train as is already stated as well as he can. On the 19th day of October 1781 if this declarant's memory serves him correctly Cornwallis surrendered his forces in York and Gloucester to the combined Army of America & France. After the surrender of Cornwallis, General Cogswell gave to this Declarant a Ticket to General Washington & which this declarant came to him who instructed his Clerk to write this Declarant a discharge which was accordingly done, and General Washington's name was to it. During the siege, this Declarant was informed that about 300 of the American and French armies were killed and wounded, and of the British upwards of 500. In this Campaign this declarant served not less than 2 months and after this Declarant received his Discharge from General Washington as aforesaid he then returned home.

To the first Interrogatory put by the War Department, this Declarant would respond and say that he was born in Buckingham County Virginia on the 13th day of June 1783, from information.

To the 2nd He would answer and say that he has no record of his age, the record of his age

² left margin note: "In 2nd Campaign this Declarant served 2 months under Captain Beard in the year of 1781."

kept by this Declarant's Father is destroyed or lost by lending [?] of it as this Declarant was informed, and which was in his Father's Bible

To 3rd & 4th He has already stated that he was living in Campbell County Virginia when he was drafted and that the 4th is fully answered in the body of this Declaration.

That this declarant's Father moved from Buckingham County Virginia to Campbell County sometime after the Revolutionary War was over as this Declarant was poor and had no Education hardly and his Father being likewise poor, and having nothing to give this Declarant to advance him in any respect, he this Declarant having to shift for himself concluded to migrate to some new Country to make a living and consequently he went from Campbell County Virginia to White in Georgia, here he remained about two years and at the end of which time he concluded that he would pay his Father a visit in Campbell County Virginia, the two within discharges spoken of in this Declaration, given by Captain Chiles and General Washington's Clerk as aforesaid to this Declarant he put into an old pocket book with some other papers and which this Declarant handed to George Taylor of the aforesaid County of White and requested him to hand it to Captain Wells [?] of said County, and with whom this Declarant had left his sword and pistols which he had used in his campaigns in the War, to keep for him, until this Declarant returned back to said County in Georgia.

But this Declarant declined returning to Georgia & made various attempts to obtain his sword and pistols and his old pocket book from said Wells but failed entirely in so doing on the account of Captain Wells' Death which happened within a short time after this Declarant departed from thence for his Father's. But after this Declarant started for his Father's in Virginia he changed his notion and consequently his route and came on to Kentucky, if he thinks right in 1793, and landed at Hoys Station in Madison County of said State and then he moved out of Madison County into Bourbon County Kentucky and adjoining County to Madison and in Bourbon County he lived about 14 or 15 years after which he moved from Bourbon County to Logan County Kentucky and he continued to reside in Logan County, until the Legislature of Kentucky in 1819 made a new County out of Logan, Warren and Allen, and called it Simpson County, and this Declarant was included in the new County of Simpson out of Logan by the aforesaid act, and in which County of Simpson he has continued to live ever since its formation and now resides in said County.

To 5th He has answered in the body of the Declaration as well as he can after so long a lapse of time

To 6th He has answered in the Declaration and under the 4th & 5th Interrogatories, and that he never received any Commission from any person except the authority General Cogswell gave this Declarant over the five wagons mentioned at York Town and this authority was given from the mouth.

To 7th He states that William Harris, Michael Wood, Matthew Miller, James Roper, Anak Dawson, and Berry Dawson all persons residing in this Declarant's present neighborhood and are near neighbors to him who can testify to this declarant's character for veracity and honesty, and there belief of his Services as a Soldier of the Revolutionary War.

This³ declarant would here state that having stated everything as well as he can, 4 by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot recollect the precise time that is

³ In the left margin, the following appears: "& That was done within a day or so after Cornwallis surrendered as aforesaid. Nor neither has he as yet ever received one cent for any of his services in the Revolution as aforesaid from any person whatever"—it is not clear where this was intended to be inserted in the application.

the day or the minute he was drafted and enlisted and was discharged in the aforesaid two campaigns except when he was discharged, after Cornwallis was taken as aforesaid, nor neither can he swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the four months stated in the first campaign and two months stated in the last, as set out in this Declaration. He has no Documentary evidence of his Revolutionary Services nor any Data to enable him to make precise statements as to the dates of the month etc. and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his services in the aforesaid to Campaigns of the Revolutionary War.

He this Declarant 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. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Hay, X his mark

[William Dawson, a clergyman, and Patrick H Boisseau gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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