

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas H. Irwin S31164

fn24SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

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State of Louisiana Parish of East Feliciana

On this nineteenth day of September 1832 personally appeared before me Thomas W. Scott, Judge of the parish court of the parish of East Feliciana aforesaid and ex officio Judge of the Probate Court in and for the same, which is now in session; Thomas Henry Irwin, a resident of the parish of East Feliciana State of Louisiana aged seventy-seven 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 about the beginning of the war. When he first entered the service deponent was under the age of twenty-one years residing with his father James Irwin in Darlington County in the State of South Carolina -- that he ran away, or left the domicile of his father without his consent -- and joined a company of drafted Militia, commanded by Captain George King, who was then on the line of march with his company to join the standard of General Marion [Francis Marion], whose head quarters were then near Georgetown in South Carolina. Deponent from failure of memory does not remember the name of the Colonel who commanded the Regiment -- he joined the Camp of Marion at his head Quarters near Georgetown, where he remained in Camp for several weeks, when General Marion, moved his headquarters, up the River Pedee to Snows Island, & Deponent was in Camp some weeks at Snows Island, from whence he was marched still higher up the River to Marr's bluff¹ -- From the time deponent joined the company of Captain King up to his being in camp at Marr's bluff or ferry, he was never engaged in any battle, being in consequence of his youth usually left in Camp. -- But during that time there were many skirmishes between General Marion's men and the Tories --

At Marr's Bluff deponent enlisted in a horse company commanded by Captain James McDaniel, in the Regiment of Colonel Daniel ORee [sic, Daniel Horry] -- the Major of the Troop was named James Maham [sic, probably Hezekiah Maham]. The first Lieutenant of the company was William Flood, a man of wealth residing on the high hills of Santee, Captain Ogear [probably Lewis Ogier] and Capt. Kuttore [probably John Canternier] were captains in the same Regiment -- Deponent was discharged for a few days with orders to be at a place called the twenty-three mile house on a given day when Captain McDaniel and his company assembled and were marched on foot into the city of Charlestown, where the Regiment was furnished with horses, arms and uniforms. The Regiment remained several weeks, perhaps months, in the City,

¹ Also known as Hunt's Bluff. See, <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/huntsbluff.htm>

equipping and drilling -- When marched into active service it was engaged in various pursuits, some time in pursuit of Negroes and sometimes of Tories, until the battle with the British called the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779] in which deponent was engaged and in which the Americans were defeated. Deponent was engaged in a skirmish with the British at a place called Bacon's Bridge -- and in several others, names of places not recollected and was engaged in skirmishing warfare until the fall of Charlestown [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780] -- Deponent was at Charlestown at the close of the siege and was engaged against the British dragoons -- he made his escape with the most of his company (some being killed). -- In all, deponent was in service sixteen months in the company of Captain McDaniel's troop of horse.

After deponent's term of service in the horse Regiment expired he went home to his father's house and was shortly afterwards drafted in the militia -- Captain John Baxter was Captain of the Militia Company -- the principal occupation of the troops to which deponent belonged, for many months, after he was drafted, was to watch the movements of the Negroes and Tories on the Savannah River. -- Deponent was in a sharp engagement with the British at a place called Ashapoo Bridge [sic, Ashepoo Bridge]² -- Deponent has a much more vivid recollection of the early incidents of his service in the Revolution than of the latter -- he does not recollect much of the latter part of his service -- It was not very active -- after the fall of Charlestown deponent accompanied Governor Rutledge [John Rutledge] as far as Salisbury in North Carolina -- at which place he finally left the service. Deponent can recollect no dates with accuracy -- neither as to time he entered or quit the service -- He served nearly through the entire war -- He has no documentary evidence of his service, neither does he know of any person this side of Darlington County in South Carolina, where he was born & raised, by whom he could prove his service --

Deponent had a Discharge but does not know what has become of it --

Deponent 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 & subscribed this 19th of September 1832

S/ Thomas Henry Irwin, X his mark

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State of Louisiana Parish of East Feliciana: Interrogatories propounded to Thomas Henry Irwin of the Parish and State aforesaid, by me Thomas W. Scott Parish Judge of the Parish aforesaid and Ex officio Judge of the Court of probates in and for the same, in open Court.

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I do not know in what year or where I was born, but was principally raised in Darlington South Carolina.

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

Answer. I have none.

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

Answer. I was living in Darlington South Carolina when called into service, lived there some time after the Revolutionary War, and for the last thirty years I have lived in that part of Country now the Parish of East Feliciana State of Louisiana.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a

² Probably a reference to the action at Quinby's Bridge, July 17, 1781
http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_quinbys_bridge.html

substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. Parts of my time I was a volunteer, and parts of the time Drafted, I was never a Substitute.

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.

Answer. I cannot give a better or fuller answer to this Question than what is contained in my affidavit hereunto attached.

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

Answer. I did receive a discharge, but do not recollect by whom it was given nor 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.

Answer. I know of no person in the neighborhood except old Mrs. Mumford, who has any knowledge of my services as a soldier of the Revolution, and she is so old and become so crazed, that she can give no distinct account of them at this time. The Judge of this Court has known me for about 25 years, Benjamin M. G. Brown has known me for nearly as long And I am well known to Abisha and Ebin Woodward. And to Thomas J. Robbins Sheriff of the Parish of East Feliciana, And many others. And I believe they would all say that I am a man of Veracity. Sworn to & subscribed before made this 19th day of September 1832

S/ Tho. W. Scott, Parish Judge

S/ Thomas Henry Irwin, X his mark

[Thomas W. Scott, Judge of the Probate Court, about 45 years old, and Benjamin M. G. Brown, about 28 years old, testified to the character of the applicant for veracity.]

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State of Louisiana Parish of East Feliciana: Third District Court

On this 15th day of November, 1833, personally appeared Thomas Henry Irwin a citizen of the Parish and State aforesaid who being sworn according to law, did make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832; That he was in the service during the war, at the least four years. That after he left the service at Salisbury, North Carolina, he was compelled to conceal himself for fear of the Tories. That he was once taken by them, and kept a prisoner for several days. That on mature reflection this declarant is not so clear that John Baxter was his Captain. He may have been a Colonel. But his memory is so frail that he is not positive. That he never served in any capacity but as a private soldier. When in Charleston General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] commanded, as well as declarant's memory now serves. Whilst in the Cavalry service, declarant well remembers to be joined by Colonel Washington [William Washington], who came in from the North with some cavalry. He also remembers being joined by Count Pulaski with some cavalry, but the date when these junctions took place, he cannot remember. This declarant has this day had the declaration made by him on the 19th day of September 1832 before the Honorable Thomas W. Scott carefully read to him, and he continues to declare it to be correct, to the best of his recollection, with the exception of the doubt but that John Baxter was his Captain or Colonel, as he has before stated in this amended declaration.

S/ Thomas H. Irwin, X his mark

Subscribed & sworn to in open Court November 15th 1833

S/ L. Hardesty, Clerk

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$86.65 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one year and 4 months in the Infantry and 8 months in the Cavalry of the South Carolina militia.]