

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Murray: S31874

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Georgia}

Columbia County} In the Superior Court September Term 1832.

Present his Honour William W. Holt, Judge

On this 12th day of September 1832 personally appeared before the Honourable Superior Court of the County of Columbia and State of Georgia, Thomas Murray, a resident of said state and County, aged seventy 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 provisions made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he volunteered his services in the year 1776 in Bedford County, State of Virginia under Captain James Beauford William Renfrow [or Renfro] and Jacob Early being the two lieutenants, that the term of this volunteer service was six months; that he and the company to which he belonged marched to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] State of Virginia, and was stationed there sometime, and as well as he now recollects Patrick Henry was the commanding officer of that station. From Williamsburgh he and the company to which he belonged was ordered out against the Cherokee Indians, but as his term of service of six months expired on his march against said Indians, he then volunteered again in the said company and under the same officers. Colonel Charles Lewis commanded the Regiment that went against the Indians, and Colonel William Christie [Christian], commander in chief of the expedition against the said Indians; that the army burned a number of Indian villages; peace was then and there made by the Indians, with the Commanding officers, and the army returned to Virginia on the 24th December 1776; that the whole period of this volunteer service was nine months.

That in 1779 this applicant volunteered in said State and County, in the Light horse company for six months, under Major John Calloway [Callaway] (Charles Calloway and Barney [probably Bowen] Price being the two Lieutenants) and marche to Petersburg [sic: Petersburg] Va and was stationed there for some time; the Baron Steuben being then the commanding officer at that station [see endnote]. After having completed that service he and the army returned to their respective homes.

That in the Spring of the year 1780, this applicant volunteered in said State and County under Colonel Charles Lynch; Alexander Cummings being Captain of the Company. This service was to defeat the Tories who were rising and embodying themselves to join Lord Cornwallis in or near the State of North Carolina. This regiment under the command of Colonel Lynch, to which he belonged, marched over the mountains to the lead mines [at Fort Chiswell in Wythe County], and was all through that part of the Country in pursuit of the Tories. They defeated and took many of the Tories prisoners. That this applicant was in the service seven months. After that service was ended, this applicant volunteered under Colo. Lynch (Bourne [Bowen] Price Captain, Nicholas Welch, Lieutenant; In this service he stayed at least 3 months; and was during this time engaged in the battle of Guilford Court House. During this hot battle the regiment to which this applicant belonged acted as infantry to Colo. [William] Washington's corps of horse and fought on the right wing of the army commanded by General [Nathanael] Greene; after the battle of Guilford (15th March 1781) the British retreated across Deep River at Ram's Saw mills [sic: Ramsey's Mill in Chatham County NC], to which place they were followed; the regiment to which this applicant belonged was ordered forward to give the British battle, but they had crossed the said Deep River before they could be overtaken and there the pursuit ended. At that place this applicant and the Regiment to which he belonged were dismissed and returned home. About the first of August 1781. this applicant was appointed keeper of a defending post at New London [in present Campbell County] State of Virginia and acted as Quarter Master and issued the provisions to the Continental Troops stationed there, although this post was discontinued about the first of the year 1782. Yet this applicant stayed there till about the end of that year in discharge of his duty in making out the public accounts, settling the same, taking care of the public stores there & afterwards sending them to ~~Peters~~ Peytonsburg, the wages which this

applicant received as Deputy Quarter Master was 12 Shillings Virginia money per day, equal to two dollars per day. That the whole time of service of this applicant as soldier and Quarter Master in the Revolutionary War was as near as he can ascertain at this time Three years and six months.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state. Thos. Murray

NOTES:

Baron von Steuben did not arrive in Virginia until late in 1780.

Thomas Murray's application was supported by his brother, David Murray, age 74. On 29 Oct 1850 David S. Murray, son and sole heir of Thomas Murray, appointed an agent to obtain any unpaid pension and apply for bounty land.