

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Knighten S32368

f19SC/VA

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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Illinois and St. Clair County

On this the thirteenth day of September in the year 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the County Commissioners Court of St. Clair County and State of Illinois now sitting Thomas Knighten a resident of St. Clair County and State aforesaid, aged 79 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 viz. [illegible first name] Moore Captain, Lieutenant Brownfield Major William Reece and Colonel Singleton and under General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] that he was born on the 22nd March 1753 in Caroline County and State of Virginia, that he entered into service in the month of February and in the year 1780. That he was living at the time in Craven County (now called Sumter District) South Carolina. That he continued in service until May four months from the time he entered: that he went as a drafted man; that he was at the siege of Charleston when General Lincoln surrendered to the British [Charleston South Carolina was surrendered to the British on May 12, 1780];<sup>1</sup> that he rendezvoused at the place called the Great Savannah. Thence he marched to Eutaws [sic, Eutaw Springs?], thence to Orangeburg, Thence to the Two Sisters [Ferry] on Savannah River, and whilst stationed at the latter place was appointed Sergeant, thence to Bacon's Bridge, thence to Charleston -- that he was discharged at Charleston and that in consequence of the surrender of all the troops under General Lincoln never received any discharge; that he was acquainted with Colonel Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] afterwards General.

That he afterwards entered into service the second time about the first of July 1781, and was at the time living in Culpeper County Virginia, that he was drafted and served under Captain William Greene, Major Williams, Colonel Alcock, and under General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] - - that he marched from Culpepper to Spotsylvania County, thence to New Kent County, thence to Henrico, thence to York; that he was at the siege of York<sup>2</sup> which took place about the 19th of October 1781; that before he reached York he was ordered in the Commissaries Guard; That General Washington was the Commander in Chief, to whom Lord Cornwallis surrendered, that he remembers of seeing General Lafayette, That he was discharged some time the last of October, and received his discharge but gave it up to pay for his taxes in Virginia, that he moved

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810928-yorktown/>

afterwards to North Carolina, thence to South Carolina and thence to Illinois where he now resides --

He further states that he has a copy of the record of his age taken from his father's prayer book.

That he is known in his neighborhood by the [indecipherable name starting with "R"] Morrison, Mr. Anderson, D. Reverend Thomas Pulliam, Mr. Pea and others who believe that he has been a revolutionary soldier -- that he has no documentary evidence, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. 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 the agency of any State.

S/ Thomas Knighten



Sworn to and subscribed, the day & year aforesaid.

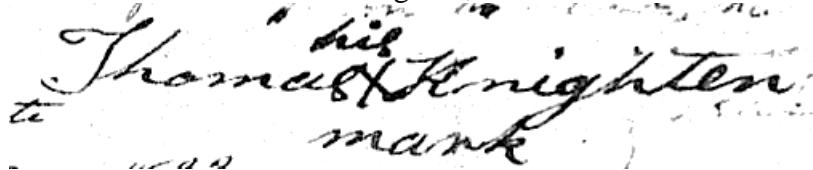
S/ John Hay, Clerk

[Thomas Pulliam, a clergyman, and John Pea gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for the County of St. Clair and State of Illinois Thomas Knighten who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades: The first tour I entered the service to wit in the month of February 1780 for one month I served as a private and for three months I served as a first Sergeant, making altogether four months -- afterwards entered into service about the first of July 1781 and at this time for four months I served as a private and in including both tours mentioned in my declaration above, for three months I served as a first Sergeant and for five months served as a private and for such services I claim a pension.

S/ Thomas Knighten, X his mark



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$31.67 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 5 months and as a Sergeant for 3 months in the South Carolina & Virginia service.]