

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

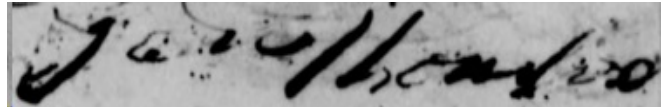
Pension Application of James Thompson S32553  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

MD [NC]

State of Indiana } Ss  
Vigo County }

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the circuit court of the County of Vigo and State of Indiana now sitting James Thompson a resident of said County and State 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 act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832 – That he was born in the County of Dorchester State of Maryland on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1759. That he thinks the record of his age has been lost he having lost his sight so far as to be unable to keep his books & papers in place. That he was living in said County of Dorchester when he was call'd into the Service. That he continued his residence in Maryland for some time and then settled in North Carolina until after the revolutionary war & removed to Kentucky from thence to Indiana his present residence. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers Towit He was drafted into the militia in the year Seventeen Hundred and seventy nine he thinks in Dorchester County in the State of Maryland that Colonel Barthomemew Ennalls [Bartholomew Ennals?] commanded the regiment. That Joseph Egleston was Major and Roger Hooper Captain, that the name of the regiment he has forgotten. He continued in this Service three months. That he then changed his residence to to Rockingham County [formed in 1785 from Guilford County] north Carolina and volunteered under Captain Hale, and march'd from Rockingham Charlotte and there joined General Reatherford [sic: Griffith Rutherford] and proceeded to Camden [SC], thence to “ninety Six” [Ninety Six SC] and thence to join General Morgan about fifty miles from Charlestown [sic: see endnote]. That he was in the battle of Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] and in the service under this latter engagement six months. That he was after being discharged made prisoner by the British and carried to Cornwallis at Charlestown South Carolina [sic: see endnote] and there remain'd about two months. That he made his Escape when the British army was on its march to Virginia [see endnote]. That he again volunteered and served three months under Captain John McAdo [sic: John McAdow] joined Col. Pasteley [sic: John Peasley] and went in pursuit of Col Fannon [sic: David Fanning] a tory and was finally discharged about the time of Cornwallis' Surrender [at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781]. That he has lost his several discharges and has no documentary evidence to Establish his claim nor any person who knows his service whose testimony he can procure. That he was discharged by General Morgan

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



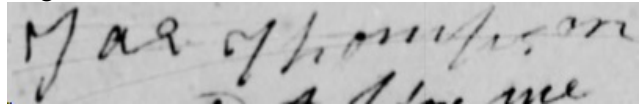
NOTES:

Thompson's declaration is confused in several respects. Gen. Daniel Morgan was never within 50 miles of Charleston SC during the period stated by Thompson. Gen. Cornwallis was at Charleston only in the spring and summer of 1780. Cornwallis was at Winnsboro SC at the time of the Battle of Cowpens SC, and from there on 19 Jan 1781 he marched northward in pursuit of Morgan. Cornwallis began his march into Virginia from Wilmington NC on 23 April 1781.

A letter dated 24 July 1835 reads in part as follows: James Thompson “has removed to Galena Il'is. where he now resides. he is now living with his son. he is infirm and merits the governments bounty. he also served in the last British War as a Ranger. He informs me that both himself and the draftsman that

prepared his original declaration made a mistake as to the time he was in service in the revolution: it is stated in his declaration if he recollects right, that he served only a year and a half; whereas in fact he served three years and three months, not knowing it was necessary for him to state the whole time he was in service.”

On 28 Dec 1837 James Thompson applied to have his pension transferred to Illinois, having moved to Stephenson County for the following reason: “his wifes relatives all lived in the State of Illinois and his Son who he is dependant on for support in his old age & being almost blind was Induced to accompay him where he could better locate himself.” In this application he stated that he had also served under a Captain Joseph Daffin and Capt Douglass. He signed as shown:

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "James Thompson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

On 18 Sep 1859 James Thompson applied to have his pension payable at a bank in Wisconsin that was closer. This application was witnessed by O. C. Thompson.