

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Palmer S3651

f47VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/28/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[f p. 24]

State of Tennessee Cocke County November Sessions 1832

On this 28th day of November personally appeared in open Court before the justices of the Court now sitting for the County of Cocke, in the State of Tennessee, Thomas Palmer a resident of the County of Cocke & State of Tennessee, aged about seventy-two 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 – That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the years 1782 in the month of May as well as he recollects with Captain Henry Bowyers in Winchester Virginia – At the Company in which he enlisted was not organized with any Regiment, nor does he know to what line his Company would have been attached, or who was appointed to command the Regiment of which it was to form a part. Captain Boyer & his company during the whole time of service, as well as he recollects, were under the command of Major John Watts – This Deponent enlisted for 3 years. He was honorably discharged after peace was made. He has since lost his discharge. The Company remained stationary at Winchester Virginia. This Declarant enlisted in said Company, immediately after his 3rd tour of Service in the Virginia Militia had expired – and as well as he recollects he served 3 or 4 months in the United States Regular line before he was discharged, in consequence of Peace.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any Agency of any State.  
Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid                      S/ Thomas Palmer, X his mark

State of Tennessee Cocke County February Sessions 1833

On this 27th day of February personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court now sitting for Cocke County, Thomas Palmer, a resident of the County of Cocke & State of Tennessee, aged about seventy-two 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.

This Declarant was born in the year 1760 in Loudon [Loudoun] County Virginia, and has a record thereof at his house. At the time he entered the service of the United States he lived in the County of Loudon where he was raised. After the close of his Services as a Soldier of the revolution he removed to Bedford County Virginia, thence to Green County in Tennessee & thence to Cocke County in the same State, where he now resides and has resided ever since.

This Declarant was drafted to serve in the Revolutionary War against G. B. in the militia for three months in Loudon County Virginia in March 1781 under Captain Thomas Humphreys.

The date he does not recollect. He was mustered into Service at old Williamsburg Virginia. Major Dennis Ramsay & Major Armistead were field officers then in command. He served to the end of the three months and was honorably discharged by his Captain, Thomas Humphreys. He has since lost his discharge. During the three months of his Service he marched down, from old Williamsburg to little York before the time of the Siege, and remained there for some days, & thence marched through James Town & Richmond. In this Tour he was engaged in a skirmish at a place called Burrels Ferry [probably Burwell's Ferry, Hog Island on James River] on James River to prevent the British from landing. They however succeeded in landing & took possession of Williamsburg. He was, also, engaged in a skirmish at Williamsburg, after they occupied the place with the British Pickets. Several of the Americans were killed & a number wounded. Lieutenant Joseph Lewis was wounded by a shot in the shoulder. This Declarant had two bullets shot through his clothes. In the same tour this Declarant was engaged in a skirmish with the British at what was then called the Ship-Yard below Richmond. We were nearly half the day engaged, by Ships [?] to prevent the British from landing. The British failed to land, and afterwards affected it at Manchester & burnt part of the Town [April 30, 1781]. After they left Manchester, on their return to their Shipping they burnt the rope works which were four miles below Manchester.

This Declarant, afterwards, in the same year served a tour of three months as a Substitute for his Brother John Palmer. The day & month in which he entered as such substitute he does not recollect. He served from the County of Loudon Virginia in the company of Captain John Henry. He recollects that Major Cox was a field officer in this Tour, and that a General Weeden [George Weedon] also had a command.

This Declarant served to the end of the tour and was then discharged by his Captain. He has since lost this discharge. In this tour he was engaged in a skirmish with the British near James Town Virginia, at the crossing of a Bridge on a River that emptied into James River. This Declarant was again in the same year of 1781 drafted for three months, in Loudoun County, Virginia, under Captain White, and was commanded by Colonel Miscwonger [Col. John Niscwanger]. He served to the end of three months & was honorably discharged by his Captain. He has since lost his discharge. He does not recollect the day or the month in which he entered the Service in this last tour, but it was in Loudoun County, Virginia – and according to the best of his recollection he was engaged in this last service in the fall & winter – and was from the beginning to the end of the Siege of Little York, and had the honor of assisting in the capture of Cornwallis' Army [October 19, 1781]. After the Siege of York this Declarant was detached to serve near Winchester, Virginia to guard at the barracks or huts at that place, the prisoners at Cornwallis' Army.

This Declarant was engaged in these various tours for nine months, and also afterward & enlisted as a Regular Soldier & served as such for 3 months making his whole service during the Revolutionary War, twelve months. Of his Regular Service this Declarant has made a declaration which accompanies this. This Declarant states that he has no documentary evidence of his Claim, and that the only persons whom he knows to be acquainted with his Service are Gilbert North & William Longley, and to the extent of their knowledge he has procured there Testimony & filed it herewith.

Question by the Court. When and in what year were you born?

Answer by the Declarant. In Loudon County Virginia, in the year 1760

Question by the Court. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer by the Declarant. I have, and it is at my house.

Question by the Court. Where were you living when called into service, where have you lived since the revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer by the Declarant. When I was called into Service, at each time I lived in the County of Loudoun in Virginia – After the Close of the Revolution I removed to Bedford County Virginia – thence to Green County in Tennessee & thence to Cocke County in the same State, where I now reside & have ever since resided.

Question by the Court. How were you called into Service; were you drafted, did you Volunteer, or were you a Substitute? And if a Substitute for whom?

Answer by the Declarant. In the 1st Tour I was Drafted. In the Second I served as a Substitute for my Brother John Palmer. In the Third I was drafted – and after the end thereof I enlisted as stated in my Declaration as a Regular Soldier.

By the Court. State the names of some of the regular officers, who were with the Troops, where you served, such Continental & militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general Circumstances of your Service.

Answer by the Declarant. I recollect Major Armistead & General Weeden [George Weedon], who I believe were of the Continental Troops. The names or numbers of the Continental or militia regiments I do not recollect. The circumstances of my service I have already detailed.

Question by the Court. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, and if so by whom was it given, and what has become of it.

Answer by the Declarant. In my first Tour I was discharged by Captain Humphreys, in my second by my Captain Henry – and in my 3rd militia tour by my Captain White. In each of these cases I received written discharges and have since lost them.

By the Court. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your Services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Answer by the Declarant. I am known to the Reverend Solomon Wyatt a clergyman who now resides within a few miles of me in the adjoining County of Jefferson, & was for many years, in this County my nearest neighbor, and is the nearest clergyman to me who can testify most fully – & I am known to Carter Talley, Esquire, and believe that those persons would testify as to my character for veracity, and their belief of my Services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

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 declared and Subscribed the day aforesaid.

S/ George M. Porter, Clerk

S/ Thomas Palmer

A large, dark, handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas Palmer". The ink is thick and the letters are somewhat blurred, suggesting a scan of a physical document.

[Solomon Wyatt, a clergyman, and Carter Talley gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

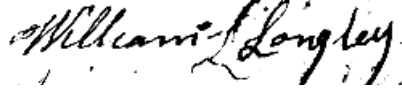
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State of Tennessee Cocke County

This day personally appeared before me John Gillet one of the acting Justices of the

peace for the said County William Longley<sup>1</sup> and maketh oath in due form of law that he is acquainted with Thomas Palmer that he nose [knows] he did serve in the old Revolution war as a soldier for more than 12 months some part of this time under Captain Thomas umphers [Thomas Humphreys] and mister Dennis Ramsey as Military men drafted from Virginia State Loudoun County. Sworn to and subscribed this 3rd day of September 1832  
S/ John Gillet

S/ William L. Longley



[f p. 29]

State of Tennessee Cocke County N Sessions 1832

Personally appeared in open Court Gilbert North of the County & State aforesaid, who being duly sworn, says that he recollects to have seen Thomas Palmer, now of the County of Cocke & State aforesaid at the Siege of Little York, acting as a Soldier, in the Virginia Troops – But this Affiant has no special knowledge of the details of Service in which said Thomas Palmer was engaged.

Sworn & subscribed in open Court this 28th of November 1832

S/ Gilbert North



[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for one-year in the Virginia militia.]

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<sup>1</sup> [William Longley R6435](#)