

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Percy [Piercy] S3679

f17VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/1/12

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Rutherford County: Circuit Court October Term 1832

On this 9th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 before James C Mitchell one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts in and for the State of Tennessee now sitting for said County of Rutherford at Murfreesborough, personally appeared Thomas Percy a resident of said County & state, aged seventy-four years the 5th of May last, 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 entered the service of the United States in the spring or summer of the year 1776 or 1777, he cannot recollect the time precisely, as a volunteer under Captain Joseph Jones who commanded a company of drafted Virginia militia from the County of Dinwiddie. He does not remember the name of the inferior officers of the company. They were called together & organized into a company at Petersburg, thence they marched to Williamsburg & there encamped until other companies came up, at which time, the British lay in Chesapeake Bay. From thence Captain Jones' company marched to Hampton by the way of little York. Thence they went on board an armed vessel to Portsmouth & there joined other companies. On the British leaving the Bay, they were discharged, drawing provisions to last them home. Applicant joined Jones' company for the term of three months, but believes that time had not quite expired when he was discharged. He does not recollect the names of the superior officer or officers in this campaign, as he had but little intercourse with any other companies besides his own, & as his memory has very much failed him. He thinks General Steuben was at Williamsburg, Adjutant Fogg was the acting officer in mustering them.

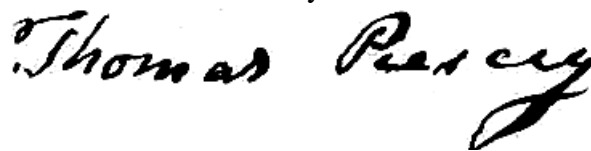
Sometime in the year 1780, perhaps in June, he was called upon & entered the service under George Pegram, Captain the inferior officers of the company were Peter Epps [Peter Eppes], William Walker¹, & Boswell Hutchings [Boswell or Bozwell Hutchins, alternate spellings], at Dinwiddie court house, thence marched to Hillsboro, North Carolina, & there joined Falkners [Ralph Faulkner's] Regiment, Stephens [Edward Stevens] was General. On the arrival of General Gates [Horatio Gates] they marched to South Carolina near Camden where the memorable battle was fought [August 15-16, 1780]. After the defeat, part of the Army collected at Hillsboro where applicant was discharged & returned to his home. He believes he was not in service quite three months in this campaign, though that or six months was the term for which he entered service. He was one of Gates's life guard from Hillsboro to Deep River, where the regulars lay. When the British came up James River, he thinks in the fall of 1780, the whole County of Dinwiddie that could bear arms was called out, rendezvoused at Petersburg & there organized into companies. The applicant served in Captain John Nicholas' Company, he does not

¹ [William J. Walker S16011](#)

recollect all the inferior officers of the company, but Boswell Hutchings was one. On hearing the British were coming up Appomattox River Nicholas' company went down & fired on the vessel that came up. Two of our men were wounded in the engagement. Colonels Bannister [John Bannister], Gibson [perhaps a reference to George Gibson] & Smallwood were present. They thence returned to Petersburg. In a few days the close' company marched alone down the River to Mark's old field, & there joined other companies. At this place there was a special company selected from the different companies to watch the movements of the British down the River. Applicant was in this which followed the British down to Cabin point where he was taken sick & remained until furloughed by Colonel Bannister until he should be able to serve again. He did not recover so as to be able to enter on duty before the end of the three months for which he entered service. In these three campaigns, each entered for three months term one perhaps for six months he was in actual service at least six months. When he entered the service he lived in Dinwiddie County, Virginia. He does not remember who at that time, was Colonel of the County, but Bannister was afterwards Colonel. The number of the Regiment he does not remember. He cannot now recollect the name of the other field officers besides Bannister. The furlough received from him has been lost. His residence was in Dinwiddie County during the whole time of the revolutionary war.

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

S/ Thomas Piercy

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Piercy". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ Thomas Piercy".

Amended declaration of Thomas Pearcy for a pension

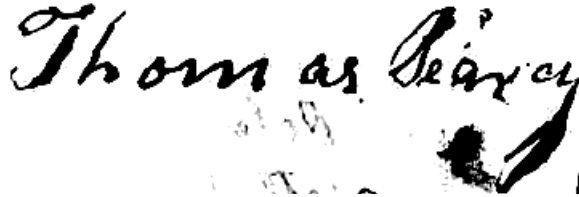
On this 6th day of April 1833 before me James C Mitchell one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts in & for the State of Tennessee, now sitting for the County of Rutherford, personally appeared in open Court Thomas Pearcy, who made his original declaration for a pension at last October term of said court, who being duly sworn deposeth & 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, & in the following grades; For two months & ten days, I served as a private in Captain Jones' Company, being my first service mentioned in my original declaration; for two months & three weeks I served as a private in Captain Pegram's Company in the campaign in which Gates was defeated near Camden; For one month I served as a private in Captain Nicholas' company before I was taken sick as mentioned in my original declaration, and for such service [words written over and illegible] months, three weeks & ten days or six months I claim a pension.

The said Thomas Pearcy states, that he never received any written discharge from service, that he has no documentary evidence by which to prove his service as a soldier of the revolution, and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to such service.

Applicant was born in Dinwiddie County, Virginia on the 5th of May 1758 as appears from a record of his age now in his possession, & which was taken from his father's record of ages. He lived in Dinwiddie County until the year 1806 when he moved to Tennessee, Sumner County, lived there one year, thence moved to Wilson County, lived there about 13 years, thence moved to Rutherford County to his present residence.

Applicant names Jacob Hall, Stephen Spain, George Smith, Ambrose McKee, William Johns, Joseph B Johns, Jacob Johns, Colonel John Dance, Major Russell Dance, Abram Overall, N. Overall & James Griffin as persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution.

S/ Thomas Percy

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Percy". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some ink bleed-through visible from the reverse side of the paper.

[Nace Overall, a clergyman, & Russell Dance gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]