

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John J. Thomas S37488

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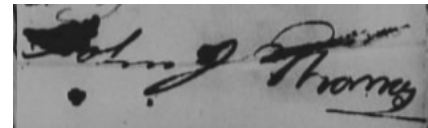
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

To the Hon'ble. the Secretary of War of the U.S.

The petition of John J Thomas a citizen of Kentucky most respectfully represents, that being desirous to aid his country all that lay in his power in her struggle for independence he entered into the service of the united States as a private soldier in the year 1778 by voluntary enlistment for "during the war" at the head of Elk, enlisted with John Rodolph [sic: John Rudolph] a Lieutenant in Lees [Henry Lee's] legion of light horse remained in said legion from the time of enlistment untill the close of the war was discharged at Charleston South Carolina by Major Joseph Eggleston [sic: Joseph Eggleston, pension application W8687 of said corps in June 1783 was in the Battles of gilford court house [sic: Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] and at the Siege of ninety six [Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] was at the storming of Georgetown on Black River south Carolina [24-25 Jan 1781] at the taking of fort mott [sic: Fort Motte SC, 12 May 1781] on the congaree river, was at the Battle of the eutaw springs [8 Sep 1781] then belonging to said troop of horse Commanded by Lieutenant col. Henry Lee was at the taking of Golfin's fort [sic: Fort Galphin, 21 May 1781] on the Savannah River and was at the Battle of Combe commanded by Col. Lawrence [sic: Combahee River commanded by John Laurens, 27 Aug 1782] who fell in the engagement, and your petitioner futher states that he was in very many severe skirmishes,

urged by necessity, being in indigent circumstances your petitioner most respectfully begs that he may be inscribed on the invalid pension list roll of the Kentucky agency, authorised by a recent act of congress, passed for the benefit of the officers and soldiers of the revolutionary army, and further your petitioner declares that he is not in the habit of receiving nor ever has received any pension from the united states, All which is respectfully subscribed by

In presence of/ John Payne
William Daily
[4 May 1818]



State of Kentucky } Ss.
County of Bracken } [4 May 1818]

Be it known that before us Robert Walton and Arthur Thorne Justices of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid personally appeared John J Thomas and Abia Hackill and made oath that they entered the service of the U. S. by voluntary enlistments to serve during the War about the same time at the Head of Elk to the best of the recollection in April 1778. they both enlisted with Lieutenant Rodolph of Lees Legion in which they generally served together untill the close of the War were together in very many Battles and skirmishes and eventually were both Honorably discharged at Charleston South Carolina by majr Joseph Eggleston of said corps in 1783

District of Kentucky

Bracken County Sct.

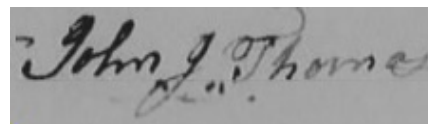
On this 5th day of February 1821 personally appeared, in open Court being a Court of record for said County (being so declared by law and haveing the power to fine and imprison) John J. Thomas aged sixty one years resident in the county aforesaid in said District who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath depose & say that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. That he enlisted at the Head of Elk (now called Elkton) in Maryland on the 15th of April 1778 for and during the war, with Lt. Rodolph, under Capt Lindsey [William Lindsay VAS927] in Lees Legion commanded by Maj'r. Henry Lee. That he continued in service of the United states from that time until he was discharged in June 1783 at the Eutaw Spring by Maj'r. Eggleston that he was in the following engagements viz. Stony point [NY,

16 Jul 1779] – Springfield in Jersey [23 Jun 1780] – Guildford – Eutaw Springs, & Combiehee, where Col Lawrence was killed

That on the 4th of May 1818 he made application to the Bracken County Court & his declaration for a pension was certified upon which he received a pension certificate dated the 18th of March 1819 Number 7.774. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. viz.

one horse & two colts worth \$125	\$125.
3 cows worth \$30 – 3 yearlings worth \$9	39.
3 calves worth \$6. 14 head of sheep worth \$14	\$20.00
2 sows & seven shoats \$13. 8 chairs \$4	17.00
on table & two chests \$5. two kettles \$5. one pot \$1.50	11.50
one dutch oven \$1. one skillet 3/2 on tea	1.50
kettle \$2. one pair of smoothing Irons \$1.50	3.50
one plough \$8. two pair of geer \$12	20.00
double trees & stretchers \$5. two hoes & one axe	5.00
\$2. I have no land	<u>2.</u>
	\$244.50

I am by occupation a farmer, I am very unable to pursue my occupation for a living owing to violent Rheumatic pains in my hips & joints. I have three girls and a boy my children living with me two of the girls viz. Nancy & Priscilla are twins & about 17 years of age healthy & able to support themselves the other girl Margaret about 11 years of age a very sickly child, puney and defective in her eye sight. My wife is dead, she died in May last with a cancer – the latter days of her life was ameliorated by the bounty of the United States.



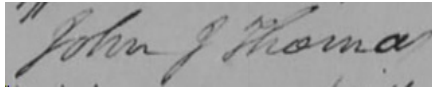
[The maximum value of property allowed by the Pension Office for continuance of a pension under the act of 1820 was \$200.]

Kentucky Bracken County Sct.

On this 25 day of August 1823 personally appeared in open court being a court of record (having the power to fine and imprison by law and being also expressly declared to be such by law) for the County aforesaid John J. Thomas resident in said county aged sixty four years next October, who being first duly sworn, according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of congress of the 18th march 1818 and the 1st May 1820 That he the said John J. Thomas enlisted for and during the war for Revolutionizing the British North American provinces (& which ended in the establishment of the Independence of the United States) on the 15th April 1778 in the state of Maryland in the Company or troop of cavalry commanded by Capt Lindsay in the Legion commanded by Colo. Henry Lee in the service of the United States on the Continental establishment that he continued to serve in the said corps untill some time about the last of May or first of June 1783 when he was discharged from the said service in South Carolina at the Eutaw Springs that his name has been placed on the pension list and dropt therefrom on account of his property. [Oath similar to that in the preceding application follows.]

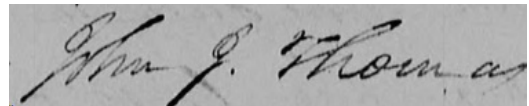
one mare 40\$ one cow 8\$ one do 12\$	\$60.00
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4 calves 6\$ 14 head sheep 14\$ 8 Hogs 12\$	32.00
2 kettles 5\$ one pot 50cts loom 1\$	6.50
One Hoe & one axe 2\$ one pr. smoothing Irons 6/2	3.00
One table & two chests 4\$ 8 chairs 3\$	7.00
One cupboard 4\$ one plough 5\$	9.00
two pair old geers and swingletrees 7\$	7.00
One tea kettle 1\$ old knife & fork 3/-	1.50
	<u>126.00</u>
	\$126.00



That since the exhibition of my first schedule the following changes have been made in my property the horse which I had I exchanged for mare which I now own. One of the colts died the other I sold for \$67.00 in the payment of a debt which I owed to Francis Spillman of Campbell County. one of the cows before given in I have now mentioned in my schedule. one of the other cows died. the other I killed for beef for my support. of the three yearlings given in my first schedule two died & one I killed for my support. one of the three calves mentioned in my first schedule is now one of the cows mentioned in my present schedule the other two calves died. the sheep I have yet the same number some die and some are killed by the wolves or dogs – and some I have raised so that the same number is kept up. I cannot describe the changes that have taken place in my hogs. the table is the same. one of the Chests have been broken therefore is not worth as much as when before given in. the kettles are the same the Pot has a piece broke out the side and one leg off the oven is the same the skillet broke & destroyed the tea kettle, smoothing Irons, plough geer double & swingle trees &c hoe & axe are mentioned in this schedule one of the hoes mentioned in the 1st schedule is destroyed. I am indebted to Joshua Pigman 25\$ I owe John Scott about 30\$ I owe Thomas Preble 3\$ and the other little debts amounting to about 12\$ amounting in all to about 70\$ all which have been incurred in expectation that I would still receive the pension allowed me by the United States and for necessaries for my support.

My occupation is a farmer afflicted with Sciatic & Rheumatic pains. I have three Daughters two twins nineteen years old healthy and able to get their own living, one 15 years of age healthy & also able to make her own support. those three and myself live with a son who has the use of my property. I Labour with him as much as it is in my power but find my strength failing fast. I have always been a poor man and having by labour raised a considerable family have not been able to give them anything of consequence. I have at present a son dependant upon me for a support about 17 years of age. I had bound him to a trade but owing to ill health & a violent pain in the breast I have been compelled to take him home again and he also lives with my son. without the assistance of my son with whom I live I should not be able to provide necessaries for my support.



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Addendum to John J. Thomas S37488

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 18 March 2022.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) indexed as Thomas, John Jerman.]

Maryland } Certificate of Joseph Thomas aged about 70 years
Cecil County }

Be it remembered that on this 26th day of October 1821 Personally came before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County Joseph Thomas of Cecil County State of Maryland who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that he knew John Jarmen Thomas when a boy and afterward, and that in the spring of the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy Eight he the said John J Thomas enlisted in the county aforesaid as a Dragoon in the Legion commanded by Lt Colo Henry Lee in the service of the United States, and that said Thomas served in the said Legion as a dragoon untill the close of the Revolutionary war in AD 1783 when he received an honourable discharge
[signed] Joseph Thomas senr

Maryland SS } Certificate of John Bennett [VAS579] aged about 63
Cecil County }

Be it Remembered that on the 18th Day of September 1822 personally appeared before the subscriber on of the Justices of the peace in and for said County John Bennet [of] new Castle County State of Delaware late a private in Lt Colo Henry Lee's Legion who being duly sworn according to Law deposeth and saith that He was well acquainted with John Jerman Thomas, and about the year 1778 he inlisted in Colo Henry Lee's Legion in the service of the united stats and in which he continued in the second troop Capt John Rudulph his first Capt. and after his death James Heard Capt'n in which he continued with the rest as also this deponent who was then in the first Troop, Armstrong [James Armstrong VAS2283] Capt'n to the Close of the Revolution war in the year 1783 and was honerable discharged at Elkton By Capt Rudulph the 23 of August AD 1783.

