

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Samuel Thomas S3783

f21NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/7/17

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

State of Tennessee, Lawrence County} SS

On this the 2nd day of April 1849 personally appeared in open Court Samuel Thomas who resides in the County of Lawrence and State of Tennessee aged ninety 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 approved June 7th 1832, states that he entered the service of the United States as a private under the following named officers and that he served as herein stated. At the time he entered the service of the United States he resided in the State of North Carolina, Anson County. And that he entered the service in August 1778 in a company commanded by Captain Patrick Bogan [Patrick Boggan] and attached to Colonel David Lumberson [?]¹ Regiment of North Carolina Militia. And that he performed the following service in the revolutionary war, with Great Britain; after he had entered the service the Governor of North Carolina ordered Colonel David Junberson² with his command to march against a body of Tories assembled at Joseph Calston's [sic, Colson's?] in the upper part of North Carolina, which place we reached about the first of September 1778 where we had a slight engagement with the Tories, which lasted some 15 minutes they were repulsed and left the Country we remained at Calston's [sic, Colson's?]³ for some time we then returned to Anson County, remained there a short time, when we received orders to march to Black Creek (River) North Carolina. This was in the month of January 1779. We remained at Black River some two months, in the month of April 1779 we got orders to march to Mush [?] Island on Pedee River but found no opposition we encamped on Pedee and remained there some two weeks then Colonel Junberson marched back to Anson County Court house in the State of North Carolina. We remained there for some length of time I cannot recollect how long. But in the month of June 1780 we were ordered to the Waxhaw Meeting house in the State of South Carolina where a body of Tories had assembled but they had heard of our coming and had left before we reached the place. We then remained there a few days. When Colonel David Junberson got orders from General Gates [Horatio Gates] to meet him at Camden in South Carolina. We left under a forced march for Camden but before we reached General Gates' command we met a party of militia that informed us that Gates was defeated [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. We joined General Gates the next day and

1 

? I was unable to identify a likely candidate for

this officer.

2 

3 The applicant MAY be referring to the engagement at Colson's Mills which occurred on July 21, 1780].

[several illegible words] the aid we remained with him 4 days then marched back to Anson County, North Carolina and remained in winter quarters at Anson County Court house until the Spring of 1781 when David Junberson received orders to join General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] at Ninety Six in South Carolina on our march we crossed Catawba River then we crossed Broad River we then crossed Tiger River [Tyger River] we then crossed Enoree River we then marched to Saluda River there we met with General Greene on his retreat from Ninety Six [General Greene lifted the Siege of Ninety Six on June 19, 1781] we remained with General Greene on a long hill for some time we then returned into North Carolina and while on our march we were ordered back to meet Cornwallis we passed Guilford Courthouse and marched to where Col. Jones was encamped. We remained there one month during this time Col. Jones' Militia was discharged on account of expiration of term of service this was in the State of Virginia while here we received orders to join the Main Army this was in September 1781 we decamped and marched to the Roanoke [River] at Fox's Ferry where we met a large body of troops we stopped here one day we then took up the line of march for York Town where Cornwallis was before we reached that place we joined the [illegible word] command of General Washington and remained with his command until the surrender of Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] after the surrender of Cornwallis we marched back through the State of Virginia to North Carolina and on our way we joined the command of General Greene and marched with him to Hillsboro where we remained one month and was discharged. This was in the last of November 1781. I received a discharge but have long since lost it by its completely wearing out the last I recollect of seeing it was in the State of Kentucky some 40 years since. He knows of no person that he could prove the above services he states that he was born in the State of Virginia in Danwindy [sic, Dinwiddie?] County on the 10th day of March 1759 his father moved to Anson County North Carolina when he was 17 [?] years old there he where he entered the service soon after the revolutionary war he moved again in the State of Kentucky from there he moved to Tennessee where he now lives and he has lived for the space of 33 years past. And that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll or agency of any State or territory whatever. He does not recollect any officers' names that belonged to the regular line.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this second April 1849.
witness: S/ S. A. Carrell, Clerk

S/ Samuel Thomas, X his mark

[James Hill and Judge C. Rickman, two clergymen, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Questions propounded to Samuel Thomas an applicant for a pension of the County Court of Lawrence County, now sitting for the County of Lawrence and in the State of Tennessee in the town of Lawrenceburg Tennessee on the 2nd day of April 1849

1st: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer, was born in the State of Virginia, Dunmudy [sic, Dinwiddie?] County in the year 1759.

2nd Have you any record of you age and if so, where is it?

Answer: I have no record of my age but have frequently seen it in my grandfather's register where it is I have no information at this time.

3rd Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer: when I entered the service I lived in Anson County State of North Carolina and since the revolution I have resided in the State of Kentucky and the State of Tennessee where I now reside and have resided for the past 33 years.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer, or were you a

substitute and if so for whom did you substitute?

Answer: I volunteered and was termed state militia I enlisted under a call I do not know where it originated by the State or government, of the States I cannot recollect how I [illegible word] the State

5th State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I cannot at this time recollect any regular officers, so as to call by the name I served with Colonel Jones' Command Colonel Thomas Waid's [sic, Thomas Wade's] Regiment of North Carolina Militia Colonel Thomas Brannon [sic, Thomas Brandon] of South Carolina Troops I was with the command of General Gates after the battle at Camden was with General Greene's Command after the battle of Ninety Six was at the taking of Cornwallis at Yorktown I was in an engagement at Colston's [sic, Colson's Mills] with the Tories never was in but the engagements at Colston's and Yorktown.

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service; and if so by whom was it given; and what has become of it?

Answer: I received a discharge from my Captain Patrick Bogan kept it for many years until it was by usage or handling worn out the last I seen of it was in the State of Kentucky some 40 years since.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify to your character for veracity and good behavior and your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer: I will state the names of Lemuel Blythe, Allen Stewart Esq., John McLeran, Robert Sayce, Willie G. Richardson Esq. And Baraby Gable all of which have known me for many years. Some of them at least 20 years and lived near neighbors to me.

Sworn in open court the second day of April 1849.

S/ S. A. Carrell, Clerk

S/ Samuel Thomas, X his mark

Lawrenceburg Tennessee April 30, 1849

J. L. Edwards, Sir

Yours of the 19th instant to Mr. J. H. Thomas has been handed me, And in reply to so much of it as relates to my not sooner applying for a pension I will give you as my reason long entertained that I was independent and did not require the aid of the Government. And if I was at this time able to work for my living I should not apply, believing as I do that when a man is able to support himself that he should not call for aid & I concluded that should I become old and infirm, unable to work I would apply, as I have done, if the department wishes proof, on this matter I can supply them by the testimony of persons who have been acquainted with me for 28 years and know them to be by reasons, as I have often expressed, the department will please state if they require proof, as to the other deficiency in the declaration I will supply in June [indecipherable word] I did not intend my declaration to be understood that I served all the time stated and that without being discharged I entered in 1778, and finally left the Army in the winter of 1781. This included all my services I was several times might term of engagement was out but I volunteered and served all the time under the same Captain always reentered under him in fact, it was a standing Company, with Captain Patrick Bogan and Colonel David Junberson. I will home in my declaration as directed in June Court, if any other proof is required please state and oblige.

Respectfully

S/ Samuel Thomas, X his mark

Signed in my presence by making his Mark,
S/ John H. Johnston

State of Tennessee, Lawrence County

On this the 2nd day of July A.D. 1849 personally appeared in open Court, Samuel Thomas, and after being duly Sworn according to law, makes the following declaration as an amendment to his original Declaration proved and sworn to before this Court April 2, 1849, to draw a pension under the act of Congress of June 7th 1832. He states that he entered the service of the United States in the revolutionary war in August 1778 and that he enlisted for the term of six months and marched under Joseph Colston as stated in his Declaration and after remaining in the service for six months, at the end of this tour of service he was at Home in Anson County North Carolina. He again entered the service in the month of April 1779 (I believe) and marched as stated in my original Declaration to Black River then to Mush Island was then returned to Anson County Court House. I again entered the service in the month of June 1780, I think for six months and marched in the direction of General Gates or rather Waxhaw Meeting House then to General Gates I think my term of service while on this march expired. I again entered the service I believe in the month of May 1781 it may have been some short time before this term of service has entirely expired my recollection as to the time I served but I do not recollect to have left the Army until I was finally discharged at Hillsboro, states that the reason he has not sooner applied was that he has been always able to maintain himself by manual labor until some time past. This is my reason in part and the loss of my discharge believing it would be essential he not knowing that there was any record of my services in North Carolina which I have found to be incorrect. And would not have applied to the Comptroller had the Department not instructed me so to do, which record is procured & forwarded with this amended Declaration.

Sworn to in open Court the day and date above written.

Witness: S/ S. A. Carrell, Clerk

S/ Samuel Thomas, X his mark

[the file contains a statement from the NC Comptroller' officer dated June 5, 1849, in which it is stated that a soldier by the name of Samuel Thomas received a specie certificate for services rendered in the revolution issued by Col. Nicholas Long Commissioner of Halifax District, NC]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the North Carolina militia.]