

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Owen Thomas S3785

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Ohio }
Columbiana county Ss. } On this 16th of August, AD. 1832, Personally appeared in open court,
before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, now sitting Owen
Thomas, a resident of Centre township in said Columbiana county, Ohio, aged seventy-eight years the
12th 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 act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as
herein stated:

He, with with most of the other militia, in and about Philadelphia, Pa. entered the service of the
United States as a volunteer, to go against the British on or about the 31st July 1775; he was under
command of Gen'l. Robert Doe, (or Dow,) a militia general; He was under Capt. Geo. Smith [George
Smith], Lieutents J. Evans & Samuel Hines, and Ensign Jacob Humphreys. Marched from Montgomery
township, Philadelphia county, Pa, the place of his volunteering, to Trenton, thence to Brunswick, thence
to Perth Amboy, N. Jersey, where he arrived in about five days after leaving place of volunteering. Here
he remained for two months, at the end of which time rec'd. a discharge from Gen'l. Robert Doe, which is
since lost. Was in no battle during above service. General Washington, & his army was with him while he
lay at Perth Amboy, whence he & army departed, two days before applicant was discharged, for Long
Island.

After returning home some time perhaps a year time not recollected, he was drafted and served
other two months in the militia, starting into service from same place as before, under General [James]
Potter, Col. Curry, Capt. Isaac Longstreth, Ensign Vanhorn. There were commanding other companies, in
this tour, Capt. John Peterman, —. In this tour marched to Germantown, marching all night and arriving
just before the battle between Americans and British [11 Sep 1777], the latter being commanded by Gen'l.
Howe. After serving two months was again discharged by Gen'l. Potter, but rec'd. from him no written
discharge, but rec'd. one from Capt. Isaac Longstreth, which is lost.

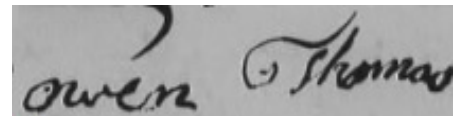
After he returned home remained there till the 18th of February following the above named battle
of Germantown, when he was taken prisoner by the British, thro' the instrumentality of the refugees, and
remained a prisoner five month[s]

In July 30, AD 1782, having removed [to] Louden [sic: Loudoun] county, Virginia, some time
previous, was again drafted, (or my class ordered out,) for an other tour of two months. This tour served
altogether from the time of entering the service three months till we arrived at home. After entering service
this tour, marched to Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg], thence to Bowling Green, thence to
Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg], Va. Here halted for eight days; thence marched and joined the army
under Gen'l. [Edward] Stevens, near James River & the mouth of Mataponi [sic: Mattaponi] river, where
he remained till discharged. In this last Tour was under Col. Marryweathers [sic: Thomas Meriwether],
Major John Hardiman, Capt. Thos. Cannon, Lieut. Joseph Butler, Ensign Isaac Brown. He lay a few miles
south of the main army. Rec'd. a discharge from Thomas Cannon, Capt. which is lost.

That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person, whose testimony he can
procure, who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity other than the present, and
declars that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Owen Thomas". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Questions propounded by said court and the answers given by applicant.

1. Where, & in what year were you born?
 - A. In Chester county, Penn'a. in AD 1754.
2. Have you any record of your age? & if so where is it?
 - A. I have now here in court: It was transcribed by Mr. J. L. Hart, from my mother's bible.
3. Where were you living when called into service Where have you lived since the revolutionary war. Where do you now live?
 - A. When I first entered the service I was living in Montgomery township, Philadelphia county Pa, (read declaration) Since revolutionary war lived in Loudon county, Va. about 10 years; then removed to Bartley [sic: Berkeley] county Va. where I lived 16 years, thence removed to this (Columbiana) county, (Ohio,) where I have ever since resided.
4. How were you called into service? Were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute; and if a substitute, for whom?
 - A, The first tour I volunteered, to go with nearly all the other militia of my neighborhood, against the enemy.
The 2nd & third tours I was drafted. as stated in declaration.
5. 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 services.
 - A. In answer applicant refers to his Declaration for the best explanation.
In addition to what is there state a Captain Sty was with the Regulars. He was a resident of Germantown.
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service? & if so, by whom was it given, and what became of it?
 - A. I received three discharges, as indicated in declaration, which are all lost.
7. 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.
 - A. John Thomson, (Mem. Congress,) F. A. Blocksom, W. D. Ewing, Horace Potter & W. D. Lepper

With a view to obviate the objections of the War Department to the foregoing declaration, the said Owen Thomas, on oath makes the following supplementary declaration:

That he entered the service of the United states as a volunteer on the 31st of July AD 1775, and served as such until discharged on the 5th of Oct. of the same year. This was the first service.

The second service mentioned declarant now recollects was entered into on the next day after the battle of Brandywine, towit, the 12th of September A.D. 1777, in which service he continued two months, till discharged.

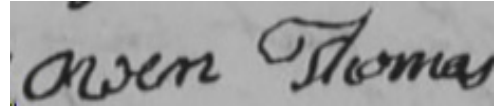
On the 18th of February, AD 1778 was taken prisoner, as mentioned in declaration, and so continued till the 18th of July of the same year.

On the 30th of July 1782 entered the service again being drafted in Loudon county, Va. as stated in the declaration, for a tour of two months: this tour he served out, and also one other month immediately succeeding before he arrived at home. He had moved to Loudon county previous to this some time. After entering on the 30th July as above, he continued with out any intervail until the end of the last above named service.

The declarant again states that he has no evidence whatever of his actual service, nor does he ever expect to be able to produce any. That the witnesses who have testified in the forgoing declaration are as respectable as our country affords, and have long resided near the declarant, and have consequently had a good opportunity of knowing whether declarant was reputed a soldier of the revolution. They however can know nothing of his actual service.

The said Owen Thomas further states that his bodily infirmity is such that it would be extremely inconvenient if not impossible for him to attend a County court to attend to business having failed in

strength of late very much.
[29 Jan 1833]

A rectangular image showing a handwritten signature in cursive script. The signature reads "Iwen Thomas". The ink is dark on a light background.