

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of S3809

f67VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/10/11

[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.]

[f p. 11]

State of Tennessee Weakley County Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions October Term 1832

This day being the 9th day of October in the year of our Lord 1832 Personally appeared in said Court, now sitting, at the Court House in the Town of Dresden Presley Thornton a Citizen of said County of Weakley aged about Seventy Three years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress Providing for the Soldiers of the American Revolution, Passed June the 7th 1832,

That as well as he now recollects he was born about the year 1757 or 1758 in the County of Orange in the State of Virginia his family Record was in Possession of his Father and he the said applicant states his age from Recollection, as said Record is out of his Possession. That when a youth, Perhaps about the age of __ years the said applicant entered the Service of the United States under Captain William Rodgers as a Substitute for a man by the name of Huske, who was drafted for eighteen months as well as this applicant Recollects, he was marched to Albemarle Barracks Where he remained about 13 or 14 months When he was discharged: – This discharge the said applicant gave to his Employer, Huske, and has never seen it since – The said applicant further states that shortly after he was discharged as a Substitute as aforesaid he listed [enlisted] under Captain James Hawkins But was mustered into service under Captain Samuel Seldin [Samuel Seldon]: at the Town of Fredericksburg Virginia he fought at the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], where he believes General Green [Nathanael Greene] Commanded, and the said Applicant states that Colonel John Green & Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Hawes were also officers in Command at that Battle –This applicant, fought also at the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June19, 1781] where Colonel Lee Commanded, After moving to different [word written over and illegible] he was marched to the Field of Camden Colonel Hawes & Captain Seldin being still his immediate Commanders or officers. This Applicant fought at the battle of Camden [probably a reference to the battle known as the Battle of Hobkirk Hill or the Second Battle of Camden, April 25, 1781], He still continued under command of Captain Seldin & Colonel Hawes his said officers = till the battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], Which Battle with said officers he also fought – General Green was here the Principal Commander, this applicant then states that the American Army prevailed after a severe Contest in which this applicant received a severe wound in his left shoulder, and is and has been disabled thereby to the present day – His Captain Seldin was also wounded, had his arm was amputated and he retired as this applicant believes from the Army. – Lieutenant Giles & Ensign Tatum Captain Seldin's subaltern officers then had Command of the Company. Lieutenant Giles shortly after died. The Army remained in the vicinity of the Eutaw Springs several weeks. It was then marched to the "High Hills of Santee," Where it Remained about three months, Thence it marched in a direction of

Charleston and from thence about 700 soldiers were marched to Salisbury under Colonel Sneed [Snead or Sneed] & discharged. He the said applicant was one of this number – He obtained an honorable discharge, which was a considerable time afterwards lost by fire in the Burning of his House In the State of Georgia. This Applicant had enlisted for eighteen months. And had served out that term when discharged by Colonel Sneed. He went then to his father's – who had removed to Pittsylvania County Virginia. After having Resided there some years he removed to Wilkes County Georgia Wilkes being divided he then resided and Oglethorpe County in Georgia. He then removed to Jackson County in Georgia Where he resided a Considerable length of time in which last named County he got his house burned together with all his household furniture & papers together with his last named discharge and Certificate for a pension which he had before that time but very shortly obtained.

This applicant then went immediately to Augusta in the State of Georgia to Doctor John Murray who was it seems the Examining Surgeon for invalid Pensioners. And identified himself a second time before him and got another Certificate Certifying that he was the same person who formerly examined and certified by him in his Reports as a Claimant for Invalid Pension. This second Certificate was obtained by him on the 17th day of April 1779 [sic 1799?]. He afterwards went to the Clerk of the Superior Court for the County of Jackson in the State of Georgia on the 16th day of October 1800 and got his said second Certificate recorded. This applicant states that about the year 1802 he removed from Jackson County aforesaid to Clark County in said State of Georgia where he resided about sixteen years. That he then removed to the County of Wilson in the State of Tennessee, after about a year's residence in Wilson County he removed to Rutherford County Tennessee, Remained there about eight years and from thence removed to his present residence in Weakley County Tennessee. Mr. Thornton the applicant says that being old & infirm he cannot with precision now say, state, dates, places, and circumstances concerning a matter of such early occurrence But that the foregoing is a General account of his Services, And so far as he has attempted to stated, he believes it to be Correct.

The Said Applicant Further States after he got his Certificate for a Pension Recorded in the Clerk's office of the Superior Court for Jackson County in the State of Georgia on the said 16th of October 1800 and he applied annually for a certified copy of the same on which Certified Copy he has drawn his Pension yearly up to the 27th day of December 1823. This Applicant further states that he has never been able to draw any part of his said Pension since the said 27th day of December 1823. That on his removing to the State of Tennessee it became inconvenient for him and very expensive so much so in his feeble and embarrassed situation that he had almost given it over for lost.

The said applicant Presley Thornton does hereby in his said declaration, Relinquish every Claim to a Pension or annuity from the 4th day of March 1831 the time for which the aforesaid act of Congress provides. And of the Provisions of which he now wishes to avail himself. He states that his name was formerly on the Pension Roll of the agency in the State of Georgia at Savannah. That he has tried for a renewal and removal of his claim to a Pension to provide for the payment of the same in the State of Tennessee but in all these he has failed. For the want of such disinterested testimony and attention as would satisfy the Proper Department agreeable to their former Regulations –

He the said Applicant, Presley Thornton, considers himself entitled to his pension up to the period from which the aforesaid Act of Congress provides and every other claim due to him by virtue of said Pension Since the said fourth day of March 1831 he hereby Releases

S/ Presley Thornton, X his mark

Sworn to & Acknowledged in open Court the day & year aforesaid
S/ Wm H. Johnson, Clerk

[Zacheus Carlin and Amos Hill gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f pp 57-60: another application dated October 9, 1832 filed in Weakley County Tennessee by the veteran seeking to collect the arrearages in pension due him under his disability pension previously paid by the federal government.]

[Facts in file: the veteran died in Weakley County Tennessee October five, 1852 or 1853, leaving the following children – Nancy McMilion, living in Arkansas; Martha, wife of William Jones, living in Weakley County, Tennessee and Mary Oliver, living in Kentucky.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March fourth, 1831, for service as a private in the Virginia service.]