

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Lively S38144

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 July 2015.

Commonwealth of Virginia

Town of Petersburg to Wit —

On this [blank; 31<sup>st</sup>] day of May 1820, personally appeared in open Court, Thomas Lively, a man of colour aged Eighty four Years, who being by me 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 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and the 1<sup>st</sup> may 1820, entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land and real [sic: naval] service of the united states in the revolutionary War” That he the said Thomas Lively enlisted in chesterfield County in the company commanded by captain William Fowler of the 5<sup>th</sup> Va Regiment, Infantry, commanded by Col. Josiah Parker, afterwards by Col. Thomas Gaskin [sic: Thomas Gaskins] in the year 1777 (to the best of his recollection) that he continued to serve in the same corps until the year [blank] being about two Years, when he was discharged at Annapolis MD – that about two months afterwards he reinlisted at chesterfield under Lieutenant Obediah Smith in the same Regiment. that he then served three years longer until the year 1782, when he was discharged at Williamsburg Virg’a by Major Stephenson, he then went as a substitute militiaman to the Siege of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], that he has lost his discharges, not expecting that they would ever be valuable, that he was in the battles fought at Wilmington, monmouth [28 Jun 1778] (at which he lost his right eye) at Augusta, Charleston, where he was wounded in the leg and taken prisoner [probably at the surrender, 12 May 1780], in which situation he remained fourteen months) and at the Siege of York as above Noted. that he has no other evidence now in his power except. [space apparently left to be filled in later]

is in very reduced circumstances, having no property whatever except a little household furniture of the most ordinary kind – that he has in no manner whatever, directly or indirectly lessened the value of his property in order to obtain this pension, that when the Law was passed, his property was as great as it is now, and that he stands in need of the assistance of his Country for support. – And in pursuance of the act of the 1<sup>st</sup> may 1820 – I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 the act of Congress entitled — passed 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 any income whatever, except the proceeds of my Labour. I have no property whatever, except necessary beds and bedding and wearing apparel but a little household furniture not worth more than \$20 or \$30 and about \$3 or \$4 due me. My family consists of a daughter Sally Freeman aged about 23 Years, her husband Kit Freeman, aged about 27 years, and their infant child James aged 7 years who are able to support themselves. I am a labourer but unable from my age & infirmities consequent thereon to pursue my occupation successfully, being sometimes confined for months by the Rheumatism.

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William Fendley [pension application W7258] appeared in open court and made oath that he served twelve months during the revolutionary war, at the Valley Forge and that he knows that Thomas Lively a man of Color, and the same now applying for a pension did serve more than nine months in continuance in the reg’t commanded by Colo. Josiah Parker 5<sup>th</sup> Reg’t. Va. line continental establishment as he served with him.

William Fendley

[Ezekiel Perkinson (W5506) made an identical statement, both certified on 12 March 1821.]