

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas May S38175

f14VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/29/13

[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.]

This day Thomas May appeared in Court & made oath to the following Declaration

That he is a revolutionary Soldier aged about fifty-eight years who enlisted a soldier in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons commanded by Colonel George Baylor in December 1779 for the War in which he remained until the end of the War. That before he entered in the Horse he served in the Infantry under General William Woodford to the North & was in the Battle of Monmouth Court house [June 28, 1778] in which action he was bayoneted in the hip of which wound he believes he is now in his old age a cripple. That he is poor and dependent upon Charity for subsistence being entirely destitute & unable to walk at all without crutches. That he has lost his discharge but hopes his Captain the present Major Churchill Jones of Stafford County Virginia will prove his service. That he is an inhabitant of Caroline County and concurs that he is entitled to the provision of the late act of Congress providing pensions for revolutionary soldiers.

S/ Thomas May, X his mark

At a Court of monthly session held for Caroline County at the Courthouse on Monday the 11th of May 1818

This day Thomas May a revolutionary soldier came into Court and made Oath to this his declaration and it further appears from the Certificate of Major Churchill Jones,¹ that the said declaration contained the truth which Certificate accompanies the said declaration, and the Court being satisfied that the said May stands in need of Public support the same is ordered to be Certified. Witness my hand & the seal of the County.

Teste

S/ John S Pendleton, CCC

I Certify it appears from a list of the names of such of the Soldiers of the Virginia State line on Continental establishment as received Certificates for the balance of their full pay of agreeably to the Act of Assembly of 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 28th August 1784 in the name of Thomas May a private in the Cavalry for the sum of £67.10.7.

S/ Jno. Barefoot, Auditor Virginia
Auditors Office 11 September 1808

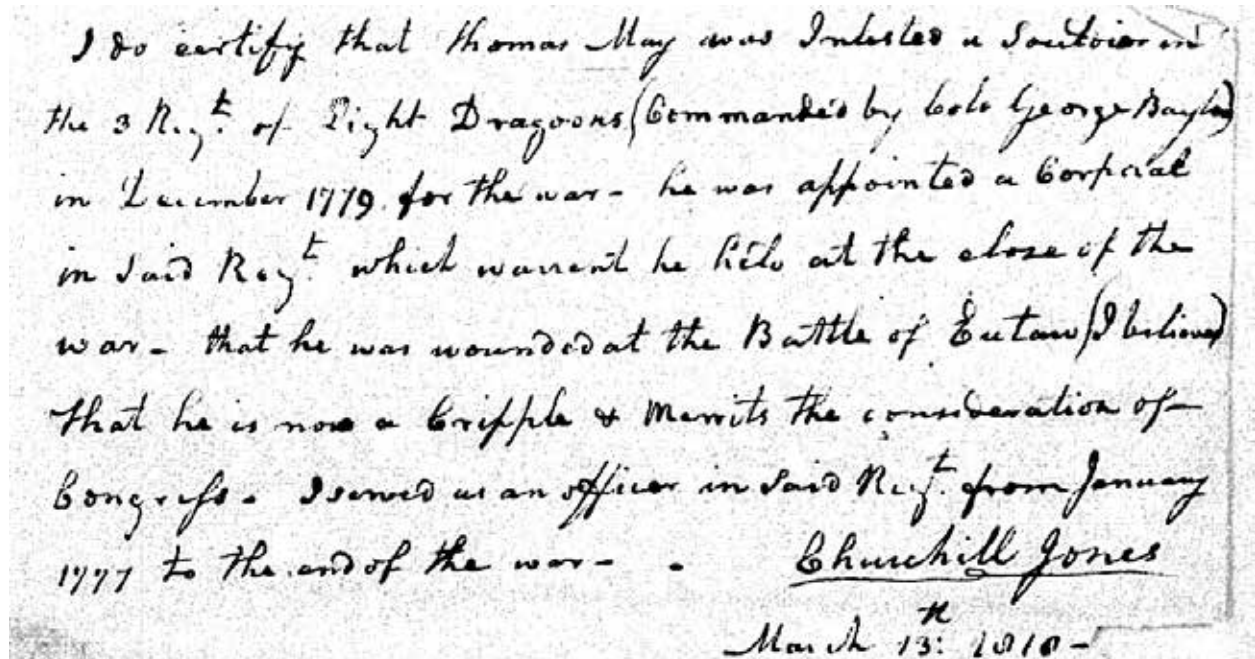
I do certify that Thomas May was enlisted a Soldier in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons (commanded by Colonel George Baylor) in December 1779 for the war – he was appointed a Corporal in said Regiment which warrant he held at the close of the war. That he was wounded at the Battle of Eutaw [Eutaw Springs, September 8, 1781] (I believe). That he is now a Cripple

¹ BLWt304-300

& Maritz the consideration of Congress. I served as an officer in said Regiment from January 1777 to the end of the war.

S/ Churchill Jones

March 13th 1818



I do certify that Thomas May was Indeed a Soldier in
the 3rd Reg^t of Light Dragoons (Commanded by Colo George Baylor)
in December 1779. for the war - he was appointed a Corporal
in said Reg^t which warrant he held at the close of the
war - that he was wounded at the Battle of Eutaw (I believe)
that he is now a cripple & Merits the consideration of
Congress - I served as an officer in said Reg^t from January
1777 to the end of the war - Churchill Jones
March 13th 1818

The district of Richmond, SS

On this 12th day of April 1819, before the Court of Caroline County for the said district, personally appeared Thomas May aged about 60 years resident now in said Caroline in said district, 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 late 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:" that he, the said Thomas May enlisted for during the war on the ___ day of ___ in the year 1777 in ___ in the state of Virginia in the company commanded by Captain Churchill Jones of the Regiment commanded by Colonel George Baylor in the line of the State of Virginia on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps, or in the service of the United States, until the end of the War when he was discharged from service in Richmond State of Virginia that he was in the battles of Monmouth previous to his above enlistment while in the Infantry - was wounded by a bayonet in the hip at the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781, and received a ball through the leg at the Eutaw Springs that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the certificate of Churchill Jones his Captain.

Sworn to and declared before the court the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Tho. May, X his mark

Caroline April Court 1819

Schedule

District of Virginia SS

On this 11th day of November 1820, personally appeared in open court, being a court of record for the County of Henrico Thomas May aged 75 years, a resident in the County of

Henrico in said district, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows: In the 7th Virginia Regiment Infantry commanded by Colonel __ Vowes [?] in Captain Gregory Smith's company commanded by Lieutenant Thomas Hill in the Continental line in the Revolutionary war, his original declaration dated the 11th May 1818, the number of his pension certificate is 9572, 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision 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, that he has no real or personal estate, necessary clothing and bedding excepted, that he had been a laborer but had not pursued it in consequence of losing the use of his left leg, he had walked upon crutches for 15 years, his family is one daughter 32 years of age and one son about 18 years of age residing with him and the deponent further made oath that he is in need of the assistance of his Country for support.

S/ Thomas May, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing May 11, 1818, for service as a private for 4 years in the Virginia Continental line.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do Certify that Thomas May enlisted for the war December 20th 1779 in 3rd Regiment Dragoons & was paid in paper dollars to first August 1780, was appointed Corporal August 1780 he served to the 5th Made 1783 when he left his officers in South Carolina for which default² Congress has given them a full pardon, witness my hand

A True Copy

S/ Will. Barret Capt.
Baylor's Dragoons
May 25th 84

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do certify that Thomas May was Enlisted in the 3rd Regiment of light dragoons (commanded by

² Veteran must have been a participant in the mutiny which occurred in Baylor's Corps in South Carolina. E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra, *A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774-1787* (Westminster MD: Heritage Books, 2007, p 104) states: "On November 9, 1782, the 1st and 3d regiments of Continental Light Dragoons were merged into a unit of five troops, nominally commanded by the ailing George Baylor, but actually commanded by Major [John] Swan. The consolidated regiments remained in South Carolina until peace was declared. On hearing of the peace, about half the men elected Sergeant-Major William Dangerfield as their leader, seized the remaining horses, and rode homeward. By their mutiny they forfeited their pensions and bounty lands. The other cavalymen, unhorsed by the mutineers, were eventually picked up by a troop transport and taken home by sea to collect their discharges."

Colonel George Baylor) on the 20th of December 1779 for the war, he was appointed a Corporal in said Regiment the 15th May 1782 – That said May, had just been Discharge from a Tour he had served in the Virginia Infantry, when he enlisted in the above named Regiment.

9th July 1820

S/ Churchill Jones

County of Henrico to wit

This day personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the said County Thomas May and made oath that he is that is the same Thomas May mentioned in the Certificate hereto annexed signed by Captain Churchill Jones; and that he enlisted in the 7th Regiment of Virginia Infantry in the Continental line and served under the command of Captain Gregory Smith and afterwards under the command of Captain Thomas Hill in the same Company and Regiment from which he was honorably discharged before that he enlisted in the 3rd Regiment of Light Dragoons as specified in the said Certificate and that he has not received a warrant for the land due him for his services in the Infantry as aforesaid.

Given under his hand this 5th day of August 1820

S/ Geo. Wm Jones, JP

It appears that a warrant of 400 acres issued to Thomas May of the 23 December 1784 upon a certificate of the Executive dated 28th August 1784 for the said Thomas May's services as a Corporal of the Virginia Continental line who enlisted for the war, and it does not appear that any other warrant issued for the services of the said Thomas Made.

Land Office 8th August 1820

S/ Tho. Miller, clerk

County of Henrico to wit

This day personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the said County Thomas May (an invalid) and Molly May his sister and the said Molly made oath that the said Thomas May was a Soldier in the Revolutionary war the greatest part thereof.

Given under my hand this 26 day of July 1820

S/ Geo. Wm Jones