

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Shockley S3905

f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/12/12

[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.]

State of Tennessee White County: SS

On this 13th day of July A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting Thomas Shockley a resident of said County and State aged seventy-seven years past 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 7th 1832. –

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated – He volunteered for three months in Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia in the year 1773 under Captain William Witcher his Lieutenant's name was John Moulton. From Pittsylvania old Court house declarant and the Company to which he belonged together with another company marched to the Long Islands of Holston [River] where we met with other troops making in all 600 or perhaps upwards. Here Colonel Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and Colonel Christie [William Christian] were with the troops. This expedition was against the Cherokee Indians. Here this declarant was stationed and served out his three months, when he received a discharge and returned home. In the following year 1774 as well as he recollects he again volunteered for three months to go against the Shawnees under Captain John Donaldson. His Lieutenant's name he cannot recollect. He marched to Colonel Englishes [perhaps Col. William Inglis'] on New River about 10 or 12 miles from Captain John Lucases [John Lucas'] Fort. From Colonel Englishes after two or three days stay they were marched to Fort Lucas where he was stationed and served out his three months. He does not know who had the principal command of the troops unless it was Colonel English. He states that he was in no engagement during either of his terms of service. He has no documentary evidence nor does he know of any person by whom he can but one of his tours of duty that he can procure.

Answers to the questions prescribed by the War Department and propounded by the Court. –

1. He was born in Pittsylvania County in the State of Virginia in the month of September A.D. 1755.
2. He has a record of his age but left it at home.
3. He was living in Pittsylvania County Virginia each time when called into service. He has lived in Grainger and White Counties Tennessee, he has lived in White County seventeen years. He now resides in White County.
4. He volunteered each time when called into service.
5. He has stated all the officers with the troops where he served that he remembers – together with the general circumstances of his service.
6. He received discharges at the expiration of each of his tours but they have long since been lost.

7. He states the names of the following persons in his neighborhood to whom he is known and who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution – viz. Turner Lane Esquire, Joseph Cummings – William Denny – David Hasting Esquire – He cannot procure a Minister of the gospel.

S/ Thomas Stockley, X his mark

State of Tennessee White County: This day appeared in open Court Isaiah Shockley and made oath that Thomas Shockley served a tour of duty under Captain William Witcher, but for how long a period he cannot state. He well remembers that said Thomas Shockley on his return from said tour stopped at his father's in Grayson County Virginia where he rested a few days. He has been long acquainted with said Thomas Shockley and believes him entitled to credit on his oath.

Sworn to and open court 13th of July 1833

S/ Isaiah Shockley, X his mark

[John Medley and David Haston gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee White County: SS

On this 18 day of April 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter sessions for said County now sitting Thomas Shockley a resident of said County aged seventy-nine 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 passed June 7th 1832.

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

1st – To the best of his recollection he entered the service in the year 1776 – as to the date, he may not be precisely accurate; but remembers it was while Colonel Christie, or Christian, was at the "long islands" of Holston. He volunteered as a private soldier under Captain William Witcher in Pittsylvania County Virginia. His engagement was for three months. He states that Captain of Witcher's Company was ordered to the Fort at the "Long islands," where he served out his time, without being in any engagement or battle. He received a discharge from Captain Witcher – and returned home, where he remained he thinks about one year, it may be more or less, and volunteered again,

2nd for three months under Captain John Donaldson who was ordered to a Fort on New River at a place called "Lucas' Fort", both of these calls for troops were intended for Indian warfare – the County being then much exposed to their depredations. He served out his 3 months at the Fort on new River at "Lucas' Fort" without being in any battle – nor does he remember that anything remarkable occurred, more than what was usual under such circumstances. He received a discharge from his Captain John Donnelson. His entire services only amount to six months, for which he asks a pension – He knows of no living witnesses by whom he can prove his services; he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll or agency of any State.

Answers to the interrogatories prescribed by the War Department and propounded by the Court.

1st he was born in Pittsylvania County Virginia in September 1755

2. He has no record of his age in his possession: but has a record in Maury County Tennessee.

3. When called into service he lived in Pittsylvania County Virginia from there he removed to Grainger County East Tennessee, and from there to White County West Tennessee where he now

resides.

4 – When called into service he volunteered on both occasions.

5. In his first Campaign he knew colonels Shelby and Christie or Christian, and Colonel English in his second Campaign – He cannot say that he knew any other officers except [line partially missing at the top of the page]. He cannot be more specific as to his service.

6. He received regular discharges from each of his captains, but they have both been long since lost.

7 He refers to the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood & who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution – that is – Joseph Cummings, Esquire – David Haston Esquire – William Denny Esquire – Rhodum Doyle, and the Reverend Mr. Morse.

S/Thomas Shockley, X his mark

[Arnold Morse, a clergyman, and Rhodum Doyle gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]