

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas Hood S4379

fn20NC[VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 5/16/11

[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.]

State of Tennessee, White County

On this 21st day of August 1832 personally appeared before me Nathaniel W. Williams, Judge of the Circuit Court of Law and Equity for said State now sitting in the said County of White, Thomas Hood, a resident of White County and State of Tennessee aged about 74 years, who first being 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 the 7th 1832: That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. He thinks it was in the month of August 1777, but as to the date, it is impossible for him to recollect with accuracy, as he is wholly illiterate, he entered the service as a volunteer under Captain Downy; he engaged for three months; this was in Bedford County Virginia. Captain Downy with his company to which this declarant was attached, marched to Williamsburg, Va. where he remained stationed for the term of his engagement. The Company of Captain Downy was attached to Col. Martin's regiment on the expiration of the term of service he received a discharge from Captain Downy which has been lost, in the manner which will be hereafter particularly described.

He then removed with his mother into Burke County North Carolina where he remained some little time and came out upon Holston River to a frontier, which is now in East Tennessee. He then joined the company of Captain Isaac Wilson as a substitute for Moses Johnson. The object of this engagement was to protect the frontier against the Cherokee Indians. Evan Shelby and Charles Robertson he believes both held the rank of Colonel at this time, but to which Regiment he was attached he does not know, but is certain that one of these individuals had the command of the Regiment to which he belonged. John Sevier, who was afterwards a Senator in Congress and Governor of Tennessee at that time held the rank of Captain; had the command of a Company in the

same Regiment to which this declarant belonged. The term of service of which he now speaks was for three months. The place where he entered the service is called the "Long Islands of Holston." From this place, they descended the River to the Chickamauga Towns, supposed to three hundred miles by water. He was not on this occasion in any battle. The Indians, on their approach, evacuated their Towns and retreated. He received a discharge from his Captain Isaac Wilson which has in like manner been lost. After this he returned to Burke County North Carolina. He then went out as substitute for Adam Hall, who had been drafted in the said County of Burke and belonged to the Company of Captain James Morrison, who belonged to Col. Fifer's [sic, Phifer] Regiment. They marched from Burke County to Mecklenburg, North Carolina, at which place they joined General Greene [Nathanael Greene]. This tour was also for three months. He was not in any battle. The troops were stationed there in expectation of an attack from the British. They, however, did not come during the time he stayed. On the expiration of his three months, he received a discharge from Captain James Morrison, which discharge is also lost.

The next tour, he volunteered in the said County of Burke, under Captain John Smith, who commanded a Company of Cavalry and was attached to Col. Holmes' Regiment of minute men and was in the battle of Ramsour's Mill. He believes he was not out at this time more than three weeks. This was an expedition against the Tories. The Tories were routed, many of them killed and the troops returned back to Burke County.

The last service in which this Declarant was engaged was under the following circumstances: A company of volunteers was raised by Captain John Cleveland partly from the County of Burke, and partly from the County of Wilkes, and attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benjamin Cleveland, the father of the Captain. They went against British, where they were commanded by Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] at "King's Mountain." This declarant was in the memorable battle of King's Mountain, and was well acquainted with Col. Campbell [William Campbell] and Col. Shelby [Isaac Shelby]. He believes he was not out in the service on this occasion more than one month, but of this he is not certain. Thus his services to his Country terminated with the exception of a few short excursions against the Tories for which he claims nothing from his Country. He received a discharge from his Captain John Cleveland which shared the fate of his other discharges. (He has no documentary evidence by which he can establish the foregoing facts — nor does he know of any living witness by whom the same can be proved.

1st: He believes he was born on the 24th day of March 1758. He was born in Prince William County, Virginia.

2nd: He had a family Bible containing a record of his age. This bible was burn, when his house was destroyed by fire in the County of Burke in North Carolina, about forty years ago.

3rd [& 4th]: The manner in which he was called into Service has already been stated; also his places of abode at the different period. From Burke County N. C. he removed into South Carolina, Pendleton District; where he remained about twenty five years. He then removed to what is now the County of White in the State of Tennessee, where he now lives and has not lived two miles from where he now lives, since he has been in the County.

5th: As to his acquaintance with regular officers, and the "General circumstances" of his service, they are as fully set forth in the foregoing declaration, as his memory will enable him to do.

6th: As to his discharges, and from whom received, on the different occasions above referred to, he has fully and explicitly stated. Those discharges were consumed when his house was burnt in Burke County, N.C. as already stated.

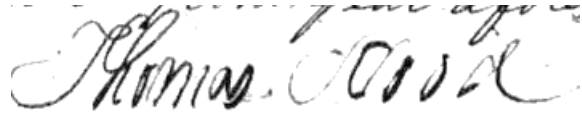
7th: He refers to the following person's in his neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, viz: Turner Lane, Esq., John Bryan, Esq., Major William M. Bryan, and the Revd John Green.

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Hood

S/ Anthony Dibrell, Clerk

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thomas Hood". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes characteristic of the early 19th century.

[John Green, a clergyman, and Turner Lane gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee White County: March 25, 1833

Personally appeared before me the undersigned an acting Justice of the Peace for said County Thomas Hood who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise period of the war, or periods, when his services were rendered, but he well now proceed to throw as much light upon that point as he possibly can, considering the disadvantages already mentioned.

It will appear from his Declaration heretofore sent on to the War Department, and which was presented in the Circuit Court of White County on the 21st day of August, 1832, said Declaration having been sent back for correction, and being now present – that, he entered the service, (as he thinks) in the month of August 1777. This was a three months tour under Captain Downy – He believes his second Campaign, spoken of in said Declaration, under Captain Isaac Wilson, commenced about seven months after the other ended. This could bring it to the month of June 1778 – at which time, to the best of his recollection, and according to the best estimate he can form, his second Campaign commenced – this second Campaign was for three months – The third tour, or Campaign was for three months under Captain Morrison – but how long this was after the expiration of his second Campaign he cannot say – nor can he, after such a lapse of time, and feeling the effects of age and infirmity, speak more definitely, than he has already done in his Declaration, as to the Campaigns there mentioned. He can recollect that he performed the services, and by whom he was commanded – but as to dates, he cannot be explicit, and although he is in great need of assistance from Government – being in extreme poverty, he would prefer living in that Condition, the little remnant of his life, to speaking positively as to that which he cannot remember.

S/ Thomas Hood, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.31 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 9 months and 21 days service as a private in the Virginia and North Carolina militia.]