

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Thomas¹ S46515

f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

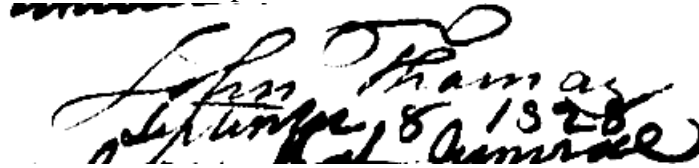
11/30/11

[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.]

I, John Thomas of the County of Buckingham, in the State of Virginia: do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental line of the Army of the revolution, and served as such (until after the surrender of Lord Corn Wallis [Cornwallis] in October 1781, my memory does not now serve me whether the War was completely ended. I was discharged honorably in the town of Winchester my Country requiring no further service of me. Although I was an officer enlisted during the War) to the time when the arrangement of the Army provided by the resolve of Congress of the 3rd & 21st of October 1780, was carried into effect – and was reduced under that arrangement at which period I was a Captain in the first Virginia Regiment of the Continental line. I also declare that afterwards I never received a Certificate Commonly called a Commutation Certificate for a sum equal to the amount of five years full pay, which some was offered by the resolve of Congress of the 22nd of March 1783, instead of half pay for life to which I was entitled under the resolve of the 21st of October 1780 – and I do further declare, that I have not, neither before nor since the third March 1826 received any money as a pensioner of the United States –

S/ John Thomas

September 8, 1828



I the said John Thomas do further declare that General James Wood commanded the Regiment when I was discharged, and that my Commission was forwarded on to the War Department of the United States, under the expectation of getting some pay & land bounty which I never did get, & that my Commission was lost when the War office was burnt

S/ John Thomas

before us Charles Yancey & John T Bocock, justices of the peace for the County of Buckingham State of Virginia: personally appeared before us this day Abraham Jones & Harding Woodroof of the said County, who did, severally, make oath, that John Thomas, by whom the foregoing declaration was subscribed, is generally reputed and believed to have been an officer in the Army of the revolution in manner as therein stated. Witness our hands this eighth day of September in the year of our Lord Christ 1828.

S/ Chs. Yancey, JP

¹ BLWt1769-300

S/ J. T. Boccock, JP

[f p 23]

I John Thomas of the County of Buckingham in the State of Virginia, do hereby declare that I was a Captain in Colonel Francis Taylor's Regiment in the Army of the Revolution in the Virginia Continental line for and during the war and continued in its service until its termination: and I also declare that I was not on the 15th of May 1827 on the pension list of the United States: I also further declare that I received no compensation for five years extirpate to which I was entitled under the resolve of Congress passed 15th day of May 1778. Witness my hand this 16th of February 1829

S/ John Thomas

Auditors Office 20 February 1829

I certify it appears from a Register in this office, of such Officers and Soldiers of the Revolutionary Army on Continental establishment as received Certificates for the balance of their full pay under the act of 1781 – that a certificate issued on the 30 April 1785 to Captain John Thomas for £77.17.4 and that the said Certificate was delivered to M. Bryan.

S/ Jas. E. Heath
Aud. Pub. Accounts

[f p 16]

State of Virginia County of Buckingham

I, John Thomas age 74 years, do, upon oath, testify and declare, that in the year 1776 I enlisted for the term of two years, and served in the Regiment No. Six under the command of Colonel Daniel Morgan of the Continental line; and was afterwards appointed a Captain in Colonel F. Taylor's [Francis Taylor] Regiment during the war that I continued in the service aforesaid until the close of the war, when I was regularly discharged from the said Regiment, commanded by Colonel F. Taylor aforesaid

I further declare that I have never received a warrant for the *Bounty Land* promised to me on the part of the United States; nor have I assigned or transferred my claim in any manner whatsoever; therefore,

Know all men by these presents, that I, John Thomas aforesaid do hereby constitute and appoint my friend Colonel John Nicholas to be my true and lawful attorney, for me and in my name to demand and receive from the Secretary of War of the United States a warrant for the quantity of Land due to me as aforesaid; and my said attorney is hereby fully authorized and empowered to constitute and appoint one or more substitutes or attorneys under him, for the special purposes above expressed.

Attest

S/ George Christian

[attested October 20, 1830]

S/ John Thomas

[f p. 14: in a power of attorney dated January 29, 1855 executed by Schuyler W Thomas, 54, he states that he is the son of Captain John Thomas a revolutionary war soldier who died September 13, 1849; that the mother of the affiant was named Susan and she died February 27, 1842; that they were married February 1, 1821 [sic] in Buckingham County Virginia

S. L. Williams.]

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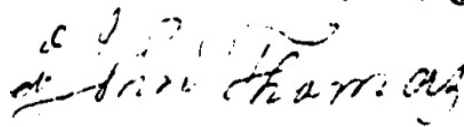
Addendum to John Thomas S46515

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 18 March 2022.

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

I do hereby certify and declare that I receiv'd a Commission bearing date the 29th January 1779 as a Captain in the Regiment of Guards at Albemarle Barracks then under the Command of Col. Francis Taylor during the war and was in Continental line and was honorabl Discharged at Winchester after the defeat of Cornwallias

John Thomas



I John Ayres a Justice of the peace for the Cty of Buckingham do hereby certify that Abraham Jones [S46452] of s'd County being duly sworn declared the above Statement by Capt J Thomas was a fact to his certain knowledge this 15th December 1828

I John Thomas aged seventy four years, do upon oath testify & declare that in the year 1776 I inlisted & served in the sixth Virginia Continental Regiment, commanded by Col Daniel Morgan as an Orderly Sergeant, was at the taking of Burgoyne at Saratoga [17 Oct 1777], & afterwards, viz in 1779 was appointed a Captain in Col. Francis Taylors Reg't of Guards in which I served till regularly discharged after the capture of Cornwallis & the end of the actual war. Octo. 15th 1830.



I John Stephens aged seventy five years, do upon oath declare that I have been long acquainted with the above named John Thomas who has subscribed the above Declaration in my presence, & well know that he is the identical person he therein represents himself to be; & further I know he did perform the first services as Orderly Serg't in said Morgan's Reg't as therein stated. [signed] John Stevens

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#) in the file indexed as Taliaferro, Richard.]

I John Nicholas [S46397] late a Leut Col in the army of the war of the Revolution do hereby certify that in the last three years I prosecuted as an agent of Capt. John Thomas of the County of Buckingham Virginia, his the said Thomas' claims for services as a Capt in the same war. I am enabled by the memorial of the said Thomas, now before me which was preparad and presented by me to the Congress of the U States, to state what were the proofs of the services of the said Thomas, which are as follows towit. He enlisted as a private soldier at an early period of the war, into some one of the Virginia Regts on Continental establishmt and was thereafter promoted to the grade of a Sergt, that he was present at and took part with his company in the memorable engagements with the enemy at Trenton [26 Dec 1776], Princeton [3 Jan 1777], Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] & Saratoga [Battles of Freeman's Farm [19 Sep 1777 and Bemis Heights 7 Oct 1777]

That when the Regt of Barrack Guards we authorised, raised and put under the command of Col Francis Taylor, and stationed at the Barracks in Albemarle Virginia for the purpose of guarding the prisoners taken at Saratoga, the said John Thomas was appointed a Capt therein, and continued with the said corps until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis, after which he was disbanded as a supernumerary officer

under some regulation of 1780 – and that for the services aforesaid the Executive of Virginia in the year 1830 or 1831 granted to the said Thomas a land warrant for 4000 acres land, and thereafter the Secretary of the Treasury placed the said John Thomas on the list of Pensioners of the U States as Capt under the act of 1828, which pension he is now in the semi annual receipt of and at the last session of the Congress of the U States a law was enacted granting to the said John Thomas as Capt. five years full pay [undeciphered] commonly called commutation pay, which commutation I have actually re[ceive]d and paid over to the owner. I do further certify that after the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury, placing the said Thomas on the pension list the Secretary of War granted to the said Thomas a warrant for 300 acres of land as a bounty from the Genl. government, which has also been re'd & sold by the said Thomas

and I further certify that after the decisions aforesaid in favor of the claims of the said John Thomas the secretay of the Treasury placed on the Pension list of the U States under the same act of 1828 the names of Hardin Woodroof [Harden Woodroof W3485] & Abraham Jones, the first a Sergt the last a private soldier, both of whom had served with the said John Thomas in the Regt of Barrack guard, and that the Secretary of War also granted to each of them one hundred acres as a land bounty from the ge'l government. In the cases of Woodroof and Jones as aforesaid I know (because I prosecuted them also) that no other service, but a service in the Regt of Barrack guard was pretended and for a service with that corps alone was the bounty land and pensions granted to them. I have understood that Major John Roberts [W2347] of the same corps or his heirs have succeeded in his claims before the genl government or state Goverelment[?], for [undeciphered] exclusively in this corps, but of this I cannot speak positively. But this I do know that if there be any thing binding on precedent, the decession of the congress of the U States giving John Thomas commutation pay, of the Secretary of the Treasury pacing John Thomas, Hardin Woodroof & Jones on the Pension list under the act of 1828 and of the Secretary of War in granting to all of them bounty land, it is conclusively settled that the Regt of Barrack Guard raised by Resolution of the House of delegates of Va. of the 24 Dec 1778 ratifyed by the congress of the U States by their Resolution of the 9 July 1779, that the said corps was upon continental establishment & by the force of the said decessions are determined to have served during the war or to have been supernumerary (the officers0 the soldiers released from further services).

It must be so when it is recollect that the ge'l Governmt promised land to none but those who served during the war or became supernumery, promised half pay to none but the same class (the commutation being in lieu thereof) and the act of 1828 promises a pension to none others, and so all these things have been accorded to three if not four of the particular corps, that is the corps aforesaid must give a [undeciphered word] precedent to all other cases of the Regt of Barrack Guard Regt. Given under my hand this 23^d day of December 1833.

John Nicholas late
Officer Revolution

