

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Tankard S48512

f145VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/6/11

[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.]

[f p 9, copy]

The Declaration of John Tankard made for the honorable Executive of Virginia, and written by John Tankard Junior for the said Tankard and at his request, he being unable to write by reason of age and infirmity –

The said Tankard declares that he was a Surgeon, and acted as such in the Virginia State line during the war of the Revolution, under Doctor Mathew Pope, who was the Director general of the Virginia State Hospitals, that as Surgeon the said Tankard rendered services in different parts of the State as emergency required. That at an early period of the war, he rendered services at Richmond, that during the retreat of the Marquis Lafayette to Orange (or the Mountains) the said Tankard acted as Surgeon to the Troops under his command, and continued with the Marquis till he marched to WmsBurg [Williamsburg], on his way to the siege of York – At and during the siege of York the said Tankard saith that he had command of a Hospital established at the Vinyard [Vineyard] (just below Williamsburg) to which place the sick and wounded belonging to General Stephens' Brigade were sent for treatment.

The said Tankard states, that after the return of Lafayette he Tankard was Surgeon to the said Stephens' Brigade, (the General Stevens here mentioned is not the General Stevens who quarreled with General Washington). Sometime after the siege of York and after the cessation of hostilities, and after the troops were discharged, when there was no longer any occasion for Hospitals, the said Tankard says he was discharged from service for that reason, and was never again required to enter service. When he entered service, he intended to continue in service to the end of the War, and would have done so, but for the reason above mentioned.

Given under my hand this the 12th day of August 1834

Witness

Jno Tankard

J. Addison

It may probably be inferred from the foregoing statement, that Doctor Tankard served at least 3 consecutive years during the War – As that fact however ought to appear distinctly, if it be a fact, I wish Doctor Tankard to append thereto, an answer to this interrogatory – Did you or did you not during the war of the Revolution served 3 consecutive years in the capacity above stated by you. Set the whole statement, with dance to the above, to be sworn to. Richmond September 28th

S/ A. P. Upshaw

In answer to the above interrogatory, the said John Tankard says that, he cannot remember with positive certainty how many consecutive years he rendered service in the Army, nor does he recollect the date of his entry into the service, that he has a distinct recollection, that it was prior to the arrival of the French fleet under Admiral d'Estaing in July 1778, & that he

served regularly whenever required to do so until the Troops were discharged after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Little York.

He further remembers distinctly that he was in service at the time of the burning of Suffolk in Virginia, which is believed to have been prior to the arrival of Count d'Estaing's fleet.

S/ John Tankard

[Note: The original of this declaration is posted on the website of the Virginia State Library at http://lva1.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/F/LRE21GGCC7UI2DI623MMHVQ6BYX2YA1NU2HQA K3FXHRAAR8QIX-30928?func=full-set-set&set_number=001158&set_entry=000001&format=999

and contains the signature of Dr. Tankard as follows:



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[f p3]

At a Court held for Northampton County the 15th day of April 1851

It is ordered to be certified to all whom it may concern, that Doctor John Tankard was a Surgeon in the Virginia State Line in the war of the revolution, was for about forty-eight years before his death a resident of this County and was for many years a practicing physician and surgeon in said County; and that the said Doctor John Tankard died in this County on the 24th day of April in the year 1836, having first made and published his last will and testament which is now recorded in the clerk's Office of this Court: That he left a widow at his death named Sarah who is since dead, and that there is now no widow of the said Doctor John Tankard surviving: That the following named persons are the children, and grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of the said Doctor John Tankard deceased, and his only heirs at Law: his children now living are as follows, and four in number, to wit:

1. John W Tankard, his son and his only executor.
2. Philip Barrand Tankard, his son.
3. Mary Hursley, his daughter.
4. Sarah Garrison his daughter, and wife of James R Garrison.

The Grand Children of Doctor John Tankard now living are as follows and nine in number, to wit:

1st Georgianna Fitzhugh (now wife of Philip Fitzhugh only child of George L. C. Tankard deceased, who was a son of Doctor John Tankard deceased).

2nd. Joshua Wyatt – 3rd Margaret Robins, widow – 4th John Wyatt – 5th William Wyatt – 6th Maria Mathews, wife of Louis N. Mathews – 7th Sarah Wyatt – 8th George Wyatt, children of Margaret Wyatt deceased who wa a daughter of Doctor John Tankard deceased.

9th. Ann Ashby, only child and daughter of Hannah Lewer deceased, who was a daughter of Doctor John Tankard deceased.

The Great grandchildren of Doctor John Tankard deceased who are heirs are as follows, and are 3 in number, to wit:

1st James Wyatt – 2nd Margaret Wyatt, & 3rd William Wyatt, who are the only children of James Wyatt deceased, who was the son of Margaret Wyatt deceased, who was the daughter of Doctor John Tankard.

[The above order was attested by Lewis P Rogers, clerk of the North Hampton County Virginia

on April 15, 1851.]

[f p 15: Hannah Robertson, 70, gave testimony in Hanover County Virginia on June 30, 1834, that she knew Doctor John Tankard of North Hampton County all her life; that at an early time of the war of the revolution Doctor Tankard and Doctor Matthew Pope were both surgeons in the service of the State and boarded at my father's and rendered service in the hospital at Williamsburg. She also states that Doctor John Galt was a surgeon at the same time.]

[f pp 28-33: last will and testament of John Tankard filed in North Hampton County Virginia

[Veteran's heirs were pensioned at the rate of \$600 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending April 24, 1836 when the veteran died.]

Posted on the Virginia State Library site at

http://lva1.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/F/PA86GLTKX5JXG1SEJKTXE3N54VJLP4IKK6IHE3F3VMHUED4T67-45334?func=full-set-set&set_number=001244&set_entry=000001&format=999

is the following affidavit given by Dr. Tankard in support of the claim filed for the services of Dr. John M. Galt. A copy of this affidavit appears in Tankard's file at p. 35

I John Tankard of the County of Northampton aged 70 years do hereby certify that I was a student of Medicine for several years under Doctor John M Galt deceased late of Williamsburg and consequently was well acquainted with him. I do further certify that at a very early period of the revolutionary war the said Galt was a Surgeon in the service of the State of Virginia, that is to say as early as the State required the services of Surgeons; I was his assistant in some of his surgical operations, and I recollect distinctly that at and during the siege of York the said Galt and myself assisted Doctor Matthew Pope who was director General of the Virginia Hospitals in surgical operations. I further certify that during the same War I was the Deputy of Doctor Poe and as such I supplied Doctor Galt with provisions from the public Stores. I further certify that there was no interval in the medical services of the said John M Galt who was stationed at the Hospitals near Williamsburg and I have no reason to doubt that the said Galt did continue in service until the end of the War. I never heard of his quitting the service. Given under my hand this 19th day of March 1831

S/ Jno Tankard