

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Thomas S6233

Transcribed by Will Graves

f16NC

rev'd 2/16/17

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Wilson County: SS

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the justices of the Court of pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County of Wilson, now sitting, James Thomas Senior a resident of the County of Wilson & State of Tennessee, aged Seventy-six 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 7, 1832.

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

He volunteered his services in the cause of liberty, as well as he can now recollect in the Spring of the year 1780, for three months in the Company Commanded by Captain Francis Cunningham in the Regiment of North Carolina State troops commanded by Colonel Hugh Brevard; at the time he volunteered his services he resided in Rowan County North Carolina he was mustered into the service at Shirrell's Ford [Sherrill's Ford] on the Catawba River – marched down to a little town called Charlotte in Mecklenburg County North Carolina and joined the troops under the command of General Griffith Rutherford commanding officer of the North Carolina Troops – was with the troops under General Rutherford on our way to Camden when we heard that the Tories had embodied themselves at Ramsour's Mills, about 900 in number, General Rutherford turned his course for that point to unite with Colonel Brevard in suppressing them – before we reached the Mills Brevard had attacked them & put them to flight and when we arrived at the Battle ground the victors were burying the dead. General Rutherford left the Company to which he belonged as Rangers for that section of Country to suppress the Tories – we remained about eight miles above Sherrill's Ford on the Catawba at an encampment perhaps as long as six weeks or two months, when his term of service expired and he returned home.

He did not remain at home along before he volunteered his services again in the same Company Commanded by Captain Cunningham for nine months, the Project for which we were called out was to keep down the Tories who were very troublesome in that part of North Carolina – we ranged through the Counties of Burke (now Lincoln), Rowan & Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina – was not in any battle during the tour of nine months service at the termination of the time for which he had volunteered to serve he was regularly discharged in writing by his Captain. He knew whilst he was in the service of his Country, General Smallwood [William Smallwood] of the Regular Army, General Butler [John Butler] & General Morgan [Daniel Morgan] – he saw Colonel Washington [William Washington] & General Greene [Nathanael Greene] several times during the Revolutionary War.

After the services above set forth, he returned home to Rowan County North Carolina, where he continued to reside until he moved to this State & has been now a resident of Wilson County about 30 years – he brought his discharges with him to this County and had them in his

possession about three years since – but never expecting them to be of any use or value did not take that particular care of them which otherwise he would have done – but since the passage of the act of Congress of 7th June 1832 he has made search for his discharges but could not find them.

He has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person by whom he can prove his services.

He is well acquainted with Colonel George Smith, Joseph Johnson Esq., Colonel James Michie, & Reverend Joshua Lester Citizens of this County, some of whom he expects he can get to testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his Services as a soldier of the Revolution.

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 & year aforesaid.

S/ James Thomas, X his mark

[Joshua Lester, a clergyman, and George Smith gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: Veteran died October 19, 1834 according to information contained in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 12 months in the North Carolina militia.]