

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of George Tennill [sic, Tennille]<sup>1</sup> S7703

f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/19/11

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Prince William County

On this 1st day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Court of Prince William County, now sitting, George Tennell [sic], a resident of said County, aged seventy-four 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 of the seventh of June, 1832.

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

In the fall of 1777, he thinks in the month of September, about the time the British entered the Chesapeake, and landed at the Head of Elk, there was a great call for troops to strengthen the American Army in New Jersey. Upon this occasion, he turned out a volunteer, and joined the Company of Captain John Brett of Prince William County, in which Company, he was appointed Sergeant, and joining the Regiment of Colonel Jesse Ewell, also of said County, proceeded on to the North, and got within several days march of our Army, when intelligence was received by us of the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777]. We proceeded on to Pennsylvania in the neighborhood of Philadelphia, which place the British Army had entered, and taken possession of. We remained in that part of the country until sometime in December when his term of service, being three months, was fully completed and ended. Sometime in the month of February 1778, he enlisted at Valley Forge, in the company commanded by Captain Payton, he thinks of the 3rd Virginia Regiment, Colonel Heath [William Heth], to serve for the term of twelve months, being appointed Sergeant, and remained in and about that place until the British left Philadelphia, and then moved on with the troops in pursuit of them to Monmouth [June 28, 1778], where the Battle was fought in which engagement he was, and of which it was supposed might have been terminated very differently had General Lee [Charles Lee], who commanded a division of the Army, not disregarded the wishes of General Washington, for which he was severely rebuked by the Commander in Chief. Our Army moving on in the pursuit, went to White Plains where we remained for some time. From thence General Woodford's Brigade to which he was then attached, was ordered to West Point to reinforce General Putnam. We remained at West Point until the Fall of the year, when we were ordered down to the Lines of the British and encamped at New Ark [Newark New Jersey] where we remained until we went into winter quarters. At this time General Woodford had left us, and General Morgan took the command.

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<sup>1</sup> It appears to me from the veteran's signatures in the various signed documents in this file that he spelled his last name Tennille. See the signatures reproduced herein.


In the month of February or in March following, he received a discharge, the twelve months for which he had enlisted having expired, and when he returned home.

The names of the Officers whom he knew were Generals Washington, Wayne, Lee, Morgan, but none, the Marquis de Lafayette, Colonel Heath and many others.

He has no documentary evidence to establish the facts of his said service (having not preserved his discharge) unless his name is found upon the rolls of the Army, nor does he know of any person now living, who could testify of his own knowledge the fact of his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or except the present, and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State.

S/ George Tennille

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George Tennille". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

The following Interrogatories prescribed by the War Department were propounded to the Declarant.

1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer – In Fauquier County Virginia in 1758.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer – I have no record of my age.

3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer – in Prince William County Virginia where I have lived ever since.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer – In the first instance, when I joined the company of Captain Powell, I was a volunteer – and it was a voluntary enlistment when I joined the Company of Captain Payton at Valley Forge.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer – I have already named many – this Generals Washington, Marquis de Lafayette, Generals Lee, Putnam, Morgan, Wayne – Colonel Heath etc.

6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer – My discharges were not preserved by me.

7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

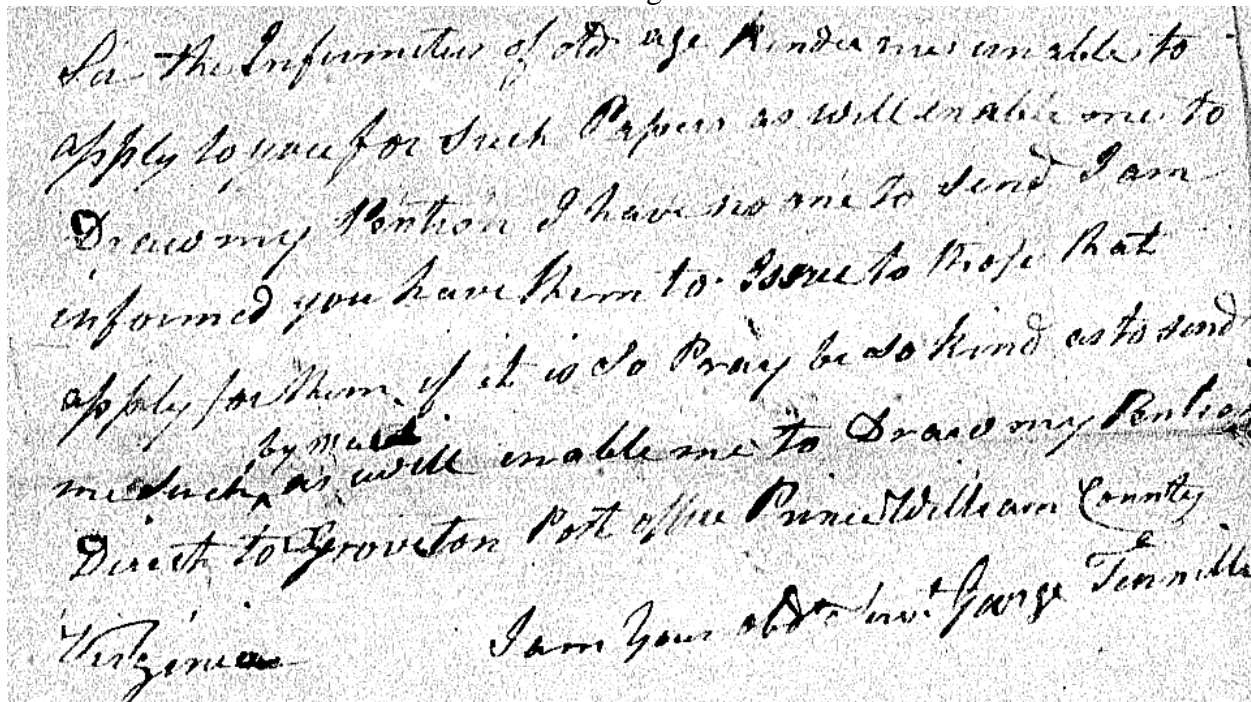
Answer – I am known to the Reverend Theron W. Newman, Landon Carter and Henry Dogan, who testified to this fact is a Declaration made before Robert Hamilton Esquire in the Country – I am also known by the said Robert Hamilton Esquire to whom I am a near neighbor, and to no one better than Mister Edmund Brooks by whom I have been known for a great number of years. [Robert Hamilton, William H Tibbs & Jesse Ewell gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 9]

Sir the Infirmities of old age rendered me unable to apply to you for such papers as will enable

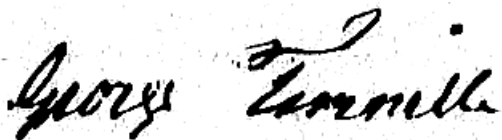
me to apply to you for such Papers as well enable me to Drawled my Pension I have no one to send I am informed that you have them to issue to those that apply for them if it is so Pray be so kind as to send me such by me all as well enable me to Drawled my Pension. Direct to Groveton Post office Prince William County Virginia  
I am Your obedient Servant

George Tennille



*Sir The Informant of <sup>his</sup> age finds me unable to  
apply to you for such Papers as will enable me to  
Draw my Pension I have no one to send I am  
informed you have them to issue to those that  
apply for them if it is so Pray be so kind as to send  
me such <sup>by mail</sup> as will enable me to Draw my Pension  
Direct to Groveton Post office Prince William County  
Virginia I am Your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup> George Tennille*

[f p 11: On May 25, 1833 in Prince William County Virginia the veteran filed an almost identically worded application to that set forth above. This application bears his signature as follows



*George Tennille*

. Theron W. Newman, a clergyman, Landon Carter & William H. Dogan gave a standard supporting affidavit for this application. It is not clear to me why there are two almost identical applications filed by this veteran in such a short period of time.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 15 months service as a private in the Virginia militia and Continental line.]