

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Thomson (Tomson, Thompson) S7718

f20NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 7/22/17

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

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State of North Carolina, Sampson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions November Term 1832

On this the 21<sup>st</sup> day of November A. D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before William McKay, Raiford Coor & John Benton Esquires Justices of the Court aforesaid James Thomson a resident of Sampson County in the State of North Carolina aged seventy-eight years, the 27<sup>th</sup> January 1833 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<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated so far as he can recollect. Under Colonel James Kenan, Captain William Dickson, Thomas Hooks Lieutenant, Michael Kenan Ensign some time before the battle of Moore's Creek bridge [February 27, 1776] and performed a three months tour of duty, though not in regular succession, that he resided in Duplin County, now Sampson, that he was a volunteer, that he was not in the battle of Moore's Creek bridge, but in hearing of it, that he marched from Duplin Court House he crossed South River at Stewart's ferry & Cape Fear [River] at Elizabeth Town up to Rockfish Creek 7 or 8 miles below Fayetteville, then Cross Creek, thence back to Elizabeth Town & across Cape Fear on for Moore's Creek bridge where he arrived the day after the battle or the same day, that he has no documentary evidence & knows of no person by whom he can prove this tour of duty.

That he was commissioned a Captain in the year 1777 by Colonel James Kenan and raised a company of volunteer light horsemen, between 30 & 40 in number, and continued upon the alert, in scouting parties as occasion required, for 18 months or two years, not in the regular service, but whenever the necessity of the case demanded it, that Elias Faison was his Lieutenant & would sometimes take command of a part of his company while this applicant would take charge of the other part, that he would estimate his service as Captain over the company aforesaid at the lowest calculation, at nine months, that he was in no battle but would sometimes take some of the Tories prisoner & chasten them, that his marches were for the most part in Duplin County, but was in Onslow & Dobbs Counties on occasions, that his service was for the purpose of keeping the Tories in subjection, that he has no documentary evidence but thinks he can prove this service by Henry Hollingsworth<sup>1</sup> & ~~Henry Brewer~~ who served under him while he commanded as Captain aforesaid.

That he entered the service again under Colonel James Kenan, Captain William Dickson, Thomas Stokes Lieutenant in February 1781 & performed two months service that he was a volunteer, that he was in no battle but a skirmish near the Big Bridge in New Hanover County,

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1 [Henry Hollingsworth S8729](#)

occurred during this time; that he was sent on an express by Colonel Samuel Smith of Johnston County to ascertain if there had been an engagement between General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] & Cornwallis & found out that there had been at Guilford Court House, that about the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1781 Cornwallis passed through Duplin & this applicant was taken prisoner by Tarleton's [Banastre Tarleton's] men but was soon liberated, that he knows of no person by whom he can prove this service.

That he served under Captain David Dodd as Lieutenant in a light horse company, he entered in August 1781 & served about six weeks, that he was in no battle but there was a battle<sup>2</sup> in the time at Baldwin's in Bladen County, but his horse was lame & he was not there.

He served as a Captain over a company of light horsemen for two months commencing in September 1781, his services were not continued but off & on as necessity required, in no battle, his marches were in Duplin & Onslow Counties.

That he served again as Captain for two months, commencing about the middle of January 1782 over a company of light horsemen, in no battle, marches were in Duplin County.

He neglected to mention that after Cornwallis & his Army passed through Duplin, Captain Dodd & this applicant raised a company & pursued his track took protections from those to whom Cornwallis or his officers had given them & marched on to Saunder's Bridge<sup>3</sup> in Jones County where there had been a battle the same day with Colonel Craig [sic, British Major James Craig] & Captain Gordon killed, being out about four weeks,

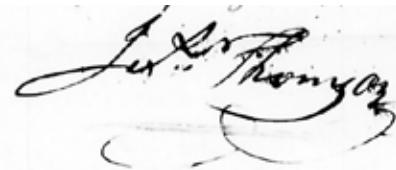
This Applicant acted as Commissary or Deputy Commissary for Continental Troops who were 18-months or during the war Men from 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 1782 to 15<sup>th</sup> of October following.

Answers to Questions

1. I Was Born in Duplin County, 27<sup>th</sup> January 1755.
2. I have a record of my age in a book called Banyan on the New Testament
3. In Duplin County & I now reside there
4. I always volunteered
5. Captain Rhodes, Captain Raiford, Lieutenant Hill, Lieutenant Ash, Captain Bush, Captain Coleman, Lieutenant Pearl & C. Ivey I knew of 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of North Carolina Line (militia Col. Kenan, Colonel Brown of Bladen, Colonel McKinney of Wayne, general circumstances stated above.
6. I never received any written discharge except from Captain Dickson which I've lost, my commission has been destroyed it was given by Col. Kenan
7. Thos. K. Moresey, Thos. Kenan, Wm Moresey, Daniel Joiner, Thos. J. Faison, William Faison &c.

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

S/ Jas. Thomson

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jas. Thomson". The signature is written in dark ink on a light background.

[William McKay and Thomas J. Faison gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of North Carolina, Sampson County

<sup>2</sup> Probably [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_brown\\_marshall.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_brown_marshall.html) in September 1781

<sup>3</sup> Probably [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_webbers\\_bridge.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_webbers_bridge.html) August 17, 1781

On this the 15<sup>th</sup> day of November A.D. 1832 personally appeared before me William McKay one of the acting Justices of the Peace for said County Henry Hollingsworth a resident of said County of Sampson in the State of North Carolina, aged about seventy years who being duly sworn maketh oath and sayeth that James Thomson, of the County aforesaid, an applicant for a pension, aged about seventy-seven or seventy-eight years, commanded a company of light horsemen as Captain in the Revolutionary War, about the year 1778 as this deponent believes, that this deponent served under said Captain Thomson between three & six months, this deponent believes about five months, that is his marches file under Captain Thomson were principally if not entirely confined to Duplin County part of which is now Sampson in pursuit of Tories,

Sworn to & subscribed the day & Year aforesaid.

S/ Wm. McKay, JP

S/ Henry Hollingsworth, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$56.66 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 17 months in the North Carolina militia.]