

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Elisha Yarborough S7984

fn18VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/14/11

[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.]

Virginia Hanover County Court;

On this 24th day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before the Court of the County aforesaid now sitting Elisha Yarborough a resident of the said County and State of Virginia aged seventy-five 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 the 7th of June 1832 – That he enlisted in the United States service for and during the war with Captain Presley Thornton a recruiting officer in the County of Caroline in the State of Virginia in the month of April 1781 but the day of the month he does not recollect & that he continued under the command of Captain Thornton till he was discharged either in July 1782 or 1783 but he thinks in the latter year. Shortly after Captain Thornton's company was organized it was stationed at a place called Holmes's in Caroline County & were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning and he recollects very well that they were called out at one time but were ordered to return before they met the enemy. That he was never in any engagement or in any service during the revolutionary war except what is above set forth. That he was born in the County of Caroline and removed to the County of Hanover 1st of December 1800. That he never received any Commission but served the whole time as a private and from the nature of his service knew no other officer than Captain Thornton. That he has never had any pension & therefore relinquishes all right to any pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He refers to Charles Talley & William Wood for his character.

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Caroline & as I am informed was seventy-five the 14th of February last.

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

Answer. I have no record –

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

Answer. Answered satisfactorily –

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

Answer. I enlisted with Captain Thornton

5th 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. Answered satisfactorily

6th Did you ever receive a commission and if so, by whom was it signed and what has become of

it?

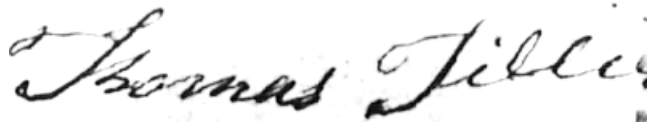
Answer. I never received a Commission

7th 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. The Reverend Charles Talley the Reverend William Wood and Thomas Tiller
S/Elisha Yarborough, X his mark

[Charles Talley and William Wood gave the standard supporting affidavit and both represented themselves as being ministers of the gospel.]

I Thomas Tiller of Hanover County do hereby certify that I have been acquainted with Elisha Yarborough who has subscribed & sworn to the foregoing Declaration for the greater part of my life & that I am now about 64 years of age. That I recollect distinctly that said Elisha Yarborough enlisted as a private in the United States service under the command of Captain Presley Thornton then recruiting in Caroline County in the State of Virginia in the Spring of the year before the siege of York where Lord Cornwallis surrendered & that he remained under the command of Captain Thornton till he was discharged. I do not recollect how long Mr. Yarborough was in service but I think it was over a year.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Tiller". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace for the City of Richmond Elijah Yarborough who being duly sworn deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below as a private during the War of the Revolution and [indecipherable word] in the following manner. That in April 1781 two companies of the militia of Caroline County the one commanded by Captain Anthony New and the other by Captain Jamison [perhaps, David Jameson] whose first name is not recollected met at a place called the White Chimneys in said County Captain Presley Thornton who was a recruiting officer in the regular service either in the Continental or State service he does not recollect which, was there and this affiant enlisted under him and with his consent on the same day agreed to march with the aforesaid militia Companies as a substitute for one Matthew Petros Captain Thornton giving him orders to return to him as soon as he had performed his tour of militia service. The next day this affiant marched for Richmond under the command of Captain Anthony New and when he arrived there his company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Mathews called the fifth as well as he recollects. From Richmond he went to the City of Williamsburg and was quartered in the old magazine in that place for some days: he was then marched up James River to Richmond and when he got there the enemy were on the opposite side of the River burning the Tobacco in the town of Manchester. He recollects distinctly that our troops fired some cannon at them his brother Joel Yarborough who died about three years ago being one of the artillery. Being taken sick at Richmond he went home on furlough his term of service in this expedition being two months the whole of which time he was in active service except the few days that he was at home on furlough as aforesaid. Immediately after the two months were out he went to Captain Thornton's rendezvous at the brick Church in Caroline County and remained there till the news of peace came to them when

he was discharged in July 1782 or 1783 as he has said in his declaration made in Hanover County Court on the 24th day of October last. After the most careful reflection on the subject as far as his memory serves he feels positive that his services in the militia and under the command of Captain Thornton as aforesaid was not less than fifteen months and for such service he claims a Pension. It is out of the power of this affiant to obtain any other witnesses as to his enlistment and services except Thomas Tiller whose affidavit is attached to his said Declaration made in Hanover County Court they being all dead or moved away –

Given from under my hand at the City of Richmond in the State of Virginia this 25th of June 1833

S/ Richard B. Haxall, JP

[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/or State troops.]