

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Porter S8974

f13VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/5/12

[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.]

State of Virginia Louisa County: SS

On this 12th day of November 1833 personally appeared in open court before the court of the County aforesaid now sitting Thomas Porter a resident of the said County aged about eighty-two 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 provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States, he thinks in the latter part of the summer before the Army encamped at Valley Forge, under his brother Lieutenant William Porter in the County of Powhattan [Powhatan] who was then a recruiting in that County and was a Corporal, marched to the North and at Georgetown on the Potomac was inoculated with the smallpox – Upon his recovery he marched on and joined the Grand Army at White Marsh – Was under Captain William Taylor in the second Virginia Regiment does not recollect the Colonel's name but was once under the command of Colonel Febiger [Christian Febiger] on some occasion – Was in several skirmishes but in no battle of importance – recollects once wading the Scuykil [Schuylkill River] to decoy an enemy party – The Army went into winter quarters at the Valley Forge and he and John Guarrant obtained furloughs for three months to return home – When they were about to rejoin the Army they were ordered to report themselves at Williamsburg, to make up a new Regiment in the company under Captain Alex Parker – marched under Colonel Richard Parker to Petersburg where they drew regimentals – thence to Cambden [Camden South Carolina], thence to Augusta in Georgia and thence to Savannah where they joined the French and was present at the Siege – When the siege was raised, he returned with his Regiment to Augusta where they prepared winter quarters, but before the quarters were completed they were ordered to Charleston – marched to that place and entered the town then under the command of General Lincoln – was present during the whole siege – One night a party sallied out to repair a readout. The enemy discovered them and fired rapidly on them. The alarm was general and the firing rapid and general. After it had subsided somewhat Colonel Parker who was very near him on the parapet raised his head just above the works and received a ball in his forehead, and expired instantly – only exclaiming ["O! Lord.["] The Army capitulated, marched out and stacked their arms, and returned to the barracks. On account of some men breaking their parole the troops were put on board a prison ships, and he remained there many months. They were then brought around by water into the Chesapeake and he was exchanged a short time before the surrender of York [October 19, 1781], he thinks at James Town [Jamestown] – his term of enlistment having expired some time he returned home and that he served at least two years as Sergeant in the infantry as above stated.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present,

and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the Agency of any State of [or] Territory.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Porter, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$120 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a Sergeant for 2 years in the Virginia Continental line.]