

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas North S9442

f38VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/22/13

[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.]

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State of Virginia Charlotte County: SS

On this 1st day of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the County Court of Charlotte in the State aforesaid now sitting Thomas North a resident of the County and State aforesaid – Aged seventy-two 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, passed the 7th of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following Officers and served as herein stated.

In the year 1776 he resided in Charlotte County, where he now resides – being then about 16 years of age – was drafted in the Virginia Militia – and as he thinks marched into the service of the United States either in July or August of that year under Captain Josiah Morton Lieutenant Jacob Morton and Ensign John Watkins, all of Charlotte County – that he marched under said officers by the way of Petersburg (Virginia) to Williamsburg: In Williamsburg he remained some [paper damaged, text illegible] under the command of General Nelson. From Williamsburg he was marched to Hampton: From Hampton he was ordered by water to Portsmouth. While in Portsmouth, Captain Morton was applied to for 3 men from his company to make up a Lieutenant's command, to be stationed at Willoughby's Point: and that he was selected for this station: he rendezvoused at Willoughby's Point and remained there some time: when the detachment at Willoughby's was broken up to return to Portsmouth and was discharged: if he received a written discharge from his Captain he has lost it. He does not know of any person by whose testimony this tour of service can be proved, except it be the affidavit of an elderly Lady, and knows of no persons by whom the length of time can be proved: but he believes to the best of his recollection, it was 3 or 4 months: although there are no evidences in his possession by which he can fix the length of time: he is strongly impressed it was not less than 3 months. Major Lieu: Jones [probably Llewellyn Jones formerly a Captain in the Continental horse] having returned from the service: proposed to raise a company of light horse volunteers – to join General Lawson's volunteers at Petersburg – this declarant with others volunteered his services for that service and marched as far as Nottoway County: at which place his horse ran away: he was some time, in pursuit of his horse and before he recovered him the command of General Lawson was discharged: he then returned home to Charlotte County: he was he thinks under Major Jones in this tour about one month. He has no recollection now, what year this was.

In the year 1781 he was drafted and entered the service of the United States under Captain Robert Jennings and Lieutenant Gideon Spencer and he believes Ensign Richard Davenport all of Charlotte County – he acted in this service as orderly Sergeant and marched as far as some old field – near James Town: at which place Captain Jennings left the service and

Lieutenant Spencer became Captain: under his command he marched to little York or York Town: he arrived there some time before the siege commenced and was there during the siege. While at York Town he was made quarter master Sergeant by Major Wood Jones: who was aged to General Lawson. He does not now recollect the numbers of any Continental or Militia regiments so distinctly as to enable him to name them with accuracy. He recollects to have seen Generals Washington, Lafayette – Lincoln & Lawson at Little York & to General Lawson's command was attached.

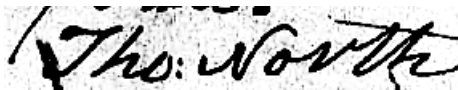
He was at the Poplar Fort on the morning the first cannon was fired by the French Troops upon the British works. He witnessed the whole siege yet was not actively engaged in any battle at that siege.

He was present at the marching out of Lord Cornwallis' Troops and the delivery up of their arms. After the surrender of Cornwallis, he was discharged and returned home – He has no written discharge, but supposes he received one from Major Wood Jones: if he received one he has lost or mislaid it. In the Siege of York Town – he was drafted for a tour: He does not recollect how long – but does not think he served for a less time than 3 months.

He has no documentary evidence by which his services can be proved but intends to procure the affidavit of Captain Richard Davenport who served with him at York Town and also the affidavit of Mrs. Mary Madison the widow of Henry Madison Senior: who was knowing of his tour of service in 1776 and here with transmit them.

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.

Tho: North



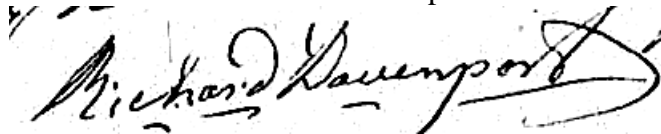
[Hugh Carlisle, a clergyman, and J. M. Jeffress gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Charlotte County: I Richard Davenport¹ of the County of Charlotte do hereby certify that Thomas North of said County served as Sergeant at the Siege of Little York under Captain Gideon Spencer that he served faithfully throughout the siege aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 28th of July 1832

S/ Richard Davenport



On this 10th day of May 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Thomas North a resident of the County and State aforesaid who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following amended declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the 7th 1832.

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a justice of the peace for the County of Charlotte and the State of Virginia, Thomas North who being duly sworn, deposeth and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the

¹ [Richard Davenport S17914](#)

precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades.

The tour in 1776 he served in the grade of a private, drafted in the Virginia Militia, for four months:

In the Tour, the date of the year not recollected, he served in the grade of a volunteer private, in a company of light horse to join General Lawson, at Petersburg.

The Tour in 1781 he served in the grade of a Sergeant for one month, and for two remaining months, of the tour in the grade of a quarter master Sergeant he served in that whole tour three months and for such services he claims a pension and that during the several tours as above specified he was not employed in any civil pursuit.

S/ Thos. North

Cornelius Barnes, JP

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer:

I was born in Dinwiddie County – State of Virginia in the year 1760.

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

Answer

I have no record of my age and never had one but no my age from my relations and my own account of it.

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

Answer:

I was living in Charlotte County (Virginia) when called into service, since that time and now I am living in the same County (Virginia) having removed about two miles from the place I lived at when first I was drafted.

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:

In this tour of 1776 I was drafted – in my next I volunteered under Major Liew Jones – in my last tour at the siege of York in 1781 I was drafted.

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:

I was under General Nelson at Williamsburg but believe he was not a regular but Militia Officer General Washington General Lafayette and General Lincoln I recollect to have seen often at York-town – I do not recollect the Continental or Militia Regiments so as to enable me to name them, serving with me – Colonel John Holcombe of the Virginia Militia was my Colonel till my arrival at York-Town, for that tour, but after arriving at York Town there was a new disposition of the troops and I think we were attached to General Lawson's command, but who then was my Colonel I do not recollect. We fared well at York Town – in a plenty of work to do.

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

Answer:

For my first tour I received a written discharge from Captain Josiah Morton at Portsmouth (Virginia) which discharge I have lost, – From the volunteer service under Major

Jones, from him I received a discharge after lost my horse and General Lawson broke up at Petersburg but have lost it. If I received a discharge at York Town I have lost it I was discharged from that service by Major Wood Jones one of the staff of General Lawson I was then acting in the grade of quarter master Sergeant

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

Colonel Joseph Wyatt, Benjamin Marshall
Cornelius Barnes S/ Tho. North

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$32.49 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private & Sergeant for 8 months in the Virginia militia.]