

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Woosley (Owsley) W10005

Jane S. Woosley f72VA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

10/15/11:rev'd 9/22/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[p 9]

State of Kentucky Christian County Sct.

Thomas Woosley a citizen of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and County aforesaid declares that in the month of March 1777 he enlisted and entered the American service as a private soldier in Captain John Hughes Company of horse or troop in the first Regiment of horse Virginia line on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel ~~William~~<sup>Anthony Walton</sup> White and that he continued in the Regiment & troop aforesaid as a private soldier against the Common Enemy until the conclusion of the Revolution. He states he fought through the whole ~~war~~ of the balance of the War. And at the end of the War he received an honourable discharge by order of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] which is now lost or mislaid & in consequence of the loss of said discharge he is not able to state the precise time at which he entered or was discharged but he believes he was discharged in September or October 1783.

That he is now old and in circumstances so indigent and is so much reduced in his circumstances as to stand in absolute need of the aid offered the soldiers of the revolution by the Government by the Act of Congress entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and Naval Service of the United States in the revolutionary War" And makes this application for a pension on account of his reduced circumstances in life that he needs the assistance of his Country for support. He releases all and every pension that may have been heretofore allowed him.

July 9th 1819

S/ Thomas Woosley, X his mark

Witness

S/ Matthew Patton

[p 11]

State of Kentucky Christian Circuit Sct.

This day the within named Thomas Woosley appeared before me Benjamin Shackelford the presiding Judge of the circuit aforesaid and subscribed and swore to the foregoing statement of facts. It was approved by Robt. Cavender that the said Woosley enlisted in the company and served in the regiment in the within statement. I am satisfied from the testimony of the said Cavender that the said Woosley is in such reduced circumstances as absolutely to require the assistance of his country for support. Given under my hand this 9<sup>th</sup> day of July 1819

B. Shackelford

[p 10]

State of Kentucky Christian Circuit Sct.

This day Thomas Woosley appeared before me B. Shackelford the presiding judge of the Circuit aforesaid and more that he served in the Regiment of Colonel Anthony Walton White of the Cavalry instead of Colonel Wm White and that Colonel Wm White was inserted in the within statement by mistake. I do certify that Robt Cavender swore to the service of Woosley in Colonel Anthony Walton White's regiment of Cavalry and that I have no doubt of the truth of the facts Sworn to by the above persons. Given under my hand this 6<sup>th</sup> December 1819

S/ B. Shackelford

[Note: I could not find any evidence that a veteran by the name of Robert Cavender filed his own application for a pension from the federal government or from the Commonwealth of Virginia for his service in the revolution.]

[p 13]

State of Kentucky Sct.

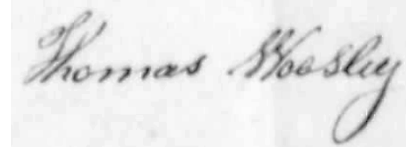
At a County Court begun and held for the County of Trigg at the seat of Justice of said County at the dwelling House of Robert Baker on Monday the 19th day of June 1820

Thomas Owsley a soldier of the revolution appeared in open Court and produced to the court a Schedule of his property as follows to wit: "one old horse, one cow, one calf, two two-year old heifers, 14 sheep, 2 sows and 17 pigs, 6 old pewter plates, 5 knives and as many forks & some wooden utensils of little or no value.

S/ Thos. Owsley, X his mark

to the correctness of which he made oath.

[p 15: Purports to be a letter dated June 25, 1820 from Thomas Woosley to JC Calhoun, Secretary of War by which the schedule of the veteran's property was forwarded to the War Department. This letter purports to have the signature of the veteran as follows:

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

. Since the formal documents transcribed above were all signed by the veteran with his mark, I think it highly likely that this letter was written by someone else on behalf of the veteran.]

[p 17: On September 12, 1856 in Christian County Kentucky Jane S Woosley, 64, filed for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Woosley, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum for his service in the revolution under the 1818 act which was increased to \$100 per annum under the 1832 act; that she married him January 28, 1842; that her husband died May 12, 1856 in Christian County Kentucky. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 6: Record of the marriage of Thomas Woosley to Jane S Covington in Christian County Kentucky January 28, 1842 signed by Henry Hopson, a Minister of the gospel.]

[p 29: Facts in File: The widow Jane S Woosley was at the time she married the veteran the widow of William Covington; she was born in 1791 and was the veteran's second wife. The

name of the veteran's first wife is not shown in the file. The widow's son, William H Covington and his wife Caroline R. were living in 1862 as was her son-in-law, Richard Witts (his wife's name not stated); the name of Martha J Covington appears in the file but no relationship is stated. In 1821 the veteran's son, Thomas, was referred to and his age stated as being between 15 and 21 years. This reference to his son occurs in an affidavit dated July 23 1821 given in Trigg County Kentucky by Samuel Campbell and appears on page 49 of this file.]

[The veteran was originally pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 9, 1819 for service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. That pension was subsequently increased to \$100 per annum based on his having served in the cavalry during the time he was in the Virginia Continental line.]

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Addendum to Thomas Woosley (Owsley) W10005

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 23 Sep 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

February 29<sup>th</sup> 1784

I do certify that Thomas Woosley enlisted for the war, in the 1<sup>st</sup> Reg't. Light Dragoons, the fifth of April one thousand seven hundred and eighty one and served faithfully until legally discharg'd

John Harris Lieut.[W1422]  
1<sup>st</sup> Reg't Lt. Dragoons

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Harris." Below the signature, there is a faint, partially legible line of text that appears to be "1st Reg't Lt. Dragoons".

NOTE: This appears to be a discharge for a re-enlistment by Woosley.