

**Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters**

Pension application of Thomas Lay W10187

Polly

fn54NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/8/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Tennessee Claiborne County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions, June Term 1833

On this 18th day of June 1833, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions now sitting, Thomas Lay, a resident of said County in the State of Tennessee aged about seventy 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 June 7th, 1832. He states that he entered the service under the following named officers, and served as herein stated -- That he entered the service as a substitute in the place of Goldson Step, a private in the State troops of North Carolina, under Major Joel Lewis and Captain Charles Gordon in the fall of the year 1780 and that he left the same in the fall of the year 1781. That the term of his service was for one year and that he served to the full end of said term -- that at the time he entered the service he resided in Wilkes County North Carolina. That during his service he was never out of said State nor did he ever changed officers -- that he was employed against the Tories in said State. That he was in several skirmishes against the Tories but was never in a regular battle or any noted engagement -- that he was kept some time at Salisbury North Carolina and was afterwards stationed at Wilcox's Mill in said State under the same officers with whom he enlisted -- that he was not connected with any of the Continental troops nor was there any General officer belonging to the detachment to which he belonged to the best of his recollection - - that at the expiration of his term of service he received a written discharge from Major Joel Lewis and Captain Charles Gordon -- That when he returned home he gave his discharge to some one of his family (being still under age) for safekeeping -- that when he left North Carolina he left his discharge since which time he has not seen or heard of it. That since his term of service he resided partly in North Carolina and afterwards in this State where he still resides -- that he knows of no documentary evidence or any living witness by whom he can prove his service -- that Richard Harper and William McBee can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution and that there is no minister of the gospel residing in his immediate vicinity whose attendance he can procure to certify for him.

He hereby relinquishes every claim 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.

That he has no documentary evidence of his age.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Lay, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed the 18th of June 1833

S/ Benjamin F. Cloud, Clerk

[Richard Harper and William McBee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 12: on May 24, 1851 in Adair County Missouri, Polly Lay, 84, declared that she is the widow of Thomas Lay deceased a revolutionary war pensioner; that she was married to him February 25, 1783 by McCager Bennet, a clergyman,; that her name prior to her marriage was Polly Lawrence; that her husband died at his residence in Adair County Missouri on July 15, 1846; and that she is still his widow.]

[fn p. 14: : May 24, 1851 in Adair County Missouri, Lewis Lay gave the pen affidavit in support of his mother's application for a widow's pension stating that he is the eldest son of Thomas and Polly Lay; that they lived together as man and wife and that their children were recognized as being their lawful children.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum for one year service in the North Carolina militia.]