

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Masters¹ W13688

Elizabeth Masters f32VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/17/13

[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.]

State of South Carolina Greenville District: On this Third day of November 1818 before me the Subscriber Judge of the Court of Sessions and Common Pleas in the State of South Carolina aforesaid, personally appeared Thomas Masters aged Sixty four years resident in the District of Greenville aforesaid, who being Duly sworn according to law did on his oath declare (in order to obtain the provision made by the late 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) – that he the said Thomas Masters enlisted in Rockbridge County in the State of Virginia in November 1779 in the Company commanded by Adam Wallis [Adam Wallace] of the 11th Regiment commanded by Colonel Abraham Bluefort [Abraham Buford] of he believes the Virginia Line, that he continued to serve in the said Corps in the service of the United States about 19 months, he thinks till late in the year 1780 when he was taken prisoner at Bluefort's Defeat [Buford's Defeat, May 29, 1780] and escaped from the Enemy at Charleston and went home, his Time of service for which he had enlisted being expired, that he was in one skirmish on Santee & in the Engagement at Bleuforts Defeat where he was wounded in the arm and taken prisoner. That the most of his time was stationed in Petersburg in Virginia and that he is in Indigent Circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for Support and that he has no other Evidence now in his power of his said Services.

Sworn to before me this 4th day of November 1818

S/ R. Gantt

S/ Thos. Masters, W his mark

Schedule &c

District of South Carolina, to wit

On this fourth day of April in the year of our Lord 1821 personally appeared in Open court being a court of Record of General Sessions of the Peace, and Common Pleas held for the district of Greenville in the State of South Carolina, by & before Daniel E Huges Esquire one of the associate Judges of the said State, Thomas Masters age sixty six years, resident in Greenville district in the said State, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows, to wit, that he enlisted for the term of 18 months, on or about the year before Charlestown South Carolina was taken, in Rockbridge County in the State of Virginia, in the company commanded by Captain Adam Wallace, in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Ab. Bluford, in the line of the State of Virginia on the (11th Regiment) Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps for 18 months until Blufords defeat at Waxaws [Waxhaws], where he was taken prisoner and carried to

¹ BLWt17891-160-55

Charleston by the Enemy, and made his escape; That he was in the Battles or skirmish at Nelsons ferry on Santee, at Blufords defeat & at little York. That his former declaration was made on or about the 3rd of November 1818 and has no other evidence of his said service now in his power except what he has heretofore rendered to the war Department being now a pensioner under the said act of Congress, by virtue of a certificate No. 7292 dated 5 March 1819. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I, Thomas Masters, was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an 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” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed, to wit,.

One wagon worth about \$60	\$60.00
one horse & Saddle \$60	60.00
2 cows & calves	20.00
some articles of household Furniture &c	16.00
	\$156.00
Debts due to me	44.00
	\$200.00
Debts against me \$84	<u>84.00</u>
	Total \$116.00

S/ Tho. Masters, W his mark

A Family consisting of 3 children, namely George aged 20 years, Margaret 17 years, & Polly 14 years, and I the said Thomas Masters do further swear that I am so infirm in body from age & other causes, being a cripple (merely able to walk) that I am unable to support myself by manual labor, farming being my principal Occupation; that I have barely supported and existence by the help of my Children, the 2 first of whom are probably able to support themselves. And that I have necessarily accumulated debts for the Common necessities of life, which without a sacrifice of my present little property, I am unable to discharge; in which warrant I must be thrown upon the Charity of the Public, & I cannot support myself without the assistance of my country.

S/ Tho. Masters, W his mark

[p 14: On October 6, 1854 in Forsyth County Georgia, Elizabeth Masters, 75, made application for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Masters, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$96 per annum; she thinks he died August 26, 1838; that she married him in Greenville District South Carolina January 1, 1822; that they were married by John Roberts, JP; that her name prior to her marriage was Elizabeth Roper. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 19: In her bounty land application dated April 4, 1855 and filed in Forsyth County Georgia, the widow gave her marriage date to the veteran as January 1824.]

[p 15: On October 7, 1854 in Forsyth County Georgia, Susan Roper, 46, gave a supporting affidavit on the half of Elizabeth Masters' application for a widow's pension. Her relationship if

any, to the widow is not stated. Also, on that same date and in that same place, William Roper, 46 also gave a supporting affidavit]

[p 32]

This is to certify, that it appears from a list in this office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line as settled their accounts and received certificates for the balance of their full pay, according to an act of assembly, passed the November session 1781, directing the Auditors of Public Accounts to settle and adjust the pay and accounts of said Officers and Soldiers from the first January 1777 to 31st December 1781, (see Hening's Statutes at Large, vol. 10, p. 462,) that a settlement was made on the 22nd day of April 1784 in the name of Thomas Masters as drumr [drummer?] Inf. [Infantry] and evidence of the indebtedness of the State to him was £39.12, delivered to Captain McKee but as the original settlements or copies thereof or not to be found in this office, the term of service embraced therein cannot be stated.

Given under my hand at the ~~First~~ Auditor's Office, Richmond, this 12th day of February 1856.

S/ G. W. Clutter [?]

Audr P. Accts. [Auditor of Public Accounts]

[No Seal of Office]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing November 3, 1818, for 19 months service as a private in the Virginia Continental line. His widow was pensioned at the rate of \$96 per annum.]