

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Hamilton W3084 Catharine Hamilton PA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Pennsylvania

Dauphin County Ss:

Before the Subscriber one of the Judges of the court of Common Pleas in and for the county of Dauphin, State of Pennsylvania, personally came Thomas Hamilton of the said county, an applicant for a pension under the Act entitled “An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” and after being duly sworn declares That he enlisted in the army and served as a common soldier in the Pennsylvania line in the war of the revolution, between six and seven years That he was honourably discharged therefrom at the conclusion of the war, which discharge he has since lost. That he sometimes belonged to one company & sometimes to another, but that at the time of his discharge he was serving in Capt. Finny’s company of infantry in the first regiment of the Pennsylvania line. That among other battles he was at that of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] – was at the battle of the Green Springs [Green Springs Plantation VA, 6 Jul 1781] & at the taking of Cornwallis [at Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781]. That he has no other evidence of his service as aforesaid than a certificate from the Auditor General of Pennsylvania hereto annexed. And that by reason of his reduced circumstances in life he is in need of the assistance of his country for support. Thomas hisXmark Hamilton
The above declaration made under oath & subscribed this 23rd day of April A.D. 1818
Before David Scott

Dauphin County Ss In district of Penna.

On this 20th day of June 1820 personally appeared in open Court of Common pleas of Dauphin County aforesaid being a court of record for said County Thomas Hamilton aged 63 years resident in said County who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows Viz. I the said Thomas Hamilton enlisted in the army of the U.S. in 1776 or 1777 in the 11th Regiment of Penna. Line under Col. [Richard] Humpton and afterwards in the 1st[?] Regiment under Col. Harmer [sic: Josiah Harmar, pension application W3246] & continued in the service until the final discharge of the Army at the peace. I was in the Battle of Monmouth, at the Battle of the Greenspring in Va. fought by [Anthony] Wayne & Fayette [Lafayette] against Cornwallis & at the Capture of Cornwallis – at the Battle of the Greensprings Col. [Walter] Stewart commanded the Regiment I was in. I received a pension from U.S. under the act of Congress of 18th March 1818 by virtue of a certificate of Sec’y. of War which has been left in Philad’a. in mistake, owing to which I cannot state the date or number of said certificate. And I do solemnly swear that I 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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.

Thomas hisXmark Hamilton

Schedule of my property real & personal, necessary clothing & bedding excepted I have 36 Acres of Land in Lower Paxton Township, Dauphin County. It is almost all cleared land. It is hilly land, thin soil, gravel land, There is a log house on it and a stable which is old.

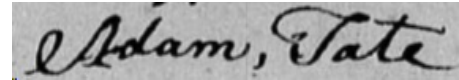
Personal property: A bay blind mare 9 or ten years old. A Mare about 20 years old – useless – but kept from motives of humanity. Four cows and Three calves Two pine Tables, a two shilling looking glass 30 years old, Four chairs a few knives & forks & plates and scanty kitchen utensils.

I am infirm with rheumatism & cannot work. My family now or lately residing with me are as follows Viz

Kitty my Wife aged about 60 has umbilical rupture and totally unable to work. (Children) John aged 24 now gone abroad. & has been abroad for a year and a half, (a miller by Trade) working for himself. Nancy aged 30 serves her mother and keeps house. Kitty aged 22 does milking &c serving &c Thomas aged 21 works Journey Work at trade of a carpenter Thomas markX Hamiltons

Maytown Janrey the 28th 1824

This, is to Sertefey, that I Listed, Thomas Hamelton in the year 1777 in the month of July, in the 11th Penseylvania, Regment Comand, By Col'n Humpton and I was a Subalton [sic: subaltern] officer inder Capt Hendrickes [Hendricks?]
Adam Tate
I Say by me



[The court estimated Hamilton's property to be worth \$417. The Pension Office generally considered \$200 the maximum value of property that a veteran could own and still retain a pension under the act of 1820. The file contains an undated petition with 16 signatures requesting Congress to continue Thomas Hamilton's pension.]

Dauphin county Ss State of Pennsylvania.

On this [blank; 19th] day of April 1824 personally appeared in the Court of Com Pleas of the County of Dauphin in the State aforesaid, Thomas Hamilton, being the same Thomas Hamilton, whose application for a Pension &c was presented to the War Department under date of June 20th 1820, & extracted from the records of the said Court as filed on the same day – who in order to obtain the benefit of the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818, & May 1st 1820, who being duly sworn doth depose that his name was, a short time after the date of his aforesaid application, placed on the pension list, but has been dropt there from, as he has been informed, on acct of his property – that the 36 acres of land of which he stated himself to be possessed, in his former application, would not sell at this time, as Deponent verily believes for \$6 per acre – land being depreciated in value, & his tract being of thin slate land, and, by reason of his inability to work & impoverished circumstances, having been badly cultivated for several years past – if rented, Deponent does not believe it would bring him \$30 per annum – that he has no horses to plough with, & is obliged to hire or borrow – that he derives little assistance from his children. His son John, being married, & is living in the State of Maryland – his son Thomas, being of age, & is working for himself at the trade of a house Carpenter – His daughters Nancy & Kitty, both of age, are generally at home, but that they require a compensation for their services, as their attendance on their mother & myself, prevents them from going out into the neighbourhood to find employment – My wife by reason of excessive & long continued indisposition is totally unable to assist me – & I myself am able to do but little, being now near 70 years of age, & being afflicted with rheumatic pains, the result of exposure during the revolutionary war – The mare, which I mentioned in my former statement as being 20 years old, I gave away about the time my name was placed on the pension list, being actuated in so doing by no other motive than inability to keep her, & because she was utterly useless – The other mare is now about 14 or 15 years old, & being totally blind, is of very little service, and I would sell her for \$10. I have now but one cow having killed one for beef – all of which is now consumed – she having been butchered two winters since – & two others I sold & have expended the money in procuring necessaries for myself & family. The three calves I formerly had, I sold immediately after my first statement, as soon as they were fit for veal, to the butcher – the other cow I now have, in reality belongs rather to my daughter than myself, she having purchased her when young, & raised her at my house – One of the pine tables, did then, viz at the date of my former statement, belong to my daughter Nancy The looking glass belonged then to my wife's brother, & is very little broader than my hand – Two of the chairs are now broken. I have 4 knives – two of them are broken, & the other 2 by reason of old age & constant employment, are almost unfit for use – I have about the same no of forks – I have but one plate, which is whole, that one being of pewter. I have and old cracked stove, made for ought I know, in the last century.

I am obliged to buy wheat for the use of my family, & now	
owe Dan'l Miller a neighbor for wheat	\$2.00
to Emanuel Cassel for speltz [spelt] for bread, about	the same sum
I owe Jacob Peck, shoemaker for shoes about	3 or \$4
& Jacob Evans, a weaver about	\$2
& Jacob Stewart, money borrowed some years since	\$50
I also owe Thomas Hamilton my Son, my Son, money borowed [page torn]	

NOTE: On 20 Dec 1838 Catharine Hamilton, 77, applied for a pension stating that she was married by Rev. Helmuth to Thomas Hamilton on 28 Jan 1788, and her husband died in September 1836. On 6 Feb 1839 Catharine Hamilton stated that her father, Thomas Hamilton, died on 28 Sep 1836 and was buried the next day in Hummelstown in the Lutheran graveyard, and that she resided with her mother. A Treasury-Document document states that "the child" of Catharine Hamilton received the final pension payment up to the date of her death, 22 May 1840.