

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Stokely W4079

Elizabeth

fn54PA

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/11

[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.]

[In 1788, the veteran gave testimony in support of a claim filed by Robert Orr for disability pay. Orr preserved that testimony and it was filed with his claim under the 1832 Act. That testimony can be found in [Robert Orr S4631](#) fn p. 31, and reads as follows:

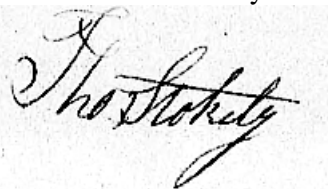
Pennsylvania Washington County SS

I do hereby certify that Thomas Stokelys late Captain of a company of Rangers Stationed on the frontiers of Westmoreland County, under the command of Colonel Archibald Lochry Lieutenant of the said County of Westmoreland came in his proper person on the 31st day of July A.D. 1788 before me Thomas Scott Prothonotary of Washington County aforesaid and made Oath that in the year of our Lord 1781 the said Colonel Lochry ordered this deponent and a part of his company into service in order to assist General Clark [George Rogers Clark] in an expedition against the Indians and also raised a party of Volunteers for the said purpose, and that Robert Orr of Westmoreland County Esquire was Captain of a company of the said Volunteers, – That the collected parties under the command of said Colonel Lochry having proceeded down the Ohio River below the mouth of the big Miami, was on the 24th day of August in the year aforesaid attacked by the Indians – The said Colonel Lochry was killed with many others, and the whole remainder of the party captured, in which attack the said Captain Orr was wounded in the left arm afterward carried to Detroit, and there left under the care of the British Surgeons appearing not able to travel further. –

In testimony whereof and of the said Thomas Stokely's signing the above deposition I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the said County of Washington the day & year first written.

S/ Thos. Scott, Prot.

S/ Thos Stokely



[fn p. 4]

State of Ohio Jefferson County SS

On the first day of March A.D. 1841 personally appeared before me the undersigned a judge of the Court of Common Pleas within & for the County of Jefferson aforesaid, Mrs. Elizabeth Stokely, a Resident of said County of Jefferson & the widow of Colonel Thomas Stokely deceased aged seventy-five years & eleven months who being duly sworn first according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "And Act granting half pay & pensions to certain widows." –

That she is the widow of Thomas Stokely who was a noncommissioned officer in the Regular

Army of the United States & afterwards a Captain of Rangers in the Service of the State of Pennsylvania, & served on the frontiers, & in the Revolutionary Army as near as your Deponent can now State as follows

Thomas Stokely entered the service of the Confederated States on the 12th day of August A.D. 1776, enlisted many Soldiers & became first Sergeant of Captain Piggot's [James Piggott] Company in the Battalion commanded by Colonel Enos McCoy [Aeneas Mackey], of which company one Nehemiah Stokely, a near relation of said Thomas Stokely, was a Lieutenant – Sergeant Stokely marched with his company & Regiment to Kittaning [Kittanning] on the whatever Allegheny in the fall of 1776 & there assisted to build a Fort. After that reverses & disasters of the Grand Army of Revolution in the Jerseys, Sergeant Stokely marched with his Company & Regiment from the Allegheny River, in midwinter to reinforce the Army, & they arrived in Philadelphia in January, where the first articles for the use of the camp were drawn. His Company & Regiment joined the lines of the Grand Camp at New Brunswick & remained in full service & on duty until May – During which time Colonel E. McCoy & Lieutenant Colonel George Wilson of the Regiment died & Colonel Daniel Broadhead took command of the same Regiment. Your Relator is informed that it was the 8th Regiment & formed a part of the 88th Battalion which formed the Pennsylvania quota for the United or Confederated States Service in the Revolutionary War & she believes he was in service for two years in the Regular Line. Sergeant Stokely served under the command of General Wayne was in the Battles of Brandywine, Germantown & at the skirmish or massacre at the Paoli. At the latter place he had the good fortune to save the life of his Colonel. He remained in the line of the Regular Army until sometime in the year 1778. In the latter year & was appointed [indecipherable word] Ensign of a company of New Levies, called "Rangers" for the defense of the Frontiers against the Indians. He continued in this service during the remainder of that year & during the year 1779 & 1780. He commanded a Company of the same kind of like troops then called "Rangers" which he enlisted, organized & disciplined himself for the defense of the Frontiers against the constant incursions of the Savages. In March A.D. 1781 he raised a new Company for the same purpose, which were enlisted for & during the War. In August of that year, being ordered & invited to join Colonel Clark [George Rogers Clark] in his expedition against the Western Indian Towns, in an attempt to do so with his company he & they were attacked, defeated¹ & the Survivors taken prisoners, by the Indians on the Ohio River near the mouth of the Scioto River. After marching on foot from thence to Detroit suffering incredible hardships & cruelties from his Savage Captors, he was delivered into the hands of the British Authorities of Canada by Captain Brant [Joseph Brant] whose captive & slave he had been since the time of his capture by the Indians. He was conveyed by the British authorities to Montréal & there imprisoned on account of some harsh Retaliatory measures between the two Countries until the close of the year 1782, being a period of about fourteen months & a part of the time in irons, Out of forty-five officers closely confined at Montréal he was one of only nineteen who survived – the want of air & provisions during that cruel confinement. On the 15th of October A.D. 1782 he was put on board a cartel with other prisoners & sent to New York. He arrived in Philadelphia in the year 1783 and a very forlorn & destitute condition but immediately on his return to the Western Country he again raised a company for the defense of the frontiers & continued to do his duty until the close of the War of the Revolution & on the first day of July 1783 he & his company were honorably discharged from Service, with the thanks of the Public. Said Thomas Stokely resided in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania at the time he entered the Service of the United States in the Continental Army – he was a volunteer in the Service – And the documentary evidence of the claim is so far as yet remains forwarded or referred to – said Thomas Stokely died in Washington County Pennsylvania on the 25th day of July A.D. 1824, & he was

¹ Lochry's Defeat August 24, 1781. An excellent account of this engagement is posted at <http://boards.ancestry.com/topics.Military.amerrev.general/803/mb.ashx>

married to this Relator on the 9th day of June in A.D. 1788 . She further declares that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 viz. at the time above stated. And she never since been married, but continues the widow of the said Thomas Stokely whose service is proved by the affidavit of Joseph Pyles – said Stokely never was a Pensioner.

S/ Elizabeth Stokely



[A better signature of the widow taken from a document posted at fn p. 46:

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[fn p. 10: certificate given by Cornelius H Mustard pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Lewis, Sussex County Delaware stating that he found in the register that Major Stokely and Betsy Mumphord were joined in wedlock by the Reverend Mathew Wilson then pastor of said church sometime between the 6th of March in the 19th day of July 1788.]

[fn p. 17: Joseph Pyles² gave testimony on December 25, 1820 in Washington County Pennsylvania regarding the services of Thomas Stokely in the Pennsylvania Continental line

[Facts in file: Widow died July 12, 1845, place not shown; no reference was made to children in this file.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$435 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843, for her husband service as a Sergeant and Captain in the Pennsylvania service.]

² FPA S5169