

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Steward W4594

Sarah

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/24/12

[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 North Carolina Person County: On this 15th day of February 1843 personally appeared before me Clement H Jordan a Justice of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions Sarah Steward a resident of said County aged seventy-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain Widows" – That she is the widow of Thomas Steward late of this County and formerly of Mecklenburg County Virginia who was a soldier in the revolutionary war and who at the time of his enlistment resided in Lunenburg County Virginia. That she believes he enlisted under one Captain Dawson or Douson that she is of opinion that General Gibson [George Gibson] commanded the brigade. She is not informed what direction the Army in Virginia took but has often heard her husband speak of being on the Holston River and on the Schuylkill River, Of being at Valley Forge and of being inoculated there for small pox. She further states that he was at the battle of Guilford [Guilford Court House March 15, 1781] and at the siege of York [September-October 19, 1781], and that in the former battle he received a wound in the wrist or arm which resulted in a permanent distortion of said limb which ever afterwards prevented the regular motions of that arm.

She further states that she is of opinion that his whole service in the war would have amounted to some two or three years he having enlisted several times.

She further states upon her oath that she was married to her said husband Thomas Steward in the fall of the year 1791 by James Yancey Esquire of Granville County in this State. She further states upon her oath that her said husband Thomas Steward died on the 13th day of February 1818 leaving 7 children. She further states that he [word obliterated by an ink blot but probably "never"] drew a pension nor any bounty for his service she further states upon her oath that she now is and has ever remained the widow of said Thomas Steward.

S/ Sarah Steward, X her mark

[f p. 6: order dated November 10th, 1851 entered at Roxborough in Person County North Carolina stating that Sarah Stewart [sic], widow of Thomas Stewart, is now deceased intestate and appointing her eldest son Thomas Stewart as her special administrator.]

[f p. 7: certificate that Sarah Steward died April 14, 1848.]

[f p. 11]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia Continental Line, during the Revolutionary War, 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, that a Certificate issued on the 21st day of May 1784, in the name of Thomas Stewart [sic], as a Soldier of Infantry for £19.17.7, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to Colonel White and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
10th day of June 1843.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[f p. 13: certificate dated June 8, 1843 from the Granville County Clerk of court stating that he can find nothing in his records reflecting the marriage between Thomas Stuart & Sarah Drummonds.]

[f p. 19]

State of North Carolina Person County: On this 13th day of June 1843 personally appeared before us Hugh Woods and Clement H Jordan two of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for the County aforesaid John Epps¹ a resident of the County of Stokes in this State (now on a visit to this County) aged seventy-eight years and a revolutionary pensioner, who being first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath state that he was well acquainted with Thomas Steward late of this County who was a revolutionary soldier, and who was the husband of Sarah Steward now an applicant for a pension. He states that his acquaintance first commenced with Thomas Steward in the County of Lunenburg Virginia several years before the Commencement of the Revolutionary War that he knows that Thomas Steward enlisted in the County of Lunenburg under Captain Douson and that General Gibson commanded the engagement. That he was personally acquainted with both officers at the time the said Steward enlisted. He further states that he is well satisfied that he served in this tour not less than 18 months and probably 2 years. He further states that he often heard, Steward speak of this tour and particularly of his inoculation for small pox at Valley Forge. He further states that he knows that Thomas Steward served a tour under General Gates and under General Green [Nathanael Greene] or that he left Lunenburg County and came up into the County of Mecklenburg together with a number of others to make out a Company or Regiment for the Southern Campaign and he further states that he often heard the said Steward say that he received a wound in his wrist in elevating his gun to make his second fire at the battle of Guilford, he further states that said Steward served a tour of 6 or 8 months in this Campaign for although he was not with him he knows he was absent at least that length of time.

He further states that having heard that no record can be found of the marriage of said Thomas Steward and Sarah Drummonds can be found, That they left his house in Lunenburg County Virginia for the purpose of going to North Carolina (it being a runaway match) for the purpose of getting married. That he saw Thomas Steward in a short time after that & that he Steward informed him that they were married by James Yancey Esquire of Granville County which he then and does now believe. He further states that he always knew them after that period as man and wife up to the time of Steward's death which occurred about the time stated in the declaration of Sarah Steward; he the said Steward always recognizing her as his wife.

S/ John Epps, X his mark

[f p. 28]

¹ I think this is very likely the same man as [John Epps S8423](#)

State of Virginia Halifax County to wit:

On this 28th [last digit written over and unclear] day of February 1843 appeared before me William L Owen one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid, John Fitts² of said County aged about eighty years and a Revolutionary Pensioner, who being first duly sworn according to law doth upon his oath depose and say that he was well acquainted with Thomas Steward who lately resided in Person County and State of North Carolina and who was a Soldier of the Revolutionary War. That he first became acquainted with said Thomas Steward in Lunenburg County in this State. That he served in the Army of the Revolution with the said Steward and in the same Regiment under the command of Colonel James Saunders, That he knows that the said Stewart was wounded in the wrist by a musket ball either at the Battle of Guilford or at Gates Defeat, he has forgotten which. Soon after the Battle of Guilford this deponent received his discharge and afterwards enlisted in the Cavalry under Colonel Washington and saw nothing more of the said Steward during the Revolutionary War. He knows that the said Steward served a tour of nine months but does not know whether he served longer. He has known the said Steward since the conclusion of the Revolutionary War, but has not seen him for more than twenty years.

S/ John Fitts, X his mark

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1843, for her husband service as a private in the Virginia service.]

² [John Fitts W9439](#)