

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Tatum W4601

Margaret

f29VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/8/11

[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.]

State of Virginia: Charlotte County to wit: On this 16th day of October, 1838, personally appeared before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Margaret Tatum, a resident of said County and State, aged eighty-six 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836 –

That she is the widow of Thomas Tatum, late of Charlotte, who was a soldier in the Militia service of the United States in the War of the Revolution. She recollects distinctly, that after she was married to him, he was drafted in the militia, and served two tours of duty; one shortly after marriage, and the other sometime towards the latter part of the war. That in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity, her memory has become very defective, insomuch, that she cannot recollect the exact dates of his service, and the immediate officers under whom he was drafted; but recollects that he marched to Portsmouth in Virginia at one time, to Guilford at another time, and was at the siege of Yorktown – That Colonel Skipwith, Colonel Randolph and General Lawson were commanding Officers – She feels perfect confidence in saying, that he served longer than six months in the whole. That her said husband resided during the War in Cumberland County, and was drafted in that County – That after the close of the war, they settled in Charlotte County, where she at present resides. That she does not at present recollect a single living person by whom she can prove the services of her late husband, but thinks, that if she were able to travel to Cumberland, she might obtain satisfactory evidence. Under the circumstances, she can only adduce traditionary evidence, and the beliefs and impressions of such old soldiers, and her neighbors that were intimately acquainted with him, before and after the war, and during the war –

She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Tatum on the 13th day of August, 1776, in the County of Cumberland, by the publication of banns, according to the rites and ceremonies of the Church of England: at least, the August after the Declaration of Independence was proclaimed – as to exact dates, she cannot be positive, for the reason before assigned – She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Tatum, before the last term of his service expired, and that she has never married since the death of her said husband, and still continues to be his widow. That her husband the aforesaid Thomas Taylor, died on the 27th day of October, 1813: and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed –

S/ Margaret Tatum, X her mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me a Justice of the peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, this 16th day of October, 1832

S Samuel D. Morton, JP/

[facts in file: Veteran married August 13, 1774 in Cumberland County Virginia, Margaret Dagnell [spelled Margrit Dagnell in the original of the family record]; the veteran and his wife had a large family of children the following of whom are named in the file:

Elesabeth An born February 12, 1776

Poly Henderson [she spelled her name Polley H. Tatum] born December one, 1777 [in 1839 she made affidavit in Charlotte County Virginia]

James born January 3, 1781

Richard born December 29, 1783

Henry born January 15, 1786

Juda born November 27, 1788

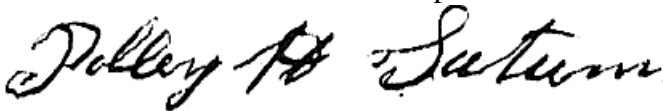
Thomas born November 11, 1791

Pegy born June 7, 1794

Jessea born November 5, 1797

Note: the file contains what appears to be the original of the family record a f pp 2-3]

[f p. 14: On January 11, 1839 Polly H Tatum gave testimony in Charlotte County Virginia that Thomas Tatum late of Charlotte departed this life October 27 1813.



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[f p 15: On February 4, 1839 in Charlotte County Virginia, Thomas Harvey¹ gave testimony that he had a distinct recollection of seeing the veteran at the battle of Guilford in North Carolina and the siege of Yorktown; that he does not know the immediate officers under whom he served but recollects that the veteran belonged to general Lawson's Brigade commanded by Colonel Randolph and Colonel Skipwith; he also states that the veteran told him that he, the veteran, had marched to Portsmouth in the early part of the war. Thomas Harvey signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[f p 22]

State of Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I Coleman Palmore² do hereby certify that I was well acquainted with Thomas Tatum deceased in the Revolutionary War having served one tour of duty with them under Captain Joseph Michaux – I recollect that in the month of July 1781, that a company of men were drafted in the Militia service under Captain Michaux from Prince Edward County, for the term of three months, and that myself and said Thomas Tatum were among the number and marched to Yorktown and witness the surrender of Cornwallis – After the surrender, the said Tatum was one of those ordered to guard the prisoners to Winchester. This was my first and only tour of duty – I am in the 76th year of my age.

S/ Coleman Palmore, X his mark

¹ [Thomas Harvey R4715](#)

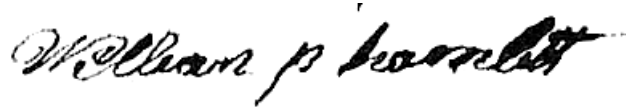
² I wonder if this man's name was actually Coleman Palmer. Since he only served 3 months, he would not have qualified for a federal pension (it required a minimum of 6 months service), so this may be the only record of his service.

[f p 28]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that Thomas Tatum late of Charlotte was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and recollect distinctly seeing him at the battle of Guilford and the Siege of Yorktown. He marched from Cumberland County, and the immediate officers under whom he marched I have forgot, but recollect that he belonged to General Lawson's Regiment, commanded by Colonel Randolph and Colonel Skipwith, the same Regiment to which I belonged – The said Thomas Tatum to my certain knowledge served longer than six months altogether, and previous to the service above stated, marched to Portsmouth in Virginia where he served something like 2 or 3 months – he married about the commencement of the Revolutionary War, and his wife is still alive, residing in Charlotte County, to which County he moved shortly after the war.

S/ William P Hamlett³

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "William P Hamlett". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a private in the Virginia militia for 6 months.]

³ FPA S13305