

[The top part of the following is missing from the Fold3 image.]

Peace duly empowered to administer oaths in the County aforesaid, personally appeared James Walker and made oath that he first became acquainted with Thomas Drake in the summer of 1806 and shortly after our first acquaintance was informed by s^d Drake that he was a revolutionary soldier that he enlisted in time of the war for and during the war This statement of his I have always believed to be true for shortly after our first acquaintance we settled near each other and have remained intimate and from his knowledge of the Deciplen taught by Barren Stuben [sic: Gen. Baron von Steuben's drill] he being the first and only man of our Neighbourhood at the organisation of the Militia in this County was able to instruct the young officers and from the maney incaclates[?] that Drake has repeated in my presence has always went to establish his first Relation. witness my hand & seal this 15th Oct'r. 1828

[signed] J Walker

State of Tennessee }

Bedford C'y }

Before me John Scott Justice of the Peace duly empowered to administer oaths in said County and State aforesaid personally appeared Henry Davis also of said County who made oath that he has been acquainted with Thomas Drake upwards of forty years in the State of Virginia where he was born, and that from his first recollection said Drake was called a revolutionary Soldier for during the war and has always been so considered by him and by those he has conversed with on that subject when said Drake lived in Virginia, and that when he said Davis was first put on the muster list in Virginia and previous to that time as well as afterwards said Drake was fogleman [probably bugleman] in the Company. He further states that when congress some years ago made provisions for the disabled and poor Soldiers of the Revolutionary war he proposed to said Drake to go to Virginia and get some one [to pr]ove his having been a revolutionary Soldier (as there would not at first have been any difficulty in doing it) and receive the benefit of the act when said Drake replied how could he take an oath that he was not able to get his living when he could make a double barrel (a day) he being a Cooper by trade) comdeming what several had done to his knowledge who were as able to get their their living, as himself. Said Drake is now in his sixty eight year old from his own account, a good deal impaired in body and in distressed circumstances as all who are acquainted with him know and an object deserving from his situation in life & patriotic services during the war of the provision made by Congress for revolutionary soldiers. Witness my hand & seal this 18th October 1828

[signed] Henry Davis

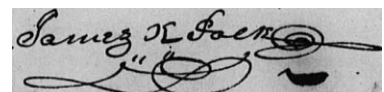
NOTES:

On 1 July 1828 Matt Martin [pension application S2726] certified that Drake was at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse. On 13 Oct 1828 George Waite stated that while in Shelbyville a few years previously he heard Thomas Drake, Elisha Gunn, and Capt. Hinton discussing their services in the Revolutionary War. On 17 Oct 1828 Christopher Shaw stated "that Thomas Drake has repeatedly mentioned to him that he had sold his discharge for a trifle something like five Dollars."

The file includes the following letter from Congressman and future President (1845-1849) James Knox Polk. If the date is correct, it alludes to an earlier application not in the file.

Washington City/ Jan'y 17th 1827

Sir I received this morning the enclosed letter, from a constituent of whom I know nothing personally. I desire that you will examine the letter and communicate to me the reasons upon which his application has been rejected by the Department, and if consistent with the regulations of your office, enclose to me his papers, or copies of them, to the end that I may examine them, and if deemed proper present them to Congress. If convenient I desire to have the papers in time to present them to the Ho. Rep'ts. on monday next, that being the only day of the week on which petitions can be presented, consistently with our rules. Very Respectfully/ Y'r. Ob't & Very H'l Serv't.



On 15 April 1852 Catherine Drake, about 76, applied for a pension stating that she married Thomas Drake in Brunswick County VA in 1793, and he died on 13 Aug 1834. On 4 May 1853 Catharine Drake stated that she married Thomas Drake on 12 Aug 1802, that he died on 24 March 1835, and that they had the following children: Nancy 49; James 48; Susan 45; Polly about 42; George about 40; and Sarah 38.

The file contains a copy the following marriage return:

“List of marriages solemnized by Aaron Brown Eighteen hundred & two August twelfth.
Thomas Drake to Caty Vaughan

Aaron Brown MGMEC [Minister of the Gospel, Methodist Episcopal Church]
Returned Sixth February eighteen hundred & eight in this Office & registered according to law by
Herbert Hill CBC [Clerk of Brunswick County]”