

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Southy (Southey) Simpson W6303 Hannah Topping<sup>1</sup> f21VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves 2/21/12

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Accomack County: SS

On this the 30th day of August A.D. 1851, Hannah Topping (formerly Hannah Simpson) a resident of the County aforesaid, aged eighty-eight years, who being 1st duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following declaration before me a justice of the County and State aforesaid, that she is in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity being nearly blind and unable to appear in Court to make her declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Acts of Congress passed July 1838.

That she intermarried with her deceased husband Southy Simpson, in the year 1786 June the 11th: as will appear from the family record in her possession in the handwriting of her said husband Southy Simpson, taken from the records in the presence of the subscribing Magistrate William P. Moore Senior and hereunto appended, that the said Southy & Hannah lived together after marriage as husband and wife, until the year 1794 when he died. She then intermarried with Garret Topping (who was also a Revolutionary Soldier) who also departed this life September the 13th 1817 and she still remains his widow. That she has frequently heard her deceased husband Southy Simpson, speak of his Revolutionary services in the Virginia Militia during the war of the revolution, under the command of his father Colonel Southy Simpson, who was the Commandant of the County of Accomack a large part of the time of said war, that he was reputed and believed by the community to have been a Revolutionary Soldier and she fully concurs in that belief. On one occasion she recollects of him together with others being sent to Watts Island to burn Robert Parker's house as he was considered a Tory, and that she has always considered and understood he served more than two years in the Militia of said County, Keeping guard at different places to repel the invasion of the British who were constantly trying to land to get supplies for the vessels – That her said husband Southy Simpson was the son of Colonel Southy Simpson, of Accomack County who commanded the Militia during the Revolutionary war, She does not recollect the age of her husband Southy Simpson, but he was considerable older than herself and if living would be over ninety years of age. That he was well acquainted with Captain John Moore, Curtis Bull, Colonels Cropper [perhaps Lieutenant Colonel John Cropper] & Joynes [perhaps Levin Joynes], and nearly all the officers and soldiers from the County during the war. She believes from her personal knowledge her said husband served in Militia at different times throughout the war, for which he claims a pension, and hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that her name is not on the pension Roll nor that of her said husband as far as she knows or believes.

Attest: S/ William P. Moore, Sr. S/ Hannah Topping, X her mark

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<sup>1</sup> Former Widow Widow's late husband, Garret Topping, was a Revolutionary Soldier

[f p. 8: family record:

Southy Simpson and Hannah his wife was Married the 4th day of June 1786

Nancy Simpson was born June 6th 1787

Elizabeth Simpson was born November 8th 1788

Southy Simpson was born November 20th 1796

Southy Simpson son of Southy and Hannah his wife departed this life July 24th 1792

Nancy Simpson daughter of East Southy Simpson & Hannah his wife departed this life August 6th 1792

Affidavit of William P Moore Senior, aged seventy years, who being first duly sworn, deposeseth and saith that when he was a boy he recollects at his father's house of hearing his father and several of the neighbors at various times talk about the Revolutionary war, Tories &c amongst others he recollects Southy Simpson, son of Colonel Southy Sampson, who at that time was our next-door neighbor, speak and talked of a Military tour taken by Colonel Simpson, Captain Burton; & I think Captain Barnes and my father's Company of Militia, who as well as I recollect was taken to [indecipherable word or words]<sup>2</sup> by water seeking the Tories, on their return home Colonel Southy Simpson, who was commandant of the troops took them to Watts Island to Robert Parker's who was reputed a noted Tory, after landing as they said Colonel Simpson commanded the troops to burn Parker's house, which was done as they said, but the circumstances which makes me remember the conversation better is that my father and Southy Simpson, said as they were returning to their boats about day in the morning there was an alarm given and every man pushed for the boats, and the troops which was nearest took to their boats pushed off leaving many on the shore, as the men arrived they took the water to gain the boats, and I perfectly recollect of hearing them both say that they ran into the water up to the thin waists to gain their boats, and then had by command & force to take the boats back to the Island for Colonel Simpson and others on the shore and on their return they said Colonel Simpson, who the first man who laughingly told them that the alarm given was caused by the landing of the wild geese – I have known Southy Simpson, and all his brothers from my childhood to their death, and I am confident that Southy Simpson, was old enough at the commencement of the Revolution to do military duty, for I am of opinion he was as old as my father, who was born in October 1748, and was a Captain of Militia during the whole war, as I have often heard him say, I have known him ever since the year 1790, he had been before then twice married and had a boy Child by his first wife named Thomas about my age and went to school together and about the same size, he was married to Hannah Rogers, his last wife before I ever knew him.

S/ William P Moore, Senior

[f p. 18]

the deposition of the Reverend David Watts<sup>3</sup> a revolutionary Pensioner who being 1st duly sworn deposeseth and saith that he was during the Revolutionary War with Great Britain well acquainted with Southy Simpson who was a militia soldier whose claim is now set up for a pension for his services in said war that he like myself was frequently called out during the war to keep guard and repel the invasion of the enemy the precise time he served on guard I at this late day am unable to state but from the frequent time we were called on during the war and the length of

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<sup>2</sup> *amanuensis*

<sup>3</sup> [David Watts W25895](#)

tours we served on guard, I have no hesitation in saying he served during the war on guard and alarms over two years.

Given under my hand this 31st day of January 1852

S/ David Watts

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David Watts". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the word "Watts".

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her former husband's service as a private in the Virginia militia.]