

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Elmore W7095

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Alabama } S.S.

Limestone County }

On this fifth day of March one thousand eight hundred and forty four, personally appeared before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid, Patsey Elmore, a resident of said County and State, aged sixty nine 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 7 1838 entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows." That she is the widow of Thomas Elmore, who was a soldier in the Army of the revolution, and she has been informed served more than two years, that he first entered the service and served for a short period, and was discharged on account of his age or size, after which he took the place of his father who had enlisted for a term of three years, and served out the time for which he had enlisted, and shortly after which he enlisted and served during the remainder of the war, that he was in many battles and skirmishes, that he was at the capture of Maj'r Andre [see endnote], and surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781] at the close of the war, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Elmore on the [blank] day of May in the year seventeen hunderd and ninety three; that her husband, the aforesaid Thomas Elmore, died on the [blank] day of [blank] 1809 (on his return home to Kentucky from New Orleans where he had gone on business, some time in the latter part of the summer of the year.) that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January seventeen hunderd and ninety four, viz, at the time above stated.

Patsey herXMark Elmore

Virginia – Hanover County, to wit:

Be it known that on this 22^d day of June 1843 personally appeared before me Hudson M. Wingfield a Justice of the Peace in and for the county and state aforesaid, Mrs. Elizabeth Perrin aged eighty four years next October, of said county, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath make the following statement; that Thomas Elmore a soldier of the Revolution was her brother, he was, she feels entirely confident more than three years in service – and could say of her own knowledge he was more than two years in service in the Virginia line. He married as she has always understood miss Patsey Davis, who is now his widow, or was when she last heard from her in Alabama. That her brother Thomas enlisted first under Ballard Smith, and served out his time, that he afterwards enlisted and she thinks served eighteen months in the South, but cannot recollect the officers names under whom enlisted or served. Her father Peter Elmore enlisted for three years under Capt. William Meredith [1st Regiment of Continental Artillery], and after serving two years, returned home, and her brother Thomas Elmore took his place, and served out the remaining one year in his father's place, as his substitute. That she knows to her own knowledge that her brother Thomas Elmore was in the Revolutionary army full two years and she thinks he served at least three years. – That her brother William Elmore was also in the Revolutionary Army, & that her brother Peter [Peter Elmore] died in the army, as did her Brother Daniel [Daniel Elmore], also. – Her brother Thomas Elmore was dressed differently from the other soldiers, when he returned home, and she thinks he held some commission or appointment above the other soldiers.

Elizabeth herXmark Perrin

[Henry Perrin, 78, deposed similarly.]

Forks of Horn Cane Creek Desoto County Mi [De Soto County, Mississippi]
March 20th 1848

Hon J. Thompson

Dear Sir As a resident of your District I hope I shall be excused for asking a little of your service on a subject which you will readily admit I should feel a deep interest in. Ever since 1836 I believe the amended pension act for widows I have had a sister, the widow of a Revolutionary Soldier, who has been kept out of her just claims. Her husband Thomas Elmore was a native of Hanover County Va & at the commencement of the War enlisted under Capt Wm. Meredith as a substitute for Peter Elmore (his father) from that time he continued in the War until the capitulation at Yourktown in 1783. I when a small boy, have often seen him pourtray his action at that eventful scene showing how across his arm he snuffed his Match ready to fire his cannon at the tap of the drum as the flags rapidly passed in & out of the Fort. In Fayette County Ky I have often heard him & Capt Wm Meredith talk over the early scenes of their campaigns. Thomas Elmore died about 1810 before any pensions had been granted to unwounded soldiers My Sister Patsey Elmore is now in her 74th year, lives in Limestone County Ala with her only surviving child & son in law Mr Peter Tinsley who has a large family of children & is poor but respectable & a tanner by trade the bounty of the Government would be of equal benefit to the child & g. children of Tom. Elmore Some five or six years back my sister was enfluenced by Jeremiah Tinsley of Hanover Cty Va then in Ala to make by Power of Atty. an Agent of a Mr Thos Greene of Richmond Va he kept taking exceptions to the voucher & certificates sent him until about the last May Mr Paul Christian's certificate of Randolph County Missouri reached him & he wrote back to Limestone that that certificate was all sufficient & that he would appeal to the Secretary War since which he has stopped writing. I strongly suspect he is a scamp I have been told that he is a nominal lawyer but a practical blackleg I want you to enquire of the Hon J. M. Botts something about the trustworthiness of the Thos. Greene I am sure he will know him say to Mr Botts this Thomas Elmore was the Uncle of Capt Sam'l. Perrin of Hanover whom he well knows and many of her connexions & mine too; you will please ascertain if Green has drawn this pension money if not forbid his doing so let the order be sent to the pension Agent in her District if the Hon. H. Clay [Henry Clay] should be at Washington he can speak something of the genuineness of my sister's claim you will be kind enough on receipt of this to write me back to Eutaw P.O. Desoto Mi as I may communicate the same to Mr Peter Tinsley any services which you may be able to render in this case will be duly appreciated by myself & the rest of our connexions I remain Dr Sir your

Most Obt Servant Nath'l. Davis

NOTES:

A size roll compiled at Chesterfield Courthouse after 1 Sep 1780 includes the following: Thomas Elmore/ age 16/ height 5 5/ Planter/ born Hanover County VA/ resided Hanover County/ hair brown/ eyes gray/ complexion fair/ enlisted 7 Sep 1780 at Hanover for 18 months.

Maj. John André, Gen. Benedict Arnold's fellow spy, was captured near Tarrytown NY by three militiamen on 23 Sep 1780. Patsey Elmore was almost certainly mistaken in saying that her husband had been present.

Paul Christian of Randolph County MO deposed that he was present at the wedding of Thomas Elmore and Patsy Davis at the home of her father, Stephen Davis in Fayette County KY. Patsey Elmore's application was denied for many years because of doubts over which soldier named Thomas Elmore had been her husband, inadequate proof that he served a minimum of two years, and lack of proof that the marriage occurred before 1794. After a lengthy exchange of correspondence with the Pension Office, the Pension Committee of Congress eventually decided in favor of Patsey Elmore's claim. Sarah Tinsley, the only surviving child, acknowledged receipt of \$651.85 covering the period from when Patsey Elmore applied up to the date of her death, 17 Mar 1854.