

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Grier (Greer) W7567

Susannah Grier f87NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/2/08 rev'd 11/3/15

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 3]

North Carolina, Mecklenburg County

On this 18th day of June A.D. 1853 personally appeared before me the undersigned one of the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions in and for the County of Mecklenburg in the State of North Carolina Susanna Greer a resident of Steele Creek Congregation in the County and State aforesaid aged 83 years past who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the acts of Congress passed July 7th 1838 – March 3rd , 1843 – June 17th, 1844 and July 29th, 1848 & February 3rd, 1853 – That she is the widow of Thomas Greer deceased who was a resident of said County and a Soldier of the Revolutionary war and Served in the American Army a considerable length of time (Some two years and upwards) as commissary – Deponent well remembers that when she was a small girl during the latter part of the Revolutionary war a Slaughter pen was established at her father's house and She often saw Thomas Greer her late husband with his assistance at Said Slaughter pen laying in a Supply of beef & for his division of the Army After Deponent's marriage with her said husband She often heard him talking of events that occurred during his Services in the American Army one fact She remembers distinctly that viz that at the time General Gates was retreating from Camden in South Carolina, her Said husband who then had charge of the Baggage Wagons & provision wagons belonging to the Army, met him and was ordered by Gates to cut his horses loose from the wagons and run for his life. That the British were near at hand and hot pursuit and would be upon him directly; but her husband refused to run and stayed with his wagons – Deponent has no recollection of the names of the officers under whom her said husband Served, nor does she know of any one now living by whom she can prove the facts – neither as she any documentary evidence in Support of her claim – Deponent further states that her father lived about 7 miles from Charlotte NC during the Revolution but was too old to take part in the war: owing however to his Strong attachment to the American cause, his house was made a place of general resort for the Whigs who came there to consult together and transact their business – That she remembers to have frequently seen at her Said father's house a young man by the name of Andrew Jackson, then a resident of the Waxhaw Settlement about 30 miles distant; that she was told by the family that Jackson came there with his friends for the purpose of avoiding the British who were advancing upon that Settlement. This was impressed upon Deponent's mind from the fact that it was after her first acquaintance with young Andrew Jackson, that her acquaintance began with Commissary Thomas Greer at her father's house.

Deponent further states that her maiden name was Susanna Spratt: that she is the Second wife of her Said husband Thomas Greer That she was married to him on the 30th day of April 1789 by General Robert Irwin deceased who was then a Justice of the Peace for Mecklenburg County NC. Deponent further States that her said husband Thomas Greer died on the 27th day of August A.D. 1828 leaving Surviving him this Declarant his widow who has not intermarried since the death of her husband the

said Thomas Greer.

That she now offers as evidence of her marriage to the said Thomas Greer her family Register which is in the handwriting of Larkin Stowe of Gaston County NC who transcribed it from the original family Register which was in the handwriting of her husband the aforesaid Thomas Greer which transcript was made Some 35 years ago and that the original register is now lost – and that the register referred to is hereunto attached.

And for the purpose of prosecuting his claim I hereby constitute and appoint A. S. Wallace of York District South Carolina & William F. Davidson of Charlotte North Carolina my true & lawful attorneys with full power to act in as full and ample manner as though I were personally present: to appoint one or more Substitutes under them to examine all the papers and documents on file in the Department at Washington City or elsewhere hereby ratifying & confirming all that my said attorney's shall lawfully do in the premises --

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal the day and year above written. Declarant further says that She was ignorant of the pension laws and did not know until a few years back that She was entitled to draw a pension for the Services of her husband said Thomas Greer and being in easy circumstances she neglected to present her claim.

Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ W. H. Neal, JP

S/ Susanna Greer

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susanna Greer". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted.

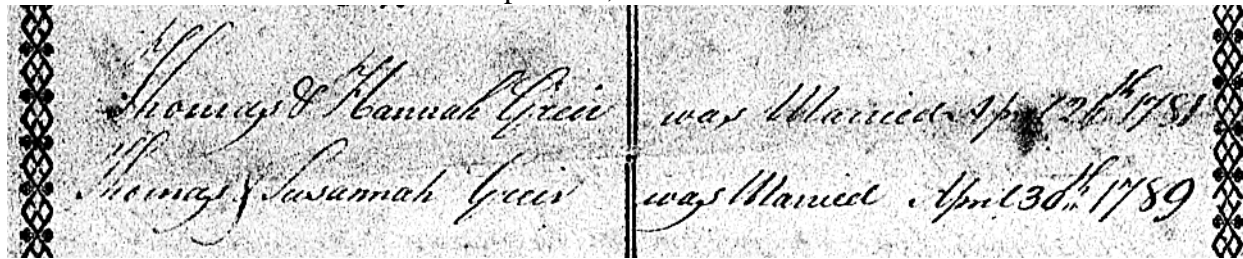
[pp5-8]

Family record:

[p 5]

Thomas & Hannah Grier was married April 24th, 1781

Tom's & Susanna Grier was Married April 30th, 1789

A photograph of a handwritten document with two entries. The entries are written in cursive and are separated by a vertical line. The first entry reads "Thomas & Hannah Grier was Married April 24th 1781". The second entry reads "Thomas & Susannah Grier was Married April 30th 1789". The document has decorative borders on the left and right sides.

[p 6]

Thomas Greir [sic] was born June 24, 1744

Hannah Greir [sic] was born March 2nd 1761

Susannah Grier was born January 13th 1770

Margaret Grier was born March 13th 1782

James Grier was born October 6, 1783

Thomas Grier Junior was born December 26 1785

Alexander Grier was born March 21st 1788

Hannah Grier was born September 8th, 1790

John Spratt Grier was born March 8th, 1792

Samuel Grier was born August 8, 1795

Andrew Grier was born October 9th, 1797

Katharine McKnight Grier was born December 11th, 1799

Mary Grier was born April 11th 1802
William McKee Grier was born August 20, 1804

Thomas Grier was born June 24th 1754
Hannah Grier was born March 2^d 1761
Susannah Grier was born January 13th 1770
Margaret Grier was born March 13th 1782
James Grier was born October 6th 1783
Thomas Grier Junr was born Dec. 26th 1785
Alexander Grier was born March 21st 1788
Hannah Grier was born Sept 8th 1790
John Spratt Grier was born March 8th 1792
Samuel Grier was born Aug. 8th 1795
Andrew Grier was born Oct. 9th 1797
Rathirine McKnight Grier was born Decem. 11th 1799
Mary Grier was born April 11th 1802
William McKee Grier was born Aug. 20 1804

[p 7]
Zenas Greir was born November 14th, 1806
Susanna Grier was born July 17th 1810

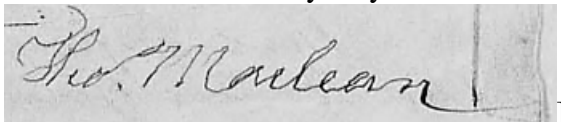
Zenas Greir was born Nov. 14th 1806
Susannah Grier was born July 17th 1810

[p 8]
Hannah Grier died March 22nd, 1788
Hannah Grier Junior died February 5th, 1791
John Spratt Grier died September 6, 1822

Mary B Grier died September 5th, 1824
 Samuel Grier died October 26, 1824
 Thomas Grier Junior died January 27th, 1828
 Katharine McKnight died March 20th 1828
 Susan N Whyte died December 6, 1834
 James Grier died March 6, 1845
 Andrew Grier died August 6, 1850

DEATHS.	DEATHS.
<i>B.</i> Mannah Grier died	March 22 th 1788
Mannah Grier Junr died	February 5 th 1791
John Spratt Grier	Sept. 8 th 1822
Mary B Grier	Sept. 5 th 1824
Samuel Grier	October 26 th 1824
Thomas Grier Jun	January 27 th 1828
Katharine McKnight	March 20 th 1828
Susan N. Whyte	December 6 th 1834
James Grier	March 6 th 1845
Andrew Grier	August 10 th 1850

[p 34: On March 9, 1853, Thomas McClain [he signs his name clearly as “Thos. Maclean”], 89, of Gaston County gave a supporting affidavit stating that he did not personally serve in the Revolution but his brothers John (who was killed at “Blufords Bridge”) and William McClain¹ (who was pensioner) did serve; that he, Thomas, well recollects Thomas Grier serving as a commissary during the war; that he heard his brothers say they served with Grier on a tour under General Rutherford to Ramsour's Mill.



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State of North Carolina, Mecklenburg County

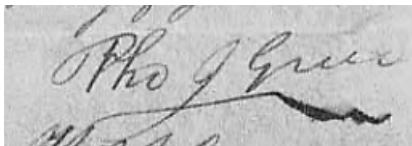
Before me personally appeared Colonel Thomas J. Greer aged Sixty Seven years who being first duly Sworn on oath says that he is the son of Thomas Greer late of Mecklenburg County deceased whose widow Susannah Greer is now an applicant for a pension, and that he has always understood and believes that his father the said Thomas Greer was a Commissary in the Army of the Revolution and such he served the United States against the common enemy from the time he entered the Service in the year 1778 or 1779 until the close of the war, but to give the particulars of his father's Said Service

1 May be [William Maclean \(McLean, McCLean\) W3572](#)

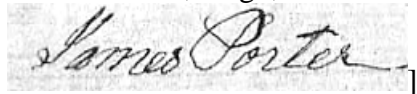
deponent cannot, but has often heard his father and other Soldiers of the Revolution who resided in deponents neighborhood in said County speak of his father's Service in the Revolution as a commissary, viz. James Knox² Captain William Hutchinson³ & others. And that he Served under Colonel Irwin afterwards General Irwin who commanded the militia of Mecklenburg County North Carolina in which County the Said Thomas Greer lived, and was with General Gates at his defeat at Camden, but was not in the Battle but met Gates at his retreat – who ordered him to cut the horses from the wagons and retreat as the British were in hot pursuit, and immediately galloped off – Deponent's father then ordered a retreat of the wagons and with a Small guard kept in the rear brought off 17 wagons & teams to Charlotte North Carolina a distance of some 70 miles from the scene of action. He also furnished General Smallwood's Army and adopted his plan of Saving beef by hanging it up in a dark room, a practice he always kept up until his death. Said that General Smallwood preserved his beef in a wire Scrum hung in the open air and that his father was generally engaged in Service from the mountains to the Seaboard in North & South Carolina, one tour of which was performed at the City of Charleston SC neither can he say what Battles he was in as his Services were long and arduous and always duly appreciated by the community Since deponent's first recollection – Deponent further says that the family register which is now surrendered and Support of the marriage of the said Thomas and Susannah Greer the present claimant – was transcribed from his father's original family record some 36 years ago by Gentlemen by the name of Larkin Stowe now of Gaston County NC who was teaching School in the vicinity of his fathers, and that he knows the said transcription to be correct by frequent comparison with the original family register, which is now lost and that the births of their children as well as the date of their marriage he believes to be strictly 18th day of June 1853.

S/ Wm H. Neal, JP

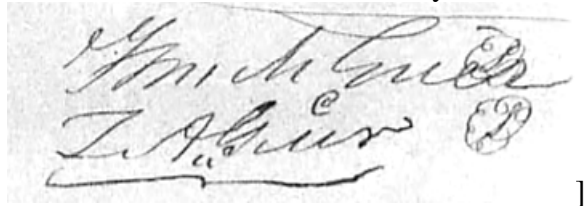
S/ Thos. J. Greer

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thos J Greer", with a horizontal line underneath. The signature is written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

[p 38: On February 13, 1854 in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, James Porter gave testimony that he was well acquainted with Thomas Grier and Susannah Grier his widow; that Susanna died July 4, 1853; that affiant heard his father Alexander Porter and other Revolutionary officers & soldiers speak of the service of Thomas Grier as a commissary during the revolution; that Thomas Grier had a slaughter pen at James Spratt's and that Hugh Porter, a cousin of the affiant's Father has often told the affiant that he, Hugh, was a Salter & Packer of meats under Thomas Grier as a commissary.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James Porter", with a horizontal line underneath. The signature is written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

[p 43: Power of attorney dated June 1, 1855 given by William M Grier and Zenas A. Grier authorizing their attorney A. S. Wallace of York District South Carolina to pursue the claim of their mother, Susanna Grier for a Revolutionary Pension.

Two handwritten signatures in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm M Grier" and "Z A Grier", with horizontal lines underneath. The signatures are written on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

² [James Knox S7126](#)

³ [William Hutchison \(Hutchinson\) W10133](#)

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$563.67 per annum for her said husband service as a Commissary of Issues for the North Carolina Continental line.]