

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Lewis W8032

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

The state of Indiana, Switzerland county, SS:

On this Eighteenth day of August A.D. 1832, personally appeared, in open court, before the honorable, the Probate court, of the county aforesaid, being a court of record, Thomas Lewis a resident of Switzerland county Indiana aged Sixty Eight years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his said oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of congress, passed the 7th of June, A.D. 1832 — that he, the said Thomas Lewis entered the service of the United States, during the AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated — That he, the said Thomas Lewis

In 1781, in March or April, in a company of Militia commanded by Captain Coleman [probably Samuel Coleman], Sutton [probably James Sutton] or Taylor, in the regiment of Virginia Militia commanded by col. Andrew Thornton [probably Anthony Thornton] — In 1781, in June, in a company of Militia commanded by captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor; in a regt. of Virginia Militia commanded by col. Thomas Mathews — In 1781 In September in a company of Militia commanded by Coleman, Sutton or Taylor in the regiment of Virginia Militia, commanded by Majr Carey [or Cary], of the Continental army And, that he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

The Court, then propounded the following interrogatories to the said Thomas Lewis,

1. Where, and in what year were you born? I was born in Caroline Co. Virginia, on the — December AD 1764
2. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it? I have no record of my age; but believe I was born on the 18 or 20 of December of that year, as I have been informed
3. Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary war; and where do you now live? When called into the service I resided in Caroline Co. Va - about seventeen years in Genesee county N.Y - about three years in Butler county O. and fourteen years in this county; and have never been out of the United States
4. How were you called into service; were you drafted - did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? and if a substitute, for whom? I was drafted three different times.
5. State the names of some of the Regular officers, who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service. General Lafayette; Genl. Washington; General Lafayette commanded us at the Seige of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781]; but Gen. Washington commanded when Cornwallis surrendered: after Cornwallis surrendered we were marched to Winchester & from thence to Fredericksburg, where we were discharged
6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it signed, and what has become of it? I never received a written discharge
7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution. Newton H. Tapps, William Scudder, Allen Macy, William Cotton, David McCormick, George Markland, Daniel Haycock &c.
8. Have you any documentary evidence of your services, and do you know of know of any person now living whose testimony you can procure to testify to your services?
I have no documentary evidence in my possession. I have lately heard of Thomas Hall living in Kentucky who has a knowledge of my service, but do not know it positively
Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid [signed] Thomas Lewis

In the month of March or April of 1781, I was drafted in Caroline county, Virginia in a company of Virginia Militia commanded by Captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor (I served three tours under those officers, but cannot recollect positively which captains commanded the first time) in the

regiment commanded by Lieut Colonel Andrew Thornton and served for the full term of two months, and was discharged or disbanded at Fredericksburg, Va. Again, in the month of June of the same year, I was drafted in the same county, in a company of Virginia Militia commanded by either captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor, I have forgotten which one of them) in the regiment commanded by col. Thomas Mathews, and served as a private soldier for the full term of two months. We rendezvoused at Chesterfield and marched to Head Quarters by Major Spotswood, when col. Mathews took command at a place called Point of Fork [at present Columbia VA], from thence we followed Cornwallis towards Jamestown where our service expired and we were disbanded near Jamestown. Again in Aug't. or September of the same year I was drafted, at the same place in a company of Va. Militia commanded by either captain Coleman, Sutton or Taylor (I have entirely forgotten which) in the detachment commanded by Major Carey of the Continental army. When the company was organized we redezvoused at Todd's warehouse and marched from thence to Gloucester and joined the forces commanded by General Wheedon [sic: George Weedon] of Fredericksburg and served for two months and two weeks. About one month before the capitulation [i.e. about 19 Sep] I was appointed Second sergeant of this company.

NOTE: In a letter dated 18 Nov 1849 Sarah Lewis stated that she had married Thomas Lewis in 1806, and he had died after drawing his pension twice, leaving her with nine children, all of them in 1849 poor, including a daughter in Cincinnati, the wife of Robert D. Collins. In this letter she stated that her husband had been made sergeant after the death of the previous sergeant of his company. On 5 Apr 1853 at age 70 she applied for a pension stating that as Sarah Condly she married Thomas Lewis, in Angelica, Allegany County NY, on 4 Aug 1805, and he died 28 Jul 1832. A document in 1854 gave her age as 60. On an application for bounty land dated 18 Apr 1855 her age is given as 74.