

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas Stapleton W9320 Sarah (Sally) fn63NC  
Transcribed by Will Graves rev'd 3/9/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. 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. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

[fn p. 10]

State of Kentucky, Clay Circuit & County

On the 28th day of October, 1833, personally appeared in open before Joseph Eve, Judge of the Clay Circuit Court now setting, Thomas Stapleton a resident citizen in the County of Clay and State of Kentucky aged 75 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He states that he was a citizen of Rowan County State of North Carolina. That he entered into the Revolutionary Army as a private soldier, a volunteer, and was united to a Company commanded by Capt. Thomas Cowin [Thomas Cowen?] and the regiment to which Capt. Cowin's Company was attached was commanded by Col. \_\_ Lock [sic, Francis Locke]. That he entered the Revolutionary Service in the month of June, 1780 as he believes (he is now old & infirm in body & mind) in the County of Rowan, N.C. and was marched to the forks of Adkin [sic, Yadkin River], thence to Charlotte, and there joined other troops stationed at that place and was employed in guarding British prisoners there in the bull pen taken at the hanging rock. From thence was marched back to the forks of Yadkin, thence to Salem and there received his discharge for six months service in the revolutionary army.

He states that a short time after his discharge aforesaid, (in the fall or spring) he again volunteered and entered the revolutionary service in Rowan County North Carolina in a company of Volunteer Cavalry commanded by Capt. James Pierson and the troop was marched from the forks of Yadkin to the shallow ford of big Yadkin, crossed and marched in a direction for the Moravian Towns in pursuit of a company of about 300 Tories commanded by a Capt Briant [sic, this is probably a reference to either James Bryan or Samuel Bryan] and between the shallow ford<sup>1</sup> and the Moravian Towns the mounted troop had a smart scrimmage with the Tories and the Tories were routed and fled, were pursued and 5 or 6 killed. We lost one man only. Thence we marched

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1 The skirmish at Shallow Ford occurred on October 14, 1780. Captain James Bryan, a Tory, is believed to have been in this skirmish. Col. Samuel Bryan was not in this skirmish.  
[http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_shallow\\_ford.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_shallow_ford.html) and <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/shallow-fd.htm>

to the Moravian Towns, thence we reconnoitered the country round about in pursuit of Tories and then was marched to the three forks of the Yadkin and was discharged having served in this tour only six weeks.

He states that he was a citizen of Russell County, Virginia again entered into the revolutionary service against the Indians as he believes in 1781 or 1782. He entered the company commanded by Capt. William Darten and Lieutenant Richard Long and was marched to Bushes Station on Clinch River and was employed in building Orsburn's [sic, Osborne's?] Station, in defense of the frontier—from thence was marched in pursuit of the Indians to Glade Hollow, thence to New Guardian thence to L. Guardian thence to the Maiden Forks of Clinch River, a frontier of fifty miles and was employed in reconnoitering and defending the frontier against the depredations of the Indians two years and was then discharged.

He states he has no vouchers in his possession. That he knows of no person by whom he could prove his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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 and if any only on that of the agency of the State North Carolina and Virginia.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Stapleton, X his mark

[Elisha W. Bowman, a clergyman and Daniel Duff, also a clergyman, gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 14]

State of Kentucky, Clay County

On the 21<sup>st</sup> day of October 1841, before me, one of the Commonwealth Justices of the peace in and for said County personally appeared Mrs. Sarah Stapleton a resident of the County of Clay and State of Kentucky, aged about seventy seven years, who 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 the 7th July, 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows.

That she is the widow of Thomas Stapleton who was a private in the army of the Revolution and served as shown by the evidence on file in the War Department on which a Pension Certificate was granted him allowing him a pension of Twenty four dollars and sixty six cents per annum (under the act of June 7th 1832) which certificate is now in her possession, numbered 26,604, bearing date at the war office on the 5th day of April, 1834 and signed by Lew Cass, Secretary of War.

She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Stapleton on the \_\_ day of June, one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight and that her husband the said Thomas Stapleton died on the 15th day of November, 1835

That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first of January, one thousand seven hundred and ninety four. viz.: at the time above stated.

She knows of no documentary evidence within her reach by which she can prove her marriage, living as she does a considerable distance from the courthouse.

She declares her inability from age and bodily infirmity to attend court.

Sworn & subscribed on the day and year first above mentioned

S/ Anderson D. Clark J P

S/ Sarah Stapleton, X her mark

[fn p. 18: Sarah Stapleton gave testimony in Owsley County Kentucky on April 15, 1851 in further proof of her marriage to Thomas Stapleton prior to January one of 1794 she states that she had 2 children, Edward and William, prior to 1794.]

[fn p. 4: On April 15, 1851 in Owsley County Kentucky, Edward Stapleton, 66, gave testimony that he is the lawful son of Thomas and Sarah Stapleton; that his father was pensioned for his service in the revolution; that his father died in Clay County Kentucky in 1835 and that his mother remains his father's widow.]

[fn p. 16: On July the 31st 1844 in Johnson County Kentucky, Joshua Stapleton, 77 in December 1844, gave testimony that he is the brother-in-law of Sally Stapleton; that his brother Thomas Stapleton and Sally Johnson were married in Rowan County North Carolina near the big Yadkin River at what was called the horseshoe not far from the Shallow Ford in the year 1783; that he was at the wedding install been married.]

[fn p. 17: Molly Dorton [could be Darton], 84, gave testimony on July 31st, 1844 that she was present at the marriage of Thomas Stapleton to Sally Johnson in North Carolina near the big Yadkin River.]

[fn p. 24: James Crank, 72, gave testimony in Knox County Kentucky On May one, 1851, that he was well acquainted with Thomas and Sarah Stapleton while they were living on the Holston River in the state of Virginia about the year 1790 or 1791 but knows that it was before the time of General Anthony Wayne's victory over the Indians at the Battle of the Miami Rapids in Ohio.]

[fn pp. 26-29: affidavits given by Thomas T.,80, and Robert R. Johnson, 75, in Breathitt County, Ky., in support of the widow's application in which both state that the marriage of Thomas Stapleton to Sally Johnson occurred in 1783 on their father's farm in "Roan" [Rowan] County. Neither explicitly states that he is the brother of the widow, but I suspect that they were siblings of the widow.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$24.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 7 months & 12 days service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]