Bounty Land Warrant information relating to Thomas Litchfield VAS953

Transcribed by Will Graves

[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.]

[From bounty land records in the Library of Virginia]

Accomack County to wit:

I John B Hickman aged about 67 years do hereby certify and declare that at the commencement of the revolutionary war I resided in the immediate neighborhood of Thomas Litchfield, with whom I was well acquainted, he & I being played mates together; I do further declare that he enlisted as a sailor and served as such on board of one of the armed vessels of the State of Virginia, attached to the Navy thereof during the said war; the said Thomas Litchfield enlisted for 3 or 5 years, I do not now distinctly recollect which, but I know that he served regularly his term of enlistment: as a reason why I recollect this circumstance more distinctly I will state that the officer who enlisted Litchfield endeavored to persuade me to do so too, but I considered myself too young and therefore refused to do so – the vessel on board which he served was frequently in our harbors in this sure which enables me to know that he continued in service regularly – he afterwards lived & died in this County & I often met with him after the war was over. Given under my hand this first of October 1830

S/ John B Hickman

[acknowledgement cut off but given by John W. Custis, JP on October 1, 1830 I believe in Accomack County Virginia but the County does not appear in the documents in this file]