Pension Application of John Tupman R104
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky | SS
Adair County |

On this 7th day of July 1834 personally came before the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County of adair af’sd William Settles Sen’r aged Sixty nine years in August next who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that in early life previous to the Revolutionary War he was acquainted with John Tupman, then a resident of westmoreland County State of Virginia, he continued his acquaintance with said Tupman up to the year 1798 he states that he lived near said John Tupman, during the war and he knows that said Tupman was in the Navy of the united states during the war that is he knows so far as this, that said Tupman was absent and from report he said Tupman was in the Navy as a Sailing Master in the virginia line, in the war of the Revolution; this affiant never saw said Tupman on board any vessel but this was the Common & universal report and it was never Contradicted or Doubted, and after the Close of the war this affiant often heard said Tupman speak of his services in the navy during the war of the Revolution and was as he stated was once taken prisoner, by the british; he further states that in the month of April in the year 1798 he the said John Tupman, went on Board of a vessel bound for the west indias [West Indies]; that from Report the vessel was cast away and the said John Tupman with the balance of the crew was lost, This affiant further states that said Tupman left a wife who has long since departed this life also William Tupman now a Resident of the County of adair State of Kentucky, and Nancy Tupman who afterwards intermarried with Benjamin Settles, that by him she had four children, towit Louisa who has intermarried with John Clark, & also Matilda who has intermarried with Thomas Smith Emely who has married Thomas Stubbs also Sally who intermarried with Lonsey Stubbs these are all the Heirs now living of said John Tupman he further states that the said Nancy Settles has departed this life leaving the af’d children her heirs. he further states That said Tupman made no will that is he never heard of his having left any – he knows that Benjamin Settles administered on said John Tumorans estate and no will was ever mentioned or spoken of. he further states that said Tupman left no children but the Two before named, but William and Nancy and from his own knowledge he left no other legal heirs he further states that he cannot state the time of said Tupsmans Death but knows he saw him in 1798 in the month of April But how long he lived after that time he cannot state the loss of the vessel was not mentioned for sometime thereafter

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year af’d William Settles Sr.

June 22, 1847

I certify that I have examined the claim of the administrator of John Tupman, deceased, who was a Sailing Master in the State Navy of Virginia. It appears that Tupman served until the reduction of that Navy in 1781, and that he died in the year 1801. The claim is provided for by the act of July 5, 1832. I therefore certify that Henry Northup [Henry Northrup] as administrator of said Tupman is entitled to half-pay under said act at the rate of one hundred and fifty two dollars and eight cents per annum from the 31st of December 1781 to the first of January 1801. commissioner of Pensions

Approved/ Secretary of War.

NOTES:

In the file of Thomas Bonnewell (R10) is a document entitled “A List of necessaries wanting out of the public store, for the Officers on board the Ship Tartar – for two months, from 25th Nov’r. 1779 to 25th Jany 1780,” which lists John Tupman as “Mas’r.”
The file includes a warrant for 1000 acres of land surveyed 11 Aug 1785, issued to Tupman by Isaac Shelby, Governor of Kentucky.