Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Thornhill S14673 Transcribed by Will Graves

f15VA 12/9/11

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. 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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, County of Buckingham to wit

On this 13th day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before Charles Yancy, Samuel Patterson, John T Bocock, and Robert Nicholas justices of the Court of Buckingham County, now sitting, William Thornhill a resident of said County and state of Virginia aged 74 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 State of Virginia in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Charles May under Captain William Johns and Lieutenant Cook Weakley, the date not recollected but believes it was in 1776 that he was discharged at the expiration of three months, that he was then as he is now and has been ever since a resident of the County of Buckingham and that Colonel May, Captain Johns and Lieutenant Weakley were also residents of Buckingham when we entered the service he as a substitute for John Harris also of the County of Buckingham, that he was in no engagement during that tour, that he stayed in the old Barracks at Williamsburg, after the regular Army had marched to the North, at which place he served as a guard, that he received an honorable discharge, which he has since lost, and has no documentary evidence, nor knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. That he entered the service of the State of Virginia a second time in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Charles Fleming, under Captain Charles Patterson Lieutenant John Burks and Ensign William Beckham in January 1781. That he was discharged at the expiration of three months, that Captain Patterson, Lieutenant Burks, and Ensign Beckham were residents of Buckingham County and were attached to the Brigade of General Macklenburg [Peter Muhlenberg], that he was drafted as a militia man that he was stationed at Cabin Point, Mackies Mill, and Babbs old field, below Petersburg in this state, that he was frequently in skirmishes with the enemy under General Cornwallis between Portsmouth Virginia and Cabin Point, that he was ordered to march to join General Green [Nathanael Greene] before the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and after having marched three days with the Regiment commanded by Colonels Boyer and Meriwether from the Counties of Rockbridge and Rockingham he received notice by express that the battle had been fought, and returned to Babbs old field where he served the remainder of the tour, that he had a discharge signed by Captain Charles Patterson, which he has lost for the proof of this service he refers to the certificate of ___.

That he entered the service of the State of Virginia a third time, in the Regiment as he believes commanded by Colonel Richardson under Captain John Couch & Lieutenant William Blakey and Ensign __ Spencer in the month of July 1783, and was discharged at the expiration of three months, that Captain Couch, Lieutenant Blakey an Ensign Spencer were all residents of the County of Buckingham at the time they entered the service, that he was attached to general

Washington's Army before the siege of York [September-October 1781], That before the capitulation at York he was taken sick and was confined principally to the Hospital at Williamsburg that he received a discharge which has been lost. That all of the officers under which the above named three tours of duty were rendered he believes are since dead. That 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 that he has no other evidence except such as is hereby transmitted for the establishment of the statement of facts herein made, and that he is 74 years of age, and has no register of his age. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ William Thornhill

[David Kyle gave a standard supporting affidavit.]

William Stephens

[On August 17, 1833 in Buckingham County Virginia, William Stephens, 68, gave testimony that during the siege of York, the veteran's father learned that the veteran was sick and sent the affiant to bring him home and the affiant did so.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for nine months service as a private in the Virginia militia.]