

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Gann S3388

f26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Hamilton County

On this 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Worshipful Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County, now sitting, Thomas Gann a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged sixty eight 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 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that is to say – he was drafted and entered the service under Captain William Trimble and Colonel John Sevier, in the upper part of North Carolina and now Washington County, Tennessee, he was immediately marched under the before mentioned officers to the high hills of Santee in South Carolina and joined the Army under General Greene [Nathanael Greene], where the Regiment to which this applicant belonged remained two or three days and was marched to General Marion's [Francis Marion's] head Quarters above Charleston S. C. and joined him under whose command this applicant served about four months, this applicant was discharged while at General Marion's station he believes by Colonel Sevier and returned home, this applicant served about five months as a horseman finding his own horse, this tour, soon after this applicant returned home, he was appointed Captain of a light horse company and commissioned by Governor Martin of North Carolina as such in which command as a Captain this applicant served off and on as a Ranger on the frontiers of North Carolina until termination of the Revolutionary war during which time this applicant was in several skirmishes with the British and Tories and was in a skirmish in the immediate vicinity of King's Mountain on that day [October 7, 1780] the battle was fought at that place, in which skirmish this applicant received a wound on the crown of his head by a British Dragoon, he was not directly engaged in the battle at King's Mountain, after the termination of the revolution this applicant served under General Sevier formerly kept Colonel Sevier until the termination of the Cherokee war, and was in several skirmishes with the Indians and was in a sharp engagement with them at the fork of Coosa and High town rivers or a little above, this engagement was the last which this applicant remembers to have been in, the Indian war soon after terminated and this applicant returned home, This applicant from the commencement of his services in the Revolution till the termination of the Indian war, considered himself in the service of the United States or State of North Carolina, about six years and received pay in Continental money from pay masters Green and Guess and others not recollected except the last payment after the termination of

the Cherokee war which was in good money – and paid to Major James Steward – of the war department and by him paid over to this applicant.

This applicant was born (in Virginia from whence his father moved when he (this applicant) was about 14 or 15 years old to Washington County, then North Carolina) in the [year] 1764 March 17<sup>th</sup>. The record of his age was in a book (Cato's letters) which book he believes to be in his brother's possession in Washington County Tennessee. He has stated where he lived when called into service he lived there between 20 and 25 years and moved to Rhea County Tennessee, where he lived eight or nine years from there to this County (Hamilton) where he has resided the last nine or 10 years and still resides.

He has stated how he was called into service and the names of the officers with whom he was acquainted and served some of whom were Regular officers and the general circumstances of his service.

He has stated how he was discharged and from whom he received his commission, and now states, that some length of time after the war of the Revolution he lost his commission among a number of other papers and his discharge none of which he has ever been able to recover.

He states that he has no documentary evidence of his services, nor can he obtain any living witness that he knows of, without much trouble and expense.

He is known to Cornelius Millikin [sic] an acting Justice of the peace for Hamilton County and James Riddle and Robert Patterson acting justices as aforesaid in his present neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution, but not with any clergyman that can do so that he knows of.

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 in the United States.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Gann, X his mark

[Cornelius Millikin, James Riddle and Robert Patterson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee Hamilton County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for said County Thomas Gann who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades; for five months I served as a private under Captain William Trimble and Colonel John Sevier & for three months, I served as a Lieutenant and Captain under Colonel Sevier, for three months more I served as a Captain under Colonel Sevier & seventeen months as a Captain of a company of Rangers during which I was actually engaged as a Ranger by order of the State government of North Carolina making in all twenty-eight months I was in actual service before the close of the Revolutionary War, besides my service afterwards against the Indians at different times, he don't know that he can prove as required by the Department of war that he received a commission or had one in possession, yet such was the fact, it was lost about twenty-two years ago, in moving by water down Holston River – he believes that he can buy being at

some trouble and expense procure testimony that he acted as Captain in the service before the close of the Revolutionary War – but is advised that it would not be satisfactory evidence to the War Department of his grade, he therefore claims a pension as a private for twenty-eight months, which is not less than the actual time he served during the Revolutionary War.

S/ Thomas Gann, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed before me the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 1834.

S/ Saml. Igan, JP

State of Tennessee Hamilton County: SS October Session 1836

This day being the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1836 Thomas Gann a Revolutionary pensioner personally appeared in open Court and made oath in due form of law that he has lost out of his possession his pension certificate on which he was entitled to receive \$50 per annum payable semiannually on the 4<sup>th</sup> of March and 4<sup>th</sup> of September in every year during his natural life, that there are now three payments in arrears and that this is the second affidavit he has made of the loss of his said certificate, the number of which he does not recollect – that he mailed his first affidavit of the loss of it at Soddy post office in this County, Colonel William Clift post master. That he has not sold or transferred or in any wise disposed of his interest in said certificate to any person whatever; that he alone is justly entitled to the benefit of the same, that he can get no information respecting his first affidavit above mentioned, – wherefore he prays that another certificate may issue to him, directed to Soddy post office Hamilton County Tennessee, and that he refers to B. B. Cannon and Thomas Layman for a statement as to his character.

S/ Thomas Gann, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for his service for 28 months as a private in the North Carolina militia.]