Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jennings Thompson S7717 Transcribed by Will Graves

f15VA 12/5/11

[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 to wit

On this 17th day of June 1833 personally appeared before the Court of Pittsylvania County now sitting Jennings Thompson a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged seventy-one 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 the 7th 1832 that he entered the service of the United States on the 12th day of April 1781 being drafted and marched from the County of Amelia in the State of Virginia where he then resided in a company of Militia under Captain John Night [John Knight¹] and Lieutenant Prestley Geter [Presley Jeter] direct to Richmond and joined the Regiment under Colonel Cole, Colonel Dix [Alexander Dicks?], Major Boyer &c from Richmond we marched down to a place called Morben Hill [Malvern Hills], from thence to Williamsburg from thence we marched in various directions, under the command of General Lafayette not being long stationed at any one place until sometime in the month of __

I acted as orderly Sergeant and with four other man by order of Colonel Booker were detailed and instructed to procure Beef Cattle and drive them in for the use of the Army. I acted in this way until after Lord Cornwallis surrendered himself and Army to General Washington at York Town on the 19th day of October 1781. Colonel Booker being discharged. I was called from the neighborhood of Hogg Island on James River to the County of Amelia and received a discharge from Colonel Booker about the last of October or first of November 1781, that discharge is lost or mislaid and cannot be found. I do not know of any person living that was in that service with me but can prove by Washington Thompson who lived with me at the time, that I entered service &c the whole of the Service rendered by me asked Orderly Sergeant in the war the Revolution was not less than six months and eighteen days for which I claim a pension.

I was born in the County of Amelia in the State of Virginia on the 19th day of December 1761 -

My age was recorded in a Church Book in the said County of Amelia, and extract of which I obtained from the Clerk of the said Church since I became of age -

I lived in the County of Amelia when I entered the service of the Revolution I lived in the said County when the War ended soon after I moved to the County of Pittsylvania and have lived in that County ever since.

I was drafted as stated in my declaration –

The officers, the Regiments, and circumstances of my Service are stated in my Declaration –

¹ The War Department, Commission of Pension read this name as John Wight.

I received a discharge from Colonel Booker which is lost or mislaid and cannot be found

I hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any State – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Jennings Thompson*
[James Soyers and Thomas Ragsdale gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

I Washington Thompson of the County of Pittsylvania in said State of Virginia do hereby Certify and Solemnly swear that Jennings Thompson of said County who is now an applicant for a Pension was a Revolutionary Soldier, that he was drafted and left the County of Amelia where we both lived during the War of the Revolution and was absent from the said County several months the exact length of time I cannot say, that I saw him in the Army of the United States when Serving the said Tour of duty, that at another time he was engaged in collecting together Cattle &c for the use of the Army – Given under my hand and seal this 14th day of June 1833 S/ Washington Thompson*

* Both signatures appear to me to be in the identical handwriting as the balance of the document. Consequently, I do not think either is the actual signature of the applicant or his supporting witness.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for six months and 18 days service as a Sergeant in the Virginia militia.]