

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas Hill W1606

Catharine

fn58NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, White County

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared before me Nathaniel W. Williams Judge of the Circuit Court of Law and Equity for said State now sitting in the said County of White, Thomas Hill, a resident of White County and State of Tennessee, aged about 74 years, who first being 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and served as herein stated. He was drafted in the Company of Captain John Leek in what was then Guilford County in the State of North Carolina but the portion of it in which he then resided has since become Rockingham County. The object of the draft was to raise men to go against the Cherokee Indians on the Tennessee River. This was a three months Tour in the year 1776, and he believes in the month of June. Captain Leek's Company was attached to Colonel John Martin's Regiment. The troops marched to the Cherokee Towns and destroyed them – the first Town that he entered was called Watauga. The second was called “Burning town,” the third was called “Echota” -- with numerous smaller Towns. The expedition was commanded by General Rutherford of North Carolina. This was about the same time that Col. Christy [sic, William Christian] marched against the Indians from Virginia. This Declarant, then returned home, not having received a written discharge, but states that the Company to which he was attached was “mustered out of service” near the head of Catawba River into State of North Carolina, he County he does not remember.

His next service was in the year of the Battle of Guilford. He turned out as a volunteer under Captain John May of Guilford County – according to the best of his recollection, the Company to which he was attached on this Occasion also, belonged to and was a part of the Regiment commanded by Col. James Martin, but of this he is not positively Certain. The object at this time was, to protect the Country from the ravages of the British who had penetrated the interior of the State. The special object of the forces to which he belonged was, to prevent the British from crossing Dan River. He was not in any battle. At the end of six weeks the company to which he belonged was relieved by fresh troops, and permitted to return home, in order to obtain provisions and enjoy a short respite from the fatigues of War. They however soon returned to the service, and in the whole, this tour amounted to about three months. He was not in the battle of Guilford, but Captain May was on his way to Join General Greene's Army on the day the battle was fought. He was acquainted with Colonel Martin, Colonel Paisley – and General Greene. After the Battle of Guilford he was permitted to return home. After this he came out to Holston [River], below the “Long Islands,” to what he now supposes it is the County of Hawkins. He there volunteered under Captain Robert King, as he believes in the year 1782 to protect the Country from the ravages of the Cherokee Indians. He is not positive whether this was in the year 1781 or 1782. He served on this occasion three months – and was engaged in various skirmishes with the Indians. This was the last term of service, which could be called such, in which he was engaged. It is true he was subsequently out on what were term ranging or scouting parties, but for these services he asks nothing from his Country. He has no documentary evidence by which the foregoing facts can be established. Nor is there any living witness within his reach, or whose testimony he can procure.

1<sup>st</sup> He was born on the December 22, 1759 in the County of Guilford in the State of North Carolina, near Dan River and in a part of the County which is now Rockingham.

2<sup>nd</sup> He has no Record of his age. The Bible which contained it, was in his house when it was burnt in Claiborne County, East Tennessee, about 27 years ago.

3<sup>rd</sup> The places where he lived when he entered the service have already been mentioned. To wit, Guilford N.C. and Holston, East Tennessee. Since the Revolution – he has lived in Guilford County N.

C. where he remained something like eight years. He then removed to the County of Surry N. C. where he remained about two years – from thence he removed to the County of Greene in the State of Georgia, where he remained about 13 years. He then came to Claiborne County in East Tennessee, where he remained about two years-- & He then came to the County of White, where he now resides, and has resided ever since he came to it.

4<sup>th</sup> The manner in which he was called into service has been fully stated.

5<sup>th</sup> He has also stated the General Circumstances of his services, and has mentioned the names of those Officers with whom he was acquainted.

6<sup>th</sup> He never received any written discharge. It was in the custom on many occasions for the militia to be “mustered out of service” as it was then called.

7<sup>th</sup> He states the names of the following individuals to whom he is known, and who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his having served as a soldier of the Revolution, Viz. James Anderson, Esq., Major James Randals, Thomas Crawley, Turner Lane, Esq., Jesse Lincoln of Sparta and the Reverend James Simmons, John Green.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim to a pension except the present, or annuity – and declares his name is not on the roll of any pension agency in any state.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court this 21<sup>st</sup> of August 1832.

S/ Anthony Dibrell, Clerk

S/ Thomas Hill, X his mark

[James Simmons a clergyman and Turner Lane gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran died April 5, 1849, in White County, Tenn. Veteran married Catharine in July 1783. They had at least two children, named Elijah and Winkfield Hill, who, in 1850, were 65 and 57 years old.]