Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Thurman W28009 Nancy f96VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 12/12/11

[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.]

[Because of the jumble of documents included in this file and the inconsistency in the statements made therein, I determined that it would be easier to simply quote one of the summary letters in the file rather than try to select documents to transcribe. Consequently, the following is a transcription of a letter dated July 1, 1939 responding to a request for information regarding this veteran. The letter reads in relevant part as follows:

Dear Sir:

The data which follow in regard to John Thurman were obtained from pension claim, W. 28009, based upon his service in the Revolutionary War. John Thurman was born December 3, 1757; the place of his birth and names of his parents were not given.

While living in Albemarle County, Virginia, John Thurman volunteered sometime between the years 1776 and 1779, served at various times amounting to three years in all, as private in the Virginia troops under Captains John Miller, John Key, Christopher Clark, Epperson, Brown and Benjamin Harris, and Colonel Lindsey, was in several engagements, one of which was near Charlottesville, Virginia, and was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown, after which he was discharged in October, 1781.

John Thurman married in 1778, 1779 or December 10, 1780 (all dates shown), in Albemarle County, Virginia, Nancy Sandridge who was born February 4, 1759; the place of her birth and names of her parents are not stated. One Isabel Beavers attended Nancy Sandridge upon her wedding day, but no relationship was shown between them. The soldier and his wife resided in Albemarle County, Virginia, between 18 and 20 years. He died October 6, 1826 or 1827 (both dates given), in Sevier County, Tennessee.

Nancy Thurman was allowed pension on account of the service of her husband, John, on her application executed October 25, 1843, at which time she was a resident of Blount County, Tennessee. In 1851, she gave her post office address as Greenville, Tennessee. In 1854, her place of residence was still given as Blount County, Tennessee.

It was stated that John Thurman and his wife, Nancy, had a large family of children, but the only names designated were the following:

Sarah Thurman, the oldest, born in 1781, about the time of the Siege of Yorktown.

Lucy, the second daughter, [born] May 31, 1783, and in 1847 signed Lucy Tunes and was living in Sevier County

Tennessee, given name of her husband not stated.

Martha, the eighth child, born July 6, 1796; in 1845
of Sevier County Tennessee & Martha James; the given name
of her husband not shown.

In 1845, one William Thurman was aged 84 years, living in Hawkins County, Tennessee, and stated that he served in the Revolution with the soldier, John Thurman, from April 1, 1781, but did not state his relationship to him.

...

Very truly yours
A. D. Hiller
Executive Assistant
to the Administrator

[f p. 4: family record: "John Thurman was Born the 3 of Desem 1757"]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's six months service as a private in the Virginia Continental Line.]