Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

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f24VA

11/22/11

Pension application of Thomas Tharp [Thorp] W6258 Transcribed by Will Graves

[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 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, County of Charlotte SS

On this 3rd day of September 1832, personally appeared before the County Court of Charlotte, Thomas Tharp, a resident of the said County of Charlotte and State of Virginia, aged seventy-five 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 provision may by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States as a regular soldier in the year ____, he does not recollect the year, but it was but a few years before the peace – he enlisted under Captain James Price in the County of Henrico in the State of Virginia and served in the 4th Regiment of the Virginia line under the following named officers – Colonel Dick was the Commanding Officer – James Price was the Captain of the company, William Vernon was the Lieutenant, John Smaley [?¹] Sergeant. At the time of his enlistment he lived in the County of Henrico – Captain Price's Company some of the regular soldiers being added to it was stationed in the City of Richmond Virginia to guard the County Store, Magazine, Prison & the gun armory, that he continued in the said service for the term of one year (the period for which he enlisted) & received his discharge from Captain Price, which he has now lost or mislaid – he removed to the County of Charlotte about forty-five years ago, & knows of no person by whom he can prove the said service. If there be any witnesses of his service still living & they reside in the County of Henrico [?] which about one hundred miles distant.

The said Thomas Tharp further states that about a year after the expiration of the former service he was called out in the Militia for the said County of Henrico under the command of Captain __and marched to Williamsburg in Virginia where his Company was attached to the Regiment commanded by Colonel Dick, he thinks General Lawson was there, he remained at Williamsburg something like a month & marched then to Green Springs higher up on James River, remained at the Green Springs about two months & marched to old James Town, how long he remained there he does not now recollect, he marched from James Town to Sandy Point also on James River where [he] remained until he was discharged. The whole service in the militia was six months – he received a regular discharge which he has lost.

He hereby relinquishes every Claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

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Amended Declaration of Thomas Thorp [sic]

In order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 State of Virginia – Charlotte County to wit

On this 7th day of May 1833 personally appeared before the County Court of Charlotte, Thomas for, a resident of the said County of Charlotte and State of Virginia aged seventy-five years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the late act of Congress passed June 7th 1832 –

That by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot give that clear and satisfactory history of his services in the Revolutionary War, as might be desirable to the War Department; and that several years since he had a severe attack of sickness, in consequence of which he has for the most of his time then confined to his house and bed, and unable to travel about even in his own neighborhood. His family name in olden times was spelled Thorp, although generally in his own neighborhood they spell it Tharp, and so pronounced – That he was raised in the County of Henrico, and State of Virginia, and was a resident of that County when he first engaged in the service of his country. He had a Register of his age, but by some means or other it has been lost or mislaid; he thinks he has a distinct recollection that his Register stated he was born in the year 1757; the day and month he cannot now recollect, but he thinks it was in the latter part of that year – That he enlisted in the service of the United States to the best of his recollection, in the year 1779, under Captain James Price in the County of Henrico and State of Virginia and was enrolled as Thomas Tharp Junior for the term of one year, and was stationed in Richmond, Virginia - the said company when raised by Captain Price was intended as a guard over the military stores, magazines, prison and armory, and so made known to the public, at the time of enlistment – The company consisted generally of about 50 men. The names of the officers in said company were contained in the former declaration – That he served at that. In the 4th Regiment of the Virginia line, under Colonel Dick, was inserted through mistake, in the hurry of drafting the said declaration. He was in the militia service when attached to the 4th Regiment under the command of Colonel Dick – That he continued in the service under Captain Price for the space of one year and served his country faithfully and to the best of his skill and ability and received his discharge from Captain Price – which discharge he has lost or mislaid, never [indecipherable word] that it would be of service to him. He knows at this time of no living person by whom he can prove positively the said service. If there be any such witnesses of his service, they reside in the County of Henrico about one hundred miles distant; and he verily believes, that his health at this time, and bodily strength would not justify him and undertaking so long and fatiguing a journey - As evidence to the Department of his inability to ride any distance, and as to his character for veracity he encloses herewith the affidavit of William hammock, Daniel Hendrick and others – He however feels satisfied that if the roll of Captain James Price can be obtained, the name of Thomas Thorp Junior will be found upon it -See affidavit of Benoni Smith,² hereunto annexed. And the said Thomas Thorp further states, as soon as discharge by Captain Price, he went to the County of King William in Virginia, and lived with his brother in law in said County. He had not been in the County of King William more than twelve months before he was drafted as a militia man in said County, under Captain Abrams or Abrahams. The other company Officers he does not now recollect. He thinks he entered the

² Benoni Smith S7567

militia service in the year 1781, in the early part of that year; the day and month he does not recollect, and served a tour of six months – he was attached to the fourth Regiment as well as he can recollect under the command of Colonel Dick. As to the particular history of that tour, he refers to former declaration. The only evidence of his service in the militia, that he has been able to procure, is the affidavit of Benoni Smith, hereto enclosed, who was with him in the service a portion of the time. He received a regular discharge from Colonel Dick he thinks, which has been lost or mislaid. He has no documentary evidence of his service under Captain Price, or while in the Militia.

That some years after the close of the Revolutionary war, he removed to the County of Charlotte, and has ever since resided in that County. In conclusion, he begs leave to say, that perhaps he may have been mistaken in the nomenclature above given of his services in some things, particularly as to dates; and if so, his only apology is old age and the consequent loss of memory. The above statement is according to the best of his recollection – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Thomas Thorp, X his mark

I Benoni Smith of the County of Charlotte, and State of Virginia, nearly seventy-five years of age, do hereby certify that I was raised in the County of King William, and that I have been acquainted with Thomas Thorpe of the County of Charlotte ever since he was about 14 or 15 years of age, and believed that said tour and myself to be about the same age – I recollect very distinctly, that Thomas Thorpe was drafted in the militia in the County of King William under Captain Mordecai Abrams or Abrahams in either the year 1780 or 81 I do not now recollect which, and that the said Thorpe was with me at Williamsburg, Green Springs, and Sandy Point in Virginia. I do firmly believe that the said Thomas Thorpe served his whole tour, and was regularly discharge. The said tour was a good soldier and so generally considered. I was drafted in the same company –

And I do hereby certify that I have always understood that the said Thomas Thorpe was stationed as a guard in Richmond Virginia and served 12 months; and that I obtain my information from those who, I know, had the best opportunity of knowing it Mr. Thomas Thorpe is a credible man, and any statement made by him I would believe as soon as most of men.

S/ Benoni Smith

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[f p 6: On August 17, 1838 in Charlotte County Virginia, Sinai Tharp, 81, a resident of Charlotte County made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Tharp; that he was a pensioner of the United States for his service in the revolution; that she married him January 14, 1787; that he died November seventh or eighth 1834. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p 12: Record of the marriage of Thomas Tharp to Sinai Haley January 14, 1787 by the Reverend Thomas Johnson certified in Charlotte County Virginia in 1838.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for 18

months service as a private in the Virginia service.]