Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas H. Drew R13852 VA Half Pay Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Nov 2013.

Richmond 24 Dec'r. 1849

To J. L. Edwards, Esq'r./ Commissioner of Pensions &c./ Department of the Interior Washington City

Dear Sir

I enclose you an account on the United States in favor of Thomas H. Drew who was a captain & clothier in the Revolution. The amounts I have left blank. Not being engaged in the prosecution of such claims, I do not know what the amount of half pay is, nor what arrearages of pay may be due. I suppose the records of your office will supply the deficiency.

I also enclose the certificate of the Clerk in the Auditors office him showing that in 1785 Th H. Drew received pay as a Captain & Clothier.

I send no evidence to show the time of Capt. Drews death, But that evidence is already on file in your office. At some day between the 31 July and the 29 Nov'r. 1832, there was paid to Thomas H. Drew Admn. Th. H. Drew, at Washington \$2776.77 for half pay for life as Captain, and the record of the judgment upon which that was paid fixes, and will show the time of his death.

I send also a power of attorney from Thos. H. Drew the admn to me, duly authenticated.

The proof of his being admin will also be found in the records before referred to.

Should there be any informality, or deficiency in any of the papers sent or referred to, please inform me and I will endeavor to supply all deficits, whether of form or substance.

Very Respectfully,/ Yours &c.

C G. Griswold Attorney in fact for Thos. H. Drew Ad'r. &c.

[The following are among rejected claims in the Library of Virginia:]

City of Richmond, to wit;

Thomas H. Drew appeared before me a magistrate for said City, and made oath that his mother informed him that she was married about two years before his birth, which was in the year 1785. Given under my hand the 30th day of October 1830./ J M Keldoe J Peace

The beginning of Capt Drews service will it is hoped be presumed to be in July 1775, since it was about that period that the first battallions of minute men were raised.

[in different handwriting] 9th Vol. [Hening's] Statutes at Large p. 9.

Being requested to say what I know of the Revolutionary services of Thos. H Drew, have to state, that he went into the service in 776 [sic], I think as a Second Lt. from the same County of Buckingham with myself, was taken in 1778 also with myself into Washington's Body Guards, in which we served untill we were both sent to the South in 1780 – he continued in service, I am confident till the end of the war, or became a supernumery [sic: supernumerary: with insufficient troops for a command] in 1781 – After the end of the war he was continued as an Officer & I think a Cloather to the Barracks at the Point of Fork [at present Columbia VA] untill the time of his marriage.

John Nicholas [pension application S46397] late Cap

& Lt. Col. Revol'try army

Octo'r. 30th 1830

John Micholas

A statement of Capt. Thomas Haines Drew's case

Capt. Drew entered the army in 1775 as an Ensign and was promoted successively to a Lieutenancy and Captaincy which last rank he held in Feb'y. 1782 when he was, as a supernumerary declared by the board of officers, assembled for that purpose, entitled to half pay for life. The only evidence that the heirs have been enabled to procure as yet, that he continued in the army to the end of the war (independent of the strong presumption of the fact, from being a supernumerary and declared as such to be entitled to half pay,) is a petition made by Capt. Drew on behalf of himself and others asking of the Legislature some provision to carry into effect, the laws under which they claimed their half pay or commutation. This petition was presented in 1792, as appears by [illegible] Munfords certificate. It is conceived that at this distance of time, this evidence is quite sufficient to establish the fact that he continued in the army to the end of the War. If so his heirs are entitled to two sixth parts of the original bounty of 4000 acres, or in other words to 1333½ acres.