Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Hamilton R4522
Transcribed by Will Graves

f30SC/VA 12/27/10: rev'd 2/21/22

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' or 'undeciphered' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. 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 skills fail 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 material errors or omissions to my attention. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[Note: The handwriting of the scribe who wrote the following application is challenging. Use the following transcript with care. The pages of the veteran's application have been scrambled as posted on Fold3.com. The page numbers appearing in red in the transcript below place the pages of the application in proper order.]

[p 2]

State of Alabama Lowndes County

On this the 31st day of March A.D. 1840 personally appeared in Open Court before me Honorable Peter Williamson Judge of the County Court of Lowndes County sitting at Haynesville it being a Court of record now sitting Thomas Hamilton a resident citizen of Lowndes County in the State of Alabama aged eighty years on the 9th day of April last 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated to wit He first entered service under the command of Colonel Stephens & Captain Morgan about the month of March in the year 1778 [p 6] & continued in service under the said officers until about the first of September or October following to wit about six months at which time he was discharged at the time he entered the service he lived in Culpeper County in the State of Virginia. That he entered service as a volunteer during this first term of service. He marched from Culpeper Court House where he entered service down to Norfolk & was kept there about three months. He was marched from thence to Williamsburg in Virginia where he remained four or five days & was from thence marched back to Norfolk & was stationed there the balance of the term of service & then discharge from service there was a slight engagement 1 at Norfolk while he was in the service & he recollects that Captain Fordyce [Charles Fordyce] an officer in the British Army was killed in the engagement. He was acquainted with officers Stephens, Morgan & Jamieson. He states that he has no documentary evidence of his having served having long since lost or destroyed that evidence [p 7] & declarant knows of no one that could testify to this term of service. He served as a private soldier.

He further declares that he entered the service of the United States a second time under the following Officers, to wit Colonel Martin & Captain Thomas Cook & Captain James Shelton. He entered the service the second time about September in the year of 1780. He continued in

¹ Battle of Great Bridge, December 9, 1775 (near Chesapeake, Va., Lord Dunmore; Col. William Woodford)

service about six weeks, at the commencement of this second term of service he lived in Henry County in the State of Virginia. He would was drafted the second term of service, the draft being for the period of three months: He was in an engagement this term of service at a place called the Shallow Ford [October 14, 1780]² on the Yadkin River in North Carolina. He was commanded in this engagement by Captain Cook & the Tories were commanded by Bryant [James Bryan] & the engagement was afterwards known as Bryant's defeat. [p 4] During this engagement [indecipherable word or words] the fight commenced General Smallwood came up with his troops & engaged in the battle. He was drafted in Henry County & commenced service or was regularly mustered in at Major Winston's on Dan River in North Carolina. He marched from Dan River to the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River & from thence up the Hollows of the Yadkin & from thence back to Henry County in Virginia & was there discharged by Captain Shelton. He has no documentary evidence of this tour of service & he knows of no person who can testify to the same.

He further declares that he entered the service a third time under Colonel Cassey [?, this MAY be a reference to Col. Levi Casey of the Little River Regiment of SC Whig militia] & Captain George Martin in the month of March in the year 1782 or 1783 & continued in service for about the term of twelve months or until about the [p 5] first of March after he entered the service – He at the same time he entered service this third time resided on Reedy Creek in Ninety Six District in the State of South Carolina. He entered service as a volunteer. He was in no regular engagement but had several skirmishes with the Tories. He passed the most of this term of service in the Ninety Six District. He was acquainted with Captain Lewis Saxon Captain Martin & Colonel Cassey. He has no documentary proof of this term of service and this deponent hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State.

Subscribed & sworn to the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Peter Williamson, JIC LC

S/ Thomas Hamilton

[David Peebles, Jr., a clergyman, and W. B. Haralson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 9]

The declarant Thomas Hamilton states upon oath that from the long period that has passed & from his forgetfulness & want of memory he is unable to state with greater preciseness & certainty the matters & things & particularly the dates herein set forth.

[Indecipherable words] the 31st of March 1844

S/ Peter Williamson, JIC LC

S/ Thomas Hamilton

² https://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_shallow_ford.html