

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Baker S15299

f39GA[VA]

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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' 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.]

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Commonwealth of Kentucky, County of Henderson

On this 22nd day of March 1826 personally appeared in open Court Viz.: the Circuit Court for said County of Henderson, being a Court of record, & made so by the laws of the aforesaid State of Kentucky, which created it, Thomas Baker, resident of Henderson County, aged 70 years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the 18th of March 1818, & the 1st of May 1820, that he, the said Thomas Baker enlisted a soldier for the term of three years on the 16th day of October 1776 in the State of Virginia at Cumberland Court house, for the State of Georgia by Captain John Clarke, & transferred to the Company Commanded by Captain John Mosby in the Regiment Commanded by General Samuel Elbert; in the Second Company Second Regiment, Georgia Battalion in the line of the State of Georgia, on the Continental Establishment. That he continued to serve in the same Corps until two years, & one day from the date of his first enlistment under Mosby; and then he enlisted during the war at Augusta in the State of Georgia under Captain Hancock (Mosby having resigned & died and Col. Stirk [John Stirk] commanding the Regiment in which he last enlisted). That he continued to serve under the same Colonel, until the Colonel was killed between Savannah and Sunbury, & under his successor Colonel Brown until the End of the War. That he received a discharge from Colonel John Clarke of the Georgia line, which certificate & discharge is now in his possession, a true copy of which (as far as an old & defaced paper can be distinctly traced) shall be herewith filed. That he was in the battles of Savannah [December 29, 1778 Savannah was occupied by the British], Stono [June 20, 1779],¹ Altamahay [sic, Altamaha River]², in two battles at the same place, Fort Toney [Fort Tonym?]³ on St. Mary's River,⁴ Amelia Island⁵, Carney's Cowpens, Ebenezer,⁶ and many other places: That he saw Colonel Scrivener or Scriven [James Screven] shot down, & also Captain Winfield [perhaps John Winfield or John Winkfield] & also Captain Dogwood. He further states that he received a wound at Golphin's old Fort [Fort Galphin]⁷ on the Savannah River in the left leg. That he has no further, or other Evidence of his enlistment & service than the discharge, a copy of which is herewith filed, & the affidavit of Nathan Walden, a copy of which is here also given. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present. That his name is not on the roll of any state Except that of Georgia, & that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application, viz., that until about

1 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/st-marys-riv.htm>

2 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/altamaha.htm>

3 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/forttonyn.htm>

4 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/st-marys-riv.htm>

5 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ameliatwp.htm>

6 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/ebenezer.htm>

7 <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/fortgalphin.htm>

one year & upwards since he did not know that an act had passed for dispensing the bounty of his Country to her revolutionary defenders & that as soon as he could do so, after hearing the fact, he made application for the pension. And in pursuance of the act of the 1st May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of An Act of Congress entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," passed on the 18th day of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me Subscribed; that my occupation has been that of a shoe maker, but that the rheumatism in one arm & the wound in the leg which (I believe) never will be completely recovered from render me totally unable to support myself from that occupation. I further declare that I have only an aged wife, living with me, about 55 or 60 years old, I do further declare that I have not disposed of my property since the 18th of March 1818, having none to disposed of.

S/ Thomas Baker, X his mark

Schedule of property

Two while sows, & some shoats worth (if found)	\$7.50
A few clothes & a course bed	5.00
A horse (if paid for) worth	<u>6.66 2/3</u>
	\$19.16 2/3

S/ Thomas Baker, X his mark

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Copy of Discharge

I do hereby certify that Thomas Baker Enlisted under major, as a Soldier for the term of three years & for which time he served faithfully, who Enlisted October 1776 for the State of Georgia, and he also is hereby Entitled to every County, that was promised by his Country – and which he has received a fatal wound in one of his legs. Given under my hand third of __ 1795.

S/ John Clarke, Junr.

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Copy of Walden's Oath

State of Kentucky, Henderson County

This day Nathan Walden personally appeared before me, the undersigned Justice of the peace in & for the County & State aforesaid, & made oath that he was acquainted with Captain John Clark of Cumberland County, & State of Virginia, who was a recruiting officer of the Revolutionary Army, about the year 1776 & from several circumstances have good reasons to believe that Thomas Baker was enlisted by said Clark about the year above mention[ed] for the term of three years.

Given under my hand this 26th day of March 1824.

S/ Robt. Terry, JPHC

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United States of America State of Kentucky Henderson County Sct.

We the undersigned practitioners of medicine & surgery in the town of Henderson, & State aforesaid do certify that Thomas Baker, who presents to us this day a certificate of faithful service for 3 years during the revolutionary war, & Honorable discharge from the service, carries with him & has constantly done so since the period of the revolution a diseased limb, the consequence of a wound from a musket ball fracturing the tibia of his left leg, received during his said period of service, & which disabled him to the extent of three fourths of the ordinary capacity of men of his age for manual labor – we are therefore of opinion that he is justly entitled to the bounties promised by his Country to those who have

faithfully served it. Given under our hands & seals at Henderson this 25th of March 1824

S/ Levi Jones

S/ Horace Gaithers

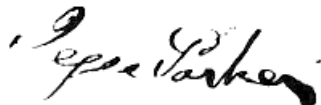
S/ Owen Glass

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Virginia Cumberland County to wit

I Jesse Parker and old Revolutionary Soldier do hereby certify that I knew Thomas Baker who enlisted under one Captain Clark to serve as a soldier in the State of Georgia for the term of three years he was after some time attached to Captain John Mosby company and I believe continued in the service of his country to the expiration of said three years. I further believe he was wounded in the service of his country. As witness my hand and seal this 2nd day of October in the year of our Lord 1826.

S/ Jesse Parker⁸



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State of Kentucky, Henderson County & Circuit

On this 18th day of September 1833 personally appeared before Benjamin Shackelford, Judge of the Court now sitting for said County & Circuit, Thomas Baker, a resident of said County of Anderson and State aforesaid aged Seventy-two years who being duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in Order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832. That he was enlisted in the Army of the United States as a private on the 16th day of October 1776 a certain John Clark [John Clarke] a Lieutenant in Captain Littleberry Mosby's company of Continentals to Serve during the War and entered the Service at Cumberland an old Court house in Virginia, and in a few months we marched to the Savannah town in the State of Georgia and as well as now recollects Samuel Moore of Culpeper County was our Major and Samuel Stirk our Colonel at & near this place we remained near one year during which time we had frequent scouts with the British & Indians and under the Command of General Robert Howe made an excursion into East Florida where much sickness prevailed among the soldiers, about the end of the year 1777 we marched from Savannah to Sunbury and on to Fort Barrington on the River Altamaha and from thence to an old station called Carney's Cowpens, 14 miles from Altamaha here we [?] a Command of Colonel Stirk & General Samuel Elbert in year 1778 we had a battle with the British, Tories & Indians where we succeeded in retaking our beeves & pack horses & also took many prisoners, and from there the Army marched back to Savannah and our commander was Robert Howe and the British under the Command of Colonel Campbell [Archibald Campbell] made an attack on our Army in Savannah and defeated it and drove our Army from Savannah this as well as now recollected was in the fall or winter of 1778, our Army being driven from Savannah by Campbell collected on the Cherokee Hill⁹ 8 miles from Savannah and part of the Army crossed the Savannah River at Tubley's ferry and part at the Two Sisters [ferry]¹⁰ a few miles above Purrysburg and made Purrysburg in the State of South Carolina our headquarters, our Commander now was General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] who took the place of Howe. From this place in the year 1778 & late in the year we marched against the station of George Golphin [George Galphin] on the Savannah River, then occupied by the British and Indians under the command of Colonel Metland [sic, John Maitland], here we had a severe engagement and Col. Stirk & General Elbert, here I was shot through the Leg 6 inches below the knee, and the wound now shown to

⁸ [Jesse Parker S11217](#)

⁹ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/cherokeehill.htm>

¹⁰ <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/twosisters.htm>

the Court, which has made me somewhat cripple ever since. From this place the Army marched to Charlestown [Charleston] having a battle at the Ashley bridge. I was at the Battle at a place called Stono 10 miles from Charleston under Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] in the year 1779, about this time our Company was ordered on a detachment under General Ash [sic, John Ashe] to Cross the Savannah River & take up a position near Briar Creek, here we had a severe battle the British under General Prevost attacked our Army and defeated us and many of our troops & officers taken prisoners among the rest General Elbert & Colonel McIntosh, this applicant escaped Capture by swimming a Lagoon & the Savannah River, and Joined the Army at Purysburg the headquarters of Lincoln's Army. I was with Lincoln in his attack on Savannah in the year 1779. I was with the Army in Charleston in the year 1780 and taken prisoner by the British under the Command of Maitland & Prevost. I was in the Army in Virginia in October 1781 under the Command of my said Captain Littleberry Mosby and at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown. I was in service until the autumn of 1783 when I was honorably discharged at Shockon [?] Hill Richmond, and I believe my discharge was signed by Colonel Cuthbert, which discharge I placed in the Clerk's office with a view to obtaining a pension and the same is lost, which is proved by the annexed affidavit of the Clerk of this County. This applicant resided in Goochland County Virginia from the peace of 1783 until the year 1808 when he removed to the present County of Henderson where he has resided ever since. This applicant knows of no person living by whom he can prove his said Services, and hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an Annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. This applicant annexes the affidavit of William D. Allison, Clerk of this Court and Thomas Evans & Samuel H. Davis as corroborating proof of his said Services. This applicant was born in March 1762 & lived in Goochland at the time of his enlistment aforesaid. Sworn to and subscribed in open Court.

S/ Thomas Baker, X his mark

[p 33: Thomas Evans, a clergyman, and Samuel H Davis gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Kentucky, County of Henderson

I, Thomas Baker, do upon oath testify & declare that in about the year 1777, whilst acting as a private soldier in the 2nd Company of the 2nd Regiment of the Georgia Battalion, in the line of the State of Georgia under the command of Colonel Stark or Stirk – I volunteered as a marine under Captain Braddock commanding the *Bullock*,¹¹ & the *Washington*¹² Row Galleys, both carrying heavy metal & that being 50 Marines in all in number we captured the British vessels near the mouth of St. Mary's River and Georgia Viz. three in number, all of the same size, carrying heavy metal with (say) 16 guns of a side (as near as I can recollect), which vessels used to be stationed at St. Augustine, & carried them first into Sunbury to show them, & afterwards to Savannah, where they were sold as prizes to the United States on the public wharf near the widow Gough's brick house.

I do further swear that before we engaged as Marines we were promised the prize money -- & after we had captured the vessels, the same promise was renewed to us by Captain Braddock, McIntosh, the then Governor of Georgia, being present & witnessing both the sale & the promise made to us & telling us it would be a fortune to us.

¹¹ *Bullock*.

Coggins:106, C30, ND8:268, Searcy:135, GA Navy galley, built 1777, Capt Hatcher in Apr 1778, stranded and burned, Jan 1779, after the fall of Sunbury, GA. <http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20B.html>

¹² *Washington*.

Coggins:106, M:44, ND8:268, 917, C30, GA Navy galley, built in 1777, Capt John Hardy in Apr 1778, stranded and burned in 1779. Capt Hardy helped capture the British Navy *Hinchinbrook*, and the FL privateer, *Rebecca*. Paullin:460, joined state service Spring, 1777. Possibly Chapelle:74 or 106, 113. <http://www.awiatsea.com/Other/Hough%20List%20W.html>

Witn: S/ Nathan Walden

S/ Thomas Baker, X his mark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia service.]