

Pension Application for Thomas Thorn

R.10568

Southern District of New York SS.

On this twelfth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand and eight hundred and thirty four personally appeared in open court before the court of the General Sessions of the Peace, now sitting Thomas Thorn a Resident of the City of New York in the County of New York and State of New York and district aforesaid aged eighty two years on the thirteenth day of October last past 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 was born at Oyter [Oyster] Bay on Long Island in the County of Queens in the State of New York aforesaid in the year one thousand seven hundred and fifty two – that about the age of seven years deponent left the Island with his parents and removed to Westchester County where he continued to reside until the commencement of the Revolutionary War.

Deponent farther saith that he entered the service of the United States as one of the militia during the year 1776 and as nearly as deponent can recollect in the month of July or August that year—

That at the Battle of White Plains deponent served for the period of five months as a minute man under Captain Henry Strang in the regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Drake and continued in the service of the United States in the capacity until the month of March 1777 when the British forces landed at Peekskill and burnt the stores at that place when deponent served on the Horse Picket at that place for four months under Captain Elvin Purdy; from which period until the surrender of General Burgoyne in the month of October 1777 deponent acted as a minute man in the service of United States when deponent was ordered to Croton River to guard the lines where he remained for the period of five months under command of Captain Purdy— after which time deponent left the service of the United States and returned to his home in the northern part of Westchester County and there remained until the period of Westchester County and there remained until the period of the Capture of General Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown when deponent again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer for the period of nine months (in the regiment of which Samuel Drake was Colonel and John Drake the Captain) to guard the American line in which capacity deponent served for the period of three months when being obliged to return to his home deponent lived a substitute whose name deponent does not now recollect to serve in the same capacity for the period of six months.

Deponent farther saith that on divers occasions from the above last mentioned period until the termination of the war deponent acted as a volunteer on scouting parties under the command of Colonel John Hyatt and Captain Henry Strang. Deponent farther saith that to the best of deponent's knowledge and belief there is not a present a single person living of the regiment to which deponent belonged and he has no documentary evidence that he can produce or any person whose testimony he can procure to testify to his service as above set forth.

Deponent hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state. (Signed) Thomas Thorn

Sworn and subscribed in open court the 13 of Nov 1834. H. Meigs, Clerk, Southern district of New York.

Letter in folder dated May 17, 1926, written in response to an inquiry

I have to advise you, that from the papers in the Revolutionary War pension claim, R.10568, it appears that Thomas Thorn was born at Oyster Bay, N.Y. October 13, 1752, and while living in Westchester Co., N.Y., he served from July or August 1776, for five months as a minute-man in Captain Henry Strang's Co., Colonel Samuel drake's N.Y. Regiment, also from March 1777 for fourteen months as a minute-man in Captain Alvan Purdy's Company, Colonel Samuel Drake's N.Y. Regiment and after the surrender Cornwallis, he served three months as a minute-man in Captain John Drake's Company, Colonel Samuel Drake's N.Y. Regiment. He was also out on some scouting parties in said regiment.

He applied for pension November 12, 1834, while living in New York City, but his claim was not allowed as he failed to furnish proof of military service in the field, as required by the pension laws.

He had a wife, but her name is not on record and it is not stated whether he had children.