

**Pension Application for Joseph Thomas**

W.2972 They married 1785, and he died April 24, 1831.

Pennsylvania

Susquehanna County SS.

On this first day of September AD 1824, personally appeared in open court of Common Pleas, in and for said County Joseph Thomas of Great Bend township, an applicant for a pension, and being duly sworn according to Law Doth on his oath depose & say -

That in the year 1816 and before the date of the deeds herein after mentioned this deponent was possessed of consider able property to wit:--two of acres situate in Wayne county and that with a view of bettering his condition he on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 1816 purchased of one Samuel Blair a tract of Land as described in the deed a copy of which is hereunto attached for the sum of six thousand dollars and to secure that land this deponent executed to said Blair on the same day his judgment Bond & Mortgage of which mortgage a copy is hereunto attached.

And this deponent further states that at the time he purchased as aforesaid he thought the farms mentioned above & which he wished to sell would enable him to pay said Clair, but the fall in the price of Real Estate so much lessening the value of the farms that about May 1817 he sold one of said farms to Blair for sixteen hundred dollars and in February (20<sup>th</sup> day) 1819 he sold the other farm to Blair for two thousand five hundred dollars which with some small fragments which he had made reduced the amount due to Blair to the sum of one thousand eight hundred and sixty two dollars, and a settlement being then made this deponent cancelled the old Bond and gave a new bond for said sum of \$1862 - on which bond judgment was entered up on the 12<sup>th</sup> March 1819.

On this last bond deponent paid as follows.

1<sup>st</sup> January 1822 \$94.78.

4<sup>th</sup> March 1822 \$49.39

27<sup>th</sup> June 1823 \$90.00

Which monies he had borrowed of Thomas Young. The Judgment was assigned by Blair to William Harrison, who as willing to wait upon deponent for his pay if deponent was able to pay up the interest punctually. This deponent was totally unable to do. The fall in the price of all kinds of property and the inability of deponent to attend to his business in consequence of his age and infirmities, can [?] said Thomson said deponent would not be able to meet the interest. Deponent was unable to borrow money and on the 12<sup>th</sup> January 1824, execution was issued said Judgment which was [?] on the said land and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February a rendition expenses was issued upon which, last writ the land was sold to Thomas Youngs for the sum of twenty fix hundred dollars. (See the Record of said Judgment and the proceedings thereon hereunto attached). At the time of the sale the debt & interest amounted to about twenty two hundred dollars and the overplus after deducting the cost was applied by said Youngs to pay the money borrowed of him as aforesaid.

In pursuance of the sale which was made on the first day of March last Young took possession for the farm and is now (by his tenant) in possession of the same and deponent lives with one is dependent upon his son Joseph Thomas Jr for support.

And this deponent further states that during the time he has owned said farm (since 1816) he has from time to time been possessed of small quantities of personal property and consisting of a small stock of cattle and some farming utensils and the like. That he has been obliged to hire the greater part of his labour done and the proceeds of the farm and his little personal property have been expenses from time to time in paying for said labour and in support of his family.

And this deponent further states that the reason of his not exhibiting a schedule prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 1823, was that until the sale of his farm as aforesaid he was enabled to gain a comfortable support for himself and family and was in the hope of being able to pay the debt and secure the same, in which case he would not again have been under the necessity of asking aid of his country. But now by the change of times, his increasing age and the sale aforesaid, he is reduced from a state of comparative affluence and independence to a state of poverty and dependence –and this deponent also states that he can not recollect particularly the small trades which he has made in personal property since the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and that he has not since the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 disposed of any property other than as herein set forth.  
(Signed) Joseph Thomas.

Sworn to & subscribed in open court this 1<sup>st</sup> day of Sept 1822, Asa Dimock, Jr. Prot.

Letter in folder dated April 26, 1937 written in response to an inquiry.

The data which follow are obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, S.13841, based upon the military service in that war of Richard Martin.

The date and place of birth and the names of the parents of Richard Martin are not shown.

Richard Martin enlisted, place not shown, April 24, 1775, served as a private in Captain John Selman's Company, Colonel John Glover's Massachusetts Regiment, was stationed at Marblehead, Massachusetts, until June 22, following, then marched to Cambridge and served there until October until October following, at which time his captain (John Selman) and Captain Broughton were selected by General Washington to take command of two armed vessels belonging to the state of Massachusetts, to sail on a secret expedition to intercept two British vessels that had sailed from England bound for Canada loaded with munitions of war. The crews of the two vessels were taken from Colonel Glover's Regiment and Richard Martin went on board the vessel commanded by his Captain Selman; they cruised for some time and receiving no intelligence of the British vessels, returned to Marblehead, where they arrived about December 1, following, and soon after returned to Cambridge where soldier continued to serve until the last of December of same year when he was discharged. January 5, 1776, he again enlisted and served as a quarter gunner under Captain Edward

Pettyplace, stationed at the fort at Marblehead, Massachusetts; length of this service, one year.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 10, 1832, at which time he was aged eighty-five years and resided in Marblehead, Massachusetts.

There are not data as to soldier's family.

Joseph Thomas  
W.2972

The data which follow are obtained from the papers on file in Revolutionary War pension claim, W.2772, based upon the military service in that war of Joseph Thomas.

Joseph Thomas was born May 2, 1761. The place of his birth and names of his parents are not stated.

Joseph Thomas enlisted at Newburgh, New York. In October, 1776 for three years, served for two years as a private in Captain Peter Mill's Company, Colonel Baldwin's Regiment of Artificers, then as transferred to Captain Patten's Company of Artillery Artificers, was at the siege of Yorktown and surrender of Cornwallis, his term of enlistment expired a few days before the surrender but he continued to serve for sometime and was discharged at Philadelphia, date of discharge not given.

He was allowed pension on his application executed August 26, 1918, while residing in Great Bend Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, where he died April 24, 1821.

The soldier married June 1, 1785 at Reimpack (evidently meant for Rhinebeck), New York, Phebe Tyler. She was born August 30, 1769. The place of her birth and names of her parents are not shown.

Phebe, widow of Joseph Thomas, was allowed pension on her application executed August 27, [?] while residing in Great Bend Township, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

She died March 15, 1847, in said Great Bend Township.

Joseph and Phebe Thomas had eleven Children as Follows:

Charity Thomas born March 2, 1786, married Benjamin Tyler, no relationship to each other shown.

Sarah Thomas born November 8, 1787, married William A. Conklin.

Abigail Thomas born October 4, 1789, married Thomas Young.

Aaron Thomas born November 8, 1791, in 1839 living in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

Elsey Thomas born December 24, 1793, married David Niver.

Elias Thomas born January 15, 1796, in 1851, was living in Linden, Iowa County, Wisconsin.

Mary Thomas born March 26, 1792, married Aaron Dexter.

Joseph Thomas, Junior born June 26, 1800, in 1824, was living in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania.

Emily Thomas born August 20, 1802, married Joseph Conklin, and in 1850 was living in Broome County, New York.

David Thomas born February --, 1806 (torn), in 1851, was living in Susquehanna County Pennsylvania.

Oliver Thomas, aged 14 years in 1824.

Nine of the above named children survived their mother; they were Charity Tyler, Mary Dexter, Sarah Conklin, Emily Conklin, Oliver, Aaron, David, Joseph and Elias Thomas. The dates of the death of the two deceased daughters, Abigail Young and Elsey Niver are not shown, nor are the dates of marriage of any of the daughters given and no names or wives of the sons.

In 1819, John and Elias Conklin made affidavit in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, in support of Joseph Thomas' Claim for pension. No relationship was given to William A. Conklin and Joseph Conklin, who married soldier's daughters, Sarah and Emily.