

## Thomas King

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No Picture Available

Born: 17 Mar 1754 Lancaster, PA

Married: 1783 Susan Sharp

Died: 18 Jun 1847 in Piney Flats, Sullivan, Tennessee

Parents: Edward King & Elizabeth Nichols

THOMAS KING, b. 17 Mar. 1754, Middletown, Lancaster Co., Pa.; d. 18 June 1847, Sullivan Co., Tn., age 93 yrs., 3 mos. and 1 da.; Revolutionary patriot; farmer; church aff., Presbyterian; m. 1783, Sullivan Co., Da., SUSAN ANN SHARP, (dau., John Sharp, Sr., b. 1720, Scotland, Revolutionary patriot, & Jane (Hamilton) Sharp), b. 22 Mar. 1756, Lancaster Co., Pa.; d. 3 Apr. 1822, Sullivan Co., Tn.; both bu., New Bethel Cem., Piney Flats, Tn. Children: U-1 **James Harvey**, U-2 Julia Annis, U-3 Elizabeth, h-k Mary, 4-5 ELlener, U-6 Llewallen, 4-7 wlliam I., U-8 Lavinia King, b. 21 Jan. 1799, Sullivan Co., Tn.; d. 10 June 1852, same pi.; bu., New Bethel Cem., Piney Flats, Tn.; un.



Thomas King's Log Cabin, Shipley's  
Ferry Road, Sullivan Co., Tn.

Thomas King enlisted in August 1775 under the Command of Col Thomas Morrow. On the eve of December 25, 1775, He was with George Washington when they crossed the Delaware to do battle with Hessians at Trenton. He moved to Sullivan County Tennessee in 1777 and enlisted in Capt John Duncan's company in 1778. He served in a North Carolina Company to build a fort, I believe is Ft. Boonesborough just south of Lexington, Ky. In 1781, Thomas served two months for William King in Col Shelby's Regiment.

Information from online research at: Ancestry.com

A copy of the Revolutionary War Pension Record, No. S 1\*5 883 of our Revolutionary patriot and ancestor, Thomas King, supplied by the National Archives, Washington, D.C., gives his Service Record as follows: "The Veteran stated that he enlisted in PAXTON TOWNSHIP, Pennsylvania in August 1776, served 4!months as a Private in Captain Crouch's and James Morrow's Companies, Colonel Thomas Morrow's Regiment. He enlisted August 1778 and served one month as Private in John Duncan's North Carolina Company; he then enlisted and served two weeks as Private in Captain James Colvan's North Carolina Company; he served five months in 1779 in Kentucky and aided in building a ford -names of officers not stated. He enlisted in 1780 and served two months as a Private in Captain Andrew Cowan's Company, Colonel Arthur Campbell's North Carolina Regiment and was in skirmishes with the Cherokee Indians and burned their town; he enlisted in 1781 and served two months as a Private in Captain Thomas Wallace's Company, Colonel Isaac Shelby's North Carolina Regiment.11 "In 1777, he moved to what was later Sullivan County, Tennessee. In 1832, he lived in Sullivan County, Tennessee.

Thomas King's pension, issued February 18, 1833, was allowed on Certificate No. 5,930, the rate being \$50.00 per annum, Act of June 7, 1832, Jonesboro, Tennessee. (He was 78 years of age at that time).

The oldest Washington County Tax List, 1787, in the East Tennessee Historical Society Publication, Vol. 35, No. 129, pp. 107-117, gives this data: Thomas King, 200 a.

The War Record of Thomas King, son of Edward King, was recorded in 1888 by his great grandson, the Rev. Elisha Sterling Price King, 1862-1915, son of Dr. John Harvey and Margaret Ann (Martin) King, as follows:

"He volunteered into the army of Pennsylvania at the very opening of the Revolutionary War. He was under General Washington in the war in New York and New Jersey and suffered the hardships and privations of the winter in Valley Forge. On the night of 25th of December 1776, he crossed the Delaware River with the patriotic Army and helped to capture the Hessians at Trenton. His hatred and contempt for the odious Hessian Troops knew no bounds. In his old days, when he wished to leave a stigma of shame and disgrace on anything, he would call it an "Old Hessian." He was in General Sullivan's famous expedition against the Western Indians and went with Major Clarke down the Ohio River to its mouth. He was stationed for six months where Lexington, Kentucky now stands and afterwards received a grant for a quarter section of land in the vicinity of the above named city, but never claimed it. After he returned from the West, he went with his regiment to the South, arriving in December 1780. The condition of the South at this time was critical, indeed. In Georgia the British authority had been restored, while in South Carolina, Cornwallis was at the head of a large, victorious army. 'The triumph of the British was marked by cruelty and oppression. Cornwallis visited the patriots with merciless severity and the ruined State crouched at the feet of the conqueror.' 'Only Marion and his troopers remained to harass the victorious enemy.' The only check which the cruel and merciless invaders had received since their victory at Camden was at King's Mountain. Here, the gallant Riflemen from the Watauga and the Holston County rained down their leaden hail on the vaunting insolent Ferguson, killing him and capturing his entire com-

mand - eleven hundred in all. Cornwallis was preparing to invade North Carolina and there was but a mere shadow of an army, the wreck of the defeat at Camden, to oppose him. General Greene was sent South to take charge of the campaign. Thomas King was very enthusiastic in his admiration for this officer. He pronounced him the best, except Washington, under whom he ever served. General Greene began to re-organize his army with his characteristic energy. He divided it into two divisions, Eastern and Western. The Pennsylvanian Regulars, Thomas King being one of them, were placed in the Western Division and the renowned Morgan of Stillwater was made their commander. They moved Southward to the Cowpens in Spartanburg district of South Carolina. Here on the 17th of January 1781, they met the "Invincible" Tarleton, who no longer proved invincible. The militia gave way, but the Regulars had seen duty before and stood firm. Tarleton was hurled back and totally defeated, and one more laurel was added to the fame of Morgan and the Regulars, who fought under him.

In reciting the incidents of this battle, Thomas King would glow with enthusiasm for it was the grandest victory in which he ever participated. After the victory came the memorable retreat. General Greene, knowing that Cornwallis would hasten to retaliate his loss, came at once to his victorious Western Division and began the retreat. Never did the genius of Greene shine brighter than in conducting this retreat. He made it virtually a triumph. He soon reinforced his army and confronted the British at Guilford Court House, North Carolina. Here, as at the Cowpens the Regulars were deserted by the Militia, but they fought bravely and baffled the efforts of Cornwallis, who turned like an angry tide which had struck a solid barrier, and left the State. The patriotic army marched to South Carolina. Thomas King was detached and sent with a company under Colonel Lee to join General Marion. They at once concerted a plan to capture Georgetown, which they successfully executed by surprising the enemy by night. They next captured Fort Watson and cut off many other outposts and detachments of the enemy. Thus, Thomas King had the pleasure of fighting by the side of "The Swamp Fox," Marion and sharing the honors of the "Ragged Regiment." He did not get back from Fort Watson in time to engage in the battle of Hobkirk's Hill, but he joined the main army and fought at Eutaw Springs and helped to dog the British to the gates of Charleston.

After eight years of soldier life in which he had shown his patriotism and valor on many a battlefield and in many a county, he was mustered out of the regular service in 1783 and made his way to his people in the "Holston County."

"In 1786, when hostilities opened with the Cherokee Indians, his martial spirit was again lit up by the flame of war and he joined General Sevier's command and did good service at Boy's Creek, Sevier County, Tennessee. He is supposed to have been in several other of Sevier's expeditions against the Indians. We are certain that he crossed the Cumberland Mountain with Major Ore and was in his expedition against the Lower Town of the Cherokees, Hickajack and Running Water, on the 12th of September 1790. This ended his war service."

In 1944, by the Daughters of the American Revolution, a 95 foot stone Memorial Bell Tower was erected beside the Washington Memorial Chapel on a knoll overlooking the rolling hill of Valley Forge Park, Pennsylvania. From this tower a great carrillon peals forth its message. In 1944, Mrs. Vivian King Bullock, a great, great granddaughter of Thomas King, placed a bronze plaque with the

name of Thomas King, Pa. and N.C., inscribed on it in the rotunda of the Tower, which may be seen directly in front of the entrance, and on a marble pillar the name of her only son, Arthur Raymond Bullock, Jr., W.W. II, is inscribed on the Honor Roll with other patriots of our country.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Thomas King to John King Deed of Conveyance. Sullivan County February sessions 1799. The execution of the within deed is acknowledged by Thomas King party thereto at the number within registered. Witt. Matthew Rhoades.

February 25th day 1799. Then registered in the Registers office in Page 489. Ck. Stephen Major, C.S.R."

"This Indenture made and Concluded this Eighteenth Day of February in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and Ninety-nine Between Thomas King of the County of Sullivan and State of Tennessee of the one part, and John King of County and State afsd. of the other part, Witnesseth that the sd. Thomas King for and in Consideration of one Hundred Dollars, to him in hand paid by the sd. John King, the Receipt whereof him the sd. Thomas King, Doth hereby Acknowledge, Hath given, Granted, Bargained and Sold, Alienated, Enfeoffed, and Confirmed, and by these presents Doth give, Grant, Bargain and Sell, Alien, Enfeoff and Confirm, unto the Sd. John King, his Heirs or Assigns, a Certain parcel of Land, lying and being in the County afsd. on the North side of Watoga River, being part of the Tract whereof Sd. Thomas King now lives, Beginning at a stake in the lane Between the afsd. Thomas King and John King, Running thence North fortynine Degrees West one hundred poles to a Walnut and Elm, thence North Eighty Degrees East Seventy poles to a stake, then a straight line to the Beginning, Containing Seventeen acres and forty poles, Together with all Woods, Waters, Mines and Minerals, to the only proper Use and Behoof of him the Sd. John King, his Heirs and Assigns To Have and to Hold the aforesaid Land and premises, together with all Rights, Titles, Interests, Hereditaments and Appurtenances to the same Belonging or any wise Appertaining, to the afsd. John King his Heirs and assigns forever, and the afsd. Thomas King for himself his Heirs Exrs. Adms. and every of them, Doth Covenant and Agree to and with Sd. John King his Heirs and assigns forever, the aforesaid Land and premises from and against, himself his Heirs and every other person or persons laying any just or Lawful Claim thereunto, to Warrant and forever Defend. In Testimony whereof him the Sd. Thomas King hath hereunto set his and affixed his Seal the day and year first above Writen."

(Signed) *Thomas King* (Seal)

(The above is a precious treasure shared by Eldridge Claude King of Erwin, Tn., a great, great grandson of Thomas and Susan Ann (Sharp) King. It was copied verbatim and the signature carefully traced by AnnaBelle S. Rogers, a great, great granddaughter of the same couple. The writing on the outside of the well-worn folded paper and the entire indenture is written in the same handwriting as the signature).

Above information from the book: Thomas King and Susan Ann Sharp Family History, Immigrant Ancestors from 1607-1969, by Rogers & Bullock



Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Thomas King S45883

fn34NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, Sullivan County: August Sessions 1832

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Order Sessions for Sullivan County now sitting, Thomas King, a citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged 78 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named Officers, and Served as herein Stated, to wit, that in August 1776 in Paxton County Pennsylvania he volunteered under James Crouch Captain and was marched to Amboy in the State of New Jersey where he again volunteered to join the flying camp when he was placed under the command of Captain James Morrow and Colonel Thomas Morrow from thence he was marched to Fort Lea on the North River opposite Fort Washington, from which place the Army was repulsed back by the British into Pennsylvania above Philadelphia where I was verbally discharged as well as I can now recollect he states that he was in the service that tour about four months and half and that he was not in any particular engagement during said tour. He states that in the year 1777 he moved to the [illegible word] of Country where he has lived till this time, where in August 1778, he volunteered under Captain John Duncan and was marched to the Glade hollow on Clinch River in Virginia to guard the frontier Country against the Shawnee Indians where he remained one month when he was verbally discharged by the said Captain John Duncan. He states that about two weeks after he returned from the Clinch tour he volunteered under Captain James Calvan to go a tour on the [illegible word] forks of New River in the State of North Carolina to disperse a body of Tories that were embodied at that place where he was verbally discharged by the said Captain James Calvan which tour he was two weeks in service. He states that in 1780 he volunteered under Captain Andrew Lawson, Colonel Arthur Campbell and marched to Chota against the Cherokee Indians where we burned some towns killed some Indians and took so prisoners where he was verbally discharged and returned home after serving about two months. He states that in 1781 he substituted in the place of William King who was drafted in Sullivan County in the State of North Carolina now Tennessee to go to join General Marion in South Carolina he was placed under the command of Captain Thomas Wallace, Lieutenant [illegible first name] Blecher and Col. Isaac Shelby he was marched to Santee Swamps where he joined General Marion's Army when some of the British were taken by some of our scouting parties where he was verbally discharged, from General Marion's Army by his said Captain Wallace of [sic, after?] a campaign of two months. He also states that in the year 1779 he volunteered to go to Logan's Station now in Kentucky from there to [illegible word, looks like 'harad's'] station and from there to Lickin [?] River where we built a Fort which was taken in the spring following by the British and Indians from there he returned home after a tour of about five months service and that he has no documentary evidence, & that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or an annuity, except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State that there is no resident minister in his vicinity by whom he can prove [sic, provide?] the statement required in the instructions of the Secretary of War. Sworn to & subscribed this date first above written.

S/ Thomas King

{Abraham McClellan \* George Gammon gave the standard supporting affidavit.]



State of Tennessee  
 Sullivan County August 21<sup>st</sup> 1832

On this 21<sup>st</sup> day of August 1832. personally  
 appeared in open Court before the Justices of  
 the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for  
 Sullivan County man sitting Thomas King  
 a Citizen of the County and State aforesaid aged  
 twenty eight years who being first duly sworn  
 according to Law. doth on his oath make the  
 following declaration in order to obtain the  
 benefit of the provision made by the act of  
 Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. that he entered the  
 Service of the United States under the following  
 named Officers, and served as herein stated  
 to wit, that in August 1776. in Potomac County  
 Pennsylvania he volunteered under James Grant  
 Capt. and was marched to Annapolis in the State of  
 New Jersey where he again volunteered to join  
 the flying camp where he was placed under the  
 command of Capt. James Morrow and Colonel  
 Thomas Morrow from thence he was marched  
 to Point Lee on the North River opposite Fort  
 Mifflin from which place the army was  
 repulsed back by the British into Pennsylvania  
 above Philadelphia where I was verbally enga-  
 ged as well as I can now recollect he states that  
 he was in the service that time about  
 four months and half and that he was not in



any particular engagement were by so. Lane.  
 He states that, in the year 1777, he moved to the  
 section of Country where he has lived until this  
 time, when in August 1778, he volunteered under  
 Capt. John Duncan and was marched to the Black  
 Tavern on Clinch River in Virginia to guard the  
 frontier Country against the Shawnee Indians, where  
 he remained one month when he was verbally discharged  
 by the Capt. John Duncan. He states that about  
 two weeks after he returned from the Clinch River  
 he volunteered under Capt. James Calvan to go on  
 Lane on the three forks of New River in the State  
 of North Carolina to disperse a body of Tories  
 that were collected at that place when he was  
 verbally discharged by the Capt. James Calvan which  
 Lane he was two weeks in service. He states that in 1780  
 he volunteered under Capt. James Calvan, Colonel  
 Carter Campbell and marched to Choto against the  
 Cherokee Indians when we burned some towns killed  
 some Indians and took some prisoners when he was  
 verbally discharged and returned home after being  
 about two months. He states that in 1781, he substi-  
 tuted in the place of William Henry who was dea  
 fter in Sullivan County the State of North Caro-  
 lina now since to go to join General Mearns  
 in South Carolina he was placed under the  
 command of Capt. Thomas Waller, Lieutenant Al-  
 bleck and Colonel Isaac Shelby, he was march-  
 ed to Carter Swamps where he joined General Mearns  
 army when some of the British were taken



by some of our scouting parties where he was  
 verbally discharged from the General Moxams  
 army by his <sup>o<sup>r</sup></sup> Capt. Wallam. of a campaign of  
 two months. He also states that in the year 1779. he  
 ventured to go to Logan Station now in Kentucky  
 from there to herads Station and from there to  
 Lecher River where we built a fort which was  
 taken the Spring following by the British and Indians  
 from there he returned home after a tour of  
 a half year months more and that he knows  
 no documentary evidence, & that he knows  
 of no person whose testimony he can procure  
 who can testify to his service. He hereby  
 relinquishes every claim to a pension  
 or annuity (except the present) and declares  
 that his name is not on the pension roll  
 of the agency of any state that there is no  
 record made in his receipt by whom  
 he can prove the statement required  
 in the instructions of the Secretary of  
 War. Sworn to & subscribed this  
 dated first before written

Abraham McEllean & Isaac Harmon Thomas King  
 citizens of Sullivan County state aforesaid do  
 hereby certify that we are well acquainted  
 with Thomas King who has subscribed and  
 sworn to the foregoing declaration that  
 we believe him to be seventy eight years of age  
 that he is reputed & believed in the  
 neighbourhood where he resides to have been



a soldier of the revolution and that we  
concur in that opinion.

Abraham N. Allen  
Geo. Lane

And the said Court do hereby declare their  
their opinion that the above named case being  
investigated and after the interrogatories presented  
by the war department, that the above named applicant  
was a Revolutionary Soldier & served as he states  
and that William Rutledge & William Snodgrass  
are Citizens of said County & their statements  
are entitled to credit they being credible persons  
It further appeared to the Court that there is no  
warden belonging in the County of the applicant

J. Richard, Notary Public do hereby  
certify that the foregoing contains the orig-  
inal proceedings of the Court in the  
application of Thomas King for a  
pension.

Thomas King's  
pension claim  
1832

In Testimony whereof I have  
hereunto set my hand & Seal  
of Office this 21<sup>st</sup> day of  
August 1832.

Richard Kethorland Clerk  
By John Kethorland Clerk





Thomas King is buried in the New Bethel Church Cemetery, Sullivan County, TN