Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Dabney Pettus and Thomas Pettus VAS4128 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.]

Virginia – Charlotte County to wit:

I John Foster sen'r [S1515], of the county of Charlotte, do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Thomas Pettus and Dabney Pettus formerly of Charlotte, both of whom died in the service of the United States, while in the continental army, during the Revolutionary war. Thomas Pettus first enlisted under Capt Ballard for 12 months, and afterwards enlisted again, either for three years, or during the war, (I do not now recollect which) but am certain it was one or the other term. I have forgot the name of the officer under whom he enlisted. Before the expration of the last enlistment, he died while in the service.

Dabney Pettus enlisted for three years under Capt John Brent [VAS2630], and also died before his term of service expired. They were both good soldiers. Given under my hand this 26th day of march, 1834.

John Toster

James Mullings

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I was well acquainted with Thomas Pettus, deceased, formerly of Charlotte County, in the Revolutionary war; and recollect that in December, 1775, he first enlisted under Capt Ballard for Twelve Months in the continental line, it being the longest term of enlistment, required at that date by the laws of Virginia: he served the said term about Portsmouth and Williamsburg in Virginia: he then, re-enlisted under Capt Michaux [Joseph Michaux VAS882] in thee early part of 1777, to serve "for and during the war" and marched about the 1st March, 1777, to the Northern Army. The said Company of Capt Joseph Michaux was attached to the 14th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col. Charles Lewis [VAS901]. Shortly after reaching the northern army, the said Thomas Pettus died near Germantown, whilst in the service of the United States. I am in the 87th year of my age, and was a soldier during the war of the Revolution.

[28 Sep 1838] James Mullings [S10251]

To his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia:

The Memorial of the Heirs and legal representatives of Thomas Pettus, deceased, formerly of Charlotte County, who was a soldier of the state line of Virginia on Continental establishment, and died whilst in actual service of the United States, during the war of the Revolution Respectfully sheweth:

That the said Thomas Pettus, in the month of December 1775, first entered the service of the United States as a continental soldier under Capt Ballard, for the term of Twelve Months, which is believed to have been the longest term of enlistment, then required by law. That he served the said term faithfully: he then re-enlisted under Capt Joseph Michaux in the early part of 1777, to serve "for and during the war", and marched about the 1st of March, 1777, to the Northern Army. The said company of Capt Michaux, belonged to the 14th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Col Charles Lewis. Shortly after reaching the Northern Army, the said Thomas Pettus died near Germantown, whilst in actual service of the United States. All of which, will appear by referrence to the Army Records

of the Continental line, and the accompanying certificates of old and credible soldiers who were in the service with him.

Your Memorialist farther state, that as the [part missing?] said Thomas Pettus enlisted "for and during the war," and died whilst in actual service of the United States, that his heirs are entitled to receive the same pay, emoluments and Land Bounty from the State of Virginia, that he would have been entitled to, had he lived and served to the close of the war.

Your Memorialist further state, that the heirs of said Thomas Pettus have never applied for, or received the said Land Bounty from the State of Virginia.

They, therefore, humbly pray that your excellency will grant them the usual quantity of Land allowed a soldier of the Continental line for the enlistment and service of, "for and during the war," pursuant to the laws of Virginia in such case made and provided. And as in duty bound, shall ever pray &c [30 Oct 1838] [signed] John Pettus

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that I was acquainted with Thomas Pettus, formerly of Charlotte, in the war of the Revolution, and know the fact, that in the latter part of 1775, he enlisted under Capt. Ballard for 12 months, which term he served. He then in the Spring of 1777, enlisted again in the continental service under Capt Michaux "for and during the war" and marched in a short time to the Northern Army. The said Company of Capt Michaux was attached to the 14th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Col Lewis. After reaching the Northern Army, in 1777, the said Thomas Pettus, died near Germantown, whilst in the actual service of the United States. I am in the 79th year of my age, and was a soldier of the Continental line. William P. Hamlett [S13305]

[From rejected claims in the Library of Virginia.]

Virginia: Charlotte County to wit:

I do hereby certify, that Dabney Pettus, deceased, formerly of Charlotte, in the Spring of 1776, enlisted in the County of Charlotte under Capt John Brent, for the term of three years, and was attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col Lawson [Robert Lawson VAS850] and General Stevens [Edward Stevens VAS1922]. Just before his term of enlistment expired, he was taken sick, and died near Philadelphia, whilst in the service of the United States. These facts come within my personal knowledge. I am in the 87th year of my age, and was a soldier in the war of the Revolution.

[28 Sep 1838]

James Mullings [S10251]

To his Excellency the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

The Memorial of the Heirs and legal representatives of Dabney Pettus, deceased, formerly of Charlotte County, who was a soldier of the Virginia Continental line, and died in service, in the war of the Revolution Respectfully sheweth:

James Mullings

That the said Dabney Pettus in the Spring of 1776, enlisted in the county of Charlotte under Capt John Brent, for the term of three years, and was attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col Lawson and General Stevens. That just before his term of enlistment expired, he was taken sick, and died near Philadelphia, whilst in actual service of the United States. All of which, will appear by referrence to Army Records of the Continental line, and the accompanying

certificates of old and reputable soldiers who served with him. See also, certificate of "John Foster" filed in case of "Thomas Pettus' Heirs" for Land Bounty, in Executive Department.

Your Memorialist further state, that as the said Dabney Pettus enlisted for the term of three years, and died in actual service of the United States, that his heirs are entitled to the same pay, remuneration, and land Bounty, that he would have been entitled to, had he lived and served [part missing?] quantity of Land allowed a soldier of the Virginia Continental line, for the service of three years, according to the laws of Virginia in such case made and provided. And as in duty bound, shall ever pray [signed] John Pettus

[30 Oct 1838]

Virginia: Charlotte Count to wit:

I do hereby certify, that Dabney Pettus, formerly of Charlotte, enlisted in the Spring of 1776, under Capt John Brent, for the term of Three years, and was attached to the 4th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Col. Lawson and General Stevens. Some short time before his term of enlistment expired, he was taken violently ill, and died near Philadelphia, whilst a soldier and in actual service of the United States. These facts, come within my personal knowledge, being a soldier of the continental line at the time. I am in the 79th year of my age. William I hamlest

William P. Hamlett [S13305] [4 Feb 1839]