

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Charles Dabney R13624

VA Half Pay

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 7 Dec 2023

Washington 30th July, 1849.

Dear Sir [J. L. Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions],

The attorney general having decided, that the Virginia officers, who have received half pay; may claim commutation, with interest, in lieu of their half pay. I, as the agent for the legal representative of Col. Charles Dabney, request you to give him commutation, with interest, in lieu of his half pay.

I salute you most respectfully./ Richard Randolph

Pension Office/ January 23^d 1850

I certify that I have examined the case of Charles Dabney, deceased, who was a Lieutenant Colonel Commandant in the Virginia State Troops during the revolution; that on the 10 of April last, half-pay was allowed at the rate of \$360 per annum, instead of four hundred and fifty dollars per annum. The difference between those sums should therefore now be paid, under the act of July 5. 1832, to Charles W. Dabney, administrator of said Charles Dabney, deceased.

Commissioner of Pensions

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

Petition for add'l Bounty land.

The Heirs of Colonel Charles Dabney.

The facts of this case are Charles Dabney was a Captain in the minute service in 1775 – Major in the state service, in 1776 — Lt. Colo. June 23rd 1777 Lt. Colonel Commandant in Feby or April 1782 & then in service — ([illegible word] Return, in 1782, of Colo. Brent's [William Brent VAS2639] Regiment – 2nd Reg't) – In a Roll of officers of Dabney's Legion, who drew half pay, having served to the end of the war which is on file in the 1st auditors office, Charles Dabney was reported as Lt. Colonel Commandant, and in service to the end of the war Colo. Dabney received for five years full pay in lieu of half pay for life and received 6666 $\frac{2}{3}$ [sic] acres of land.

Other evidence shews that he commenced his service as Captain of Min-Men Novr 3rd 1775 and ended it, as Lt Col. Comdt. April 23rd 1783.

If yr Excellency should allow the additional bounty land, it should be for a service as Lt Col. Commandant, from Nov'r 3rd 1775 to April 23rd 1783, or the end of the War – deducting therefrom the 3666 $\frac{2}{3}$ acres which have been received

Resp'y submitted

To his Excellency/ Gov'r. Floyd

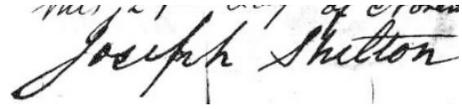
John H Smith Com'r/ March 24th 1834

[From [Virginia Half-Pay pension records on fold3.com.](#)]

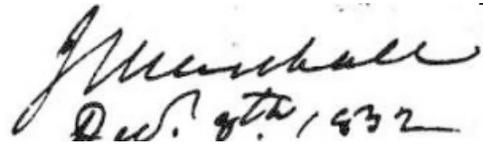
I Thomas Gardner [S8548] of Louisa County and State of Virginia in my Seventy fourth year of age state upon my oath that I was a Sergeant Major in the Second State Regiment and was well and intimately acquainted with Colo Charles Dabney of that regiment and since the termination of the war have always lived in less than twenty miles of him and know that the Colo Dabney of whom I have above spoken was always reputed to be the uncle of Colo Charles Dabney of Louisa who is now present and is the same person who has qualified as Executor to the Will of the Colo Charles Dabney who was attached to the Second State regiment. Given under my hand this 29th Novr 1832



I Joseph Shelton [S7481] of Goochland County and State of Virginia aged seventy one years state upon my oath that I knew Colonel Charles Dabney in the war of the revolution and was acquainted with him ever afterwards as long as he lived. He died in the county of Hanover about the year eighteen hundred and twenty nine, and was always reputed to be the uncle of Colonel Charles Dabney who is well known to me and is one of his executors to his will. Given under my hand this 29th day of November 1832.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph Shelton". Above the signature, there is some faint, partially legible text that appears to say "Witnessed by" followed by a name.

I was very intimately acquainted with Colonel Charles Dabney who died in Hanover county some time I think in the year 1829 and know that he was the same person who was in one of the state regiments of Virginia who served with the northern army during the war of our revolution. He served as Lieutenant Colonel in the regiment commanded by Colonel Brent J Marshall [John Marshall S5731, Chief Justice of the US Supreme Court]
Dec'r 8th 1832

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Marshall". Below the signature, the date "Dec. 8th 1832" is written in a similar cursive hand.

NOTES:

In the half-pay record is a certificate by John D. Andrews that Charles Dabney died on or about 16 December 1829. There is also a copy of the Richmond Enquirer of 29 December 1829 with an obituary of Charles Dabney.

The half-pay file includes a copy of the will of Charles Dabney dated 18 April 1827 and proved on 23 December 1829 with the following provisions: To nephew Charles Dabney the land on which he then lived and "all my negroes and after his death I give all the said negroes to his eldest male heir," and all the remaining property not otherwise devised. He further directed "that all my negroes of twenty one years old and upwards may, if they choose it, be hired out and each shall be entitled to two thirds of their hire," and that "all my negroes under the age of twenty one and the descendants of all my negro woman [sic] when they arrive at the age of twenty one shall have the same priviledge." He gave to nephew Charles Dabney the remaining third of their wages. In addition, "I hope my nephew Charles Dabney and his son will see that my negroes are treated with humanity and rember the words of St James, who says, 'he shall have Judgment without mercy that hath shewed no mercy'" The will also gave ten shares in the Virginia and Farmers Bank of Richmond each to "each of the single daughters of my brother George," "to Louisa Fontaine daughter of Elizabeth Pollard," "to each of the daughters of my brother Robert," "to each of the daughters of my brother Samuel," to each of the daughters of the late William Dabney of Richmond," "to Catharine Morris," and "to Ann McDowell daughter of Alexander Stuart." He gave twenty shares in the same bank to Chiswell Dabney, five shares to John D. Andrews "as a small compensation for his friendly treat to me in my sickness," and five shares to "my negro man York for his faithfull services."