

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Daniel Carter S3126

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } On this 4th day of October 1832 personally appeared before us
Williamson County } Wright Stanley Joby Owen & William Johns Justices of the court of
Pleas & quarter sessions held for the county of Williamson state of Tennessee Daniel Carter a
resident of Williamson county aged 71 years who being first duly sworn according law doth on
his oath make the following declartion in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of an act
of congress passed 7th June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the
following named officers, and served as herein stated

I first entered the service as a substitute for John Dicky who had been drafted for a three
months tour, whilst residing in Sumpter District S Carolina [sic: Sumter District, formed from
Camden District in 1798], into Capt John Hill's Company attached to Col Joseph Cershaw's [sic:
Joseph Kershaw's] regiment. We marched, from Sumpter District about the month of November
1778 to Purysburgh, in the lower part of the state where we remained about one month and a
half when we marched under Col Cershaw to a place called the 3 runs [sic: probably "3 Nuns,"
referring to Three Sisters Islands] on Savannah, where we remained until my 3 month Tour was
out, and I received a discharge from Col Cershaw which with all my others were destroyed as
useless

I next, in the Spring of 1779 volunteered while in Sumpter District into Capt John Harrison's
company attached to Col Eli Hershaw's [sic: Ely Kershaw's] regiment of Horse troops After
rendezvousing at Camden, we were marched under Col Eli Kershaw to Augusta where we joined
Gen [Andrew] Williamson's troops on the S Carolina side. After staying here a few weeks Col
Kershaw took a party of horsemen of whom I was one, and marched us over into Georgia against
a body of torys about ten miles of Brier Creek whom we defeated [Skirmish at the Crossroads,
Beech Island GA, 21 Mar 1779], killing their Col by the name of Sharp [Maj. Henry "Howell"
Sharp] and Major by the name of Spurgen [John Spurgin]. We then returned to Augusta where
Gen Williamson was encamped after remaining there two or three weeks, we again went over
into Georgia where we reconoitred the enemy until my three months Tour was nearly out, when
we returned to the camp and I got my discharge for 3 months service. Immediately after and
without going home, I volunteered into Capt Roger Gordons company in which I was marched
from Augusta, under Gordon, to Dodgester [sic: Dorchester] near Charleston, where we joined
Col Richardson [probably Gen. Richard Richardson's] Troops. In a few days Col Richardson in
pursuance to orders marched us to Stono Ferry, where we joined Gen [Benjamin] Lincoln Army.
Soon after our arival and two days before the battle of Stono [Battle of Stone Ferry SC, 20 Jun
1779] a detachment including me under Col Richardson was ordered to Guard a Landing about
four miles distant from the battle. After the Battle, we joined the army again and were marched
south by Gen Lincoln some distance. He then marched us back to Bacon Bridge [near
Dorchester], where we stayed some time and until my tour of three months was out and I
received a discharge signed by Col Richardson.

I next sometime in the summer of 1780 volunteered into Capt. Luke Petty company attached to
Col Thomas Sumpters [sic: Gen. Thomas Sumter's] regiment, while residing in Mecklinburg
County N Carolina (where my father and his family were compelled to retreat in consequence of
S Carolina about the beginning of this year 1780 falling entirely into the possession of the
British). We marched from Mecklenburgh to the Hanging Rock [SC]. Howev we had joined Col
Sumpter at Rocky Mount and were march on to Hanging Rock under him Here we defeated the
British [6 Aug 1780], taking their baggage and cannon, but a renforcement apearing compeled us
to lea[ve] the Cannon behind. Capt Petty had his arm shot off at the Hanging rock. Gen [Horatio]
Gates being then Gen of the Southern army, there was a call for troops to join him, and
immediately after the battle Hanging Rock, I volunteered into Capt Robt. Martin's Company in
Col Polks [William Polk's] regiment, we marched on to join Gen Gates at drowning creek
[Drowning Creek] N Carolina, after marching near that place we found that Gates had marched
on towards S Carolina we then altered our course so as to join him which we did at Rugeles

Mills [sic: Rugeley's Mill] 12 miles from Camden. The morning subsequent to the morning on which we joined him, he marched us towards Camden leaving his baggage at the camp. The British had commenced a march about the same time [10 PM, 15 Aug 1780] and we met about 6 miles from Camden where the battle was fought [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug] and we were completely defeated. We then retreated to Charlotte N. Carolina where the remnants of Gates Army rendezvoused [see note below]. Soon after this, I volunteered into Capt Martins Company again and in Col Davys [sic: William Richardson Davie's] regiment. We were marched from Charlotte by Col Davy to a place called Ramsower [see note below], where we defeated a large body of Tories and dispersed them. We then marched back by Charlotte to Wahob in S Carolina where another body of Tories were posted We defeated them and killed 50 and upwards [Skirmish at Wahab's Plantation, 21 Sep 1780]. I state that this service from the time I entered Petty's Company lasted until about the middle of December 1780 making six or 7 months, as the battle of hanging Rock was upwards of a month previous to Gates Defeat (15 [sic] August 1780) About the first of Jan'y 1781 [sic: see note below] I volunteered into Capt Armstrong's Horse troops Col Washington's regiment [sic: Lt. Col. William Washington's Light Dragoons], under Gen [Daniel] Morgan. Gen Morgan was encamped at the Waxhaw creek S. Carolina From thence Gen Morgan ordered Col Washington with a body of troops of whom I was one, to take Rugeley's Fort [see note below] 12 miles from Camden. We marched there and ordered the Fort to surrender and it did so with upwards of 200 men prisoners Tories and a few British We then returned with the Prisoners to Gen Morgan. After we got back Gen Morgan sent 5 men and myself to bear a flag to Camden to Lord Cornwallis. We, after doing what had been ordered returned to Morgans camp. Gen Morgan ordered myself and three others to guard 3 British officers to Salisbury [NC] which prevented me from being at the Cowpens which was fought on the 17 Jan'y 1781 and before my return.

I soon after this which was in the latter part of spring say March 1781 entered the Ten Month men into Capt John Reed's Company and Col Wade Hampton's regiment, as 1st Lieutenant Gen Sumpter was our Gen We marched from Charlotte to Fort Congaree, on Congaree river which we took with the Tories amounting to 250 men [Siege of Fort Granby, 19 - 21 Feb 1781]. From Fort Congaree we marched to Fort Motts about 40 miles distant, where we joined Gen [Francis] Marion, and Col Lee's Horse troops [Lt. Henry Lee's Legion] We made an attack on the fort and after their withstanding us for two or three days it surrendered with upwards of two hundred Tories and some British [Siege of Fort Motte, 8 - 12 May]. Soon after Gen Sumpter's troops including myself marched to Orangeburgh [sic: Orangeburg] 40 miles from Fort Motts. Orangeburgh was then in possession of Tories and British and after sustaining our attack but a short time it surrendered [10 - 11 May]. There we remained upwards of a month occasionally acting in scouting parties, against separate bodies of Tories which then considerably infested the country. He then marched to Biggin Church [sic: Biggin Church near Moncks Corner] where we joined Gen Marion's and Col Lee's men. This was about 80 miles from Orangeburgh. This church was possessed by British troops which in conjunction with Gen Marion & Col Lee we surrounded and the same night [16 Jul], they secretly escaped, leaving us their baggage and money [see note below]. We pursued them to a place called Qimby [Quinby Bridge, 17 Jul] where we attacked them Marion and Lee being with us, and took some of them prisoners, the rest escaping. From this place we, under Col Hampton marched to a place called the six mile house, (6 miles of Charleston) where about 50 British troops were posted. We took all of them prisoners. Thence we returned and crossed the Santee and came in the high hills of Santee where we staid about 3 weeks. From thence we march over on the Congaree where we lay a month or two — Thence I was marched in a detached body under Major [Francis] Moore into Georgia where we joined Col Habersham's regiment. We marched on towards the lower part of Georgia crossing the Ogeechee [sic: Ogeechee] river, — [several words illegible] which we took 40 Indian prisoners with furs from whom we learned a large body of Indians lay on the Altamahaw [sic: Altamaha] bank where we marched, and took and killed the whole of them. soon after this my time of ten months was out and I received discharge signed by Wade Hampton Col. This discharge with all my others were destroyed, supposing them useless. My Commission as 1 Lieutenant in this 10 month Tour was signed by Gen Sumpter, and which was destroyed by my being drenched in the river it being in my pocket. This ten months tour I can prove by Capt David Dobins. the ballance of my

service I cannot [two illegible words] any person in this country. I have no documentary evidence of my service, except that stated. I was born in South Carolina on the 27th November 1761 in Sumpter district. I volunteered all by my first Tour of three months when I was a substitute. I have stated 3 tours of 3 months each and a period of service of about 7 months, which with my ten months make upwards of two years. The regular officers were Gen Marion Col Lee, Col Washington and Col Habersham all of whom I served under in my different Tours. I was residing in Sumpter district. I have a record of my age in my Fathers family bible now in my possession. After the war I lived in Sumpter district 2 years when I moved to Kershaw district living 4 years there when I removed to Sumpter where I lived until 1812 when I moved to Williamson county where I have been a resident ever since and am now. I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or annuity whatever except the present and declare my name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state

I name Esqr MCraday Esqr Patton Major Patton, Col Polk Robert C Foster Esqr &c who can certify to my character and their belief as to my services as a soldier. also Parson McConias[?] Major Dobins and Parson Potter. [signed] Daniel Carter

NOTE:

Most of the troops who were able and willing to rendezvous after the Battle of Camden did so at Hillsborough NC.

"Ramsower" may refer to the Battle at Ramsours Mill in Lincoln County NC, except that it occurred on 20 Jun 1780, before the Battle of Camden, and Col. Davie did not arrive until after the main battle.

The fortified barn of Col. Henry Rugeley at Rugeley's Mill was taken on 4 Dec 1780. Rugeley and 113 other Loyalists surrendered after being threatened by a log made to look like a cannon.

According to most accounts, the British put their wagons inside the Biggin Church and then burned it. The ruins of the church still stand.