

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

Pension Application of David Irby S5602

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 1 June 2015.

State of Virginia            }  
County of Pittsylvania } Sct.

On this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Daniel Coleman, David H. Clark, Thomas Williams & Coalman D. Bennett the Court of the County aforesaid now sitting David Irby a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged seventy four 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 Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832

That he entered the service of the United States in the month of May 1776 having enlisted with Capt. Thomas Dillard in the preceding March for during the War he marched from the County of Pittsylvania with the said Thomas Dillard, Lieut. Joseph Roberts and Ensign Turley Choice [sic: Tully Choice, pension application W3774] through the Counties of Halifax, Charlotte, Amelia & Dinwiddie to Petersburg and remained there a few days and marched from there by Cabin Point to Cobham on James River crossed the river at that place and stopt at James Town a few days and went on the Williamsburg and from there on to Little York and from that place by Clevers Old Tavern to Peyankatank [sic: Piankatank River] and from there to Pine top near Ayletts Old Ware House [near present Hartfield] and from there to Guinns Island [sic: Gwynn Island] and stationed there five of six weeks, that they were in the Battle at that place and drove Lord Dunmore from there [11 Jul 1776]. About this time the Cherokee Indians commenced hostilities on the inhabitants of the Western part of Virginia they were ordered to march to New Castle [now Old Church in Hanover County] and staid there untill Colo Haynes Morgan's Regiment arrived and joined them at that place from there they marched by Richmond direct to New London then in the County of Bedford [now in Campbell County] and from there they went through Franklin [formed in 1786 from parts of Bedford and Henry counties] crossed New River at Englishes Ferry [sic: Ingles Ferry near present Radford] and marched on to the Islands of Holstein's River [sic: Long Island of Holston River at present Kingsport TN] and was stationed at that place five or six weeks the Indians being driven back. He said Irby was then marched back to Pittsylvania and was discharged by Colo. Haynes Morgan in the month of December 1776 making in all the time of service rendered on this tour about 7 months, his discharge is lost and cannot be found but the service rendered is proved by Avery Mastain [sic: Avery Mustain, pension application W7488] who was a soldier with him the whole of the time. In the month of January 1778 he again entered the service of the United States being ordered by the said Thomas Dillard to march from the said County of Pittsylvania to go into what was then called the Illinois expedition. he marched under the command of said Thomas Dillard and Lieutenant Charles Hutchings direct to Isaac Riddles on the Holstein River about 12 miles above the long Island on said river where they were stationed a few days and marched from that place to Boonsborough [sic: Boonesborough] in the State of Kentucky where they were stationed two or three months and then marched to the falls of the Ohio river [at present Louisville] where they joined Colo. George R. Clarks [sic: Gen. George Rogers Clark's] Regiment and marched into the Country then known as the Illinois and took possession of the whole Country [4 Jul 1778] and remained there 5 or 6 weeks, then returned by Water to the said Falls of Ohio, suffered to come home and was discharged. He was transfered from Dillard's Company to Captain John Montgomery [sic: John Montgomery] on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1778 and was discharged by him on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 1778. That that identical discharge is now here presented to the Court. The whole of the time of service rendered on this tour is at least 9 months. The balance of that tour previous to the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1778 is proved by Moses Hutchings [pension application S8742] who was a soldier with him said Irby 6 months on the same Company. In February 1781 He again entered the service of the United States as a volunteer soldier and marched from the said County of Pittsylvania in a company commanded by Capt. Gabriel Shelton to Forans[?] Ferry in the

County of Halifax and was transferred to Capt. Thomas Smith's Company and marched with him under Colo. Cock [sic: Nathaniel Cocke] & Genl. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens] into the State of North Carolina and were regularly moving in various directions until they met with Lord Cornwallis in the County of Guilford, that was in the Battle fought at that place in March 1781 [Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781], were defeated by the British and retreated to Troublesome Iron Works [in present Rockingham County NC] where they were again organized and he marched from there with the said Smith to Ramsey's Mill on Deep River and was discharged by the said Capt. Smith in the month of April 1781. The whole of the time of service rendered on this tour was three months, that his discharge is lost but the service rendered is proved by Robert Ferguson [pension application W7262] who was a soldier with him when discharged.

In July 1781 he was ordered to march with Captain John Winn as a guard to carry about 975 British prisoners from Peytonsburg in the said County of Pittsylvania to Winchester. they were taken by Morgan [Gen. Daniel Morgan at the Battle of Cowpens SC, 17 Jan 1781] & Sumpter [sic: Gen. Thomas Sumter]. He does not now recollect how long he was engaged in this trip but was promised to be credited by a tour of three months. He has no evidence to prove this service by. He was born in the County of Halifax in the State of Virginia in the year 1758. He has no record of his age. He lived in the County of Pittsylvania when he entered the service of the revolution and has lived there ever since. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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. – Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

David hisXmark Irby

I Avery Mustain of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia do hereby certify and solemnly swear that in summer of 1776 I was a soldier in the army of the Revolution and was stationed at Gwins Island in Virginia and was attached to the Company of Capt. Thos. Dillard which company was engaged against Lord Dunmore and that David Irby was a soldier and attached to said Company at that time, that said Irby being unwell I left him at said Island and I marched on to Long Island on Holstein, that I have no particular recollection of his following on but believe he did. Given under my hand this 22<sup>d</sup> August 1832

Avery hisXmark Mustain

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Pittsylvania County]

To the Honorable the speaker and the members of the General Assembly The petition of William Canafax [pension application 19233] and David Irby Humbly shews that they served under Colo. Clark in the Illinoise regiment and were duly discharged therefrom but have not obtained their bounty in land which other soldiers belonging to the same regiment have received. Your petitioners beg leave to represent that their Capt. omitted to make a return of them is the reason why their claim was not admitted by the commissioners. Wherefore your Petitioners pray that their case may be enquired into and such redress afforded them as their respective cases may entitle them to & they as in duty bound will ever pray  
&c Wm. Cannafax David Irby

Nov'r 23<sup>rd</sup> [1796] Claims/ Reasonable/ Special/ Report

To the Honourable the Gen'l. Assembly of Virginia

The Petition of David Irby of the County of Pittsylvania Humbly Sheweth That he Served as a Soldier in the Illinoise Regiment the whole Campaign, and was duly discharged from the Same – but by some neglect of the officers in making their Return he has been prevented from Receiving his Bounty of Land which will more fully appear by a Refference to the enclosed papers your Humble Petitioner prays that your Wise Body will pass such a Law as you in your wisdom may think Right & Just so as to enable your Petitioner to get his Land Also by a Refference to the said papers it will appear that James Irby served as a Sergeant in the same Regiment and Aremstead Dudley [Armistead Dudley VAS2057] as a private and that neither of them have drawn there Bounty in Lands,

and that your Petitioner hath purchased their Claims so far as related to their Lands, therefor he prays  
that a Law may pass authorising him to get the said Lands  
and he will ever pray                      David Irby

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> Dec'r [1799]/ Comm[itt]ee claims/ Rejected/ Reported on

[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia](#). Some online images are partly or completely illegible.]

Pittsylvania County June Court 1780

David Irby came into Court and made oath that he was a private soldier in the expedition of the taking of the Illinois in Capt John McGomery's Company and under the Command of Colo. George Rogers Clark and served out the term for which he was inlisted and was at the time of his inlistment a native of Virginia and that he never has received any warrant or certificate for such military service which is ordered to be certified to the Register of the Land Office

A Copy                      Teste                      W. H. Tunstall D.C.

Kentucky Sct

We do hereby certify that David Irby, James Irby, & Armstead Dudley [Armistead Dudley VAS2057] served in Capt John Montgomerys Company in the Illinois Regiment & that they served the whole campaign, the said James [several illegible words]

December 1798

William Whitley

Edw'd Worthington [Edward Worthington R19205]

G R Clark

I Armstard Dudley do certif that I heard an agreement made between James Irby & David Irby in the year 1778 as they went on the Elinois expedition and they agreed [several illegible words] Witness my hand this 24 Day of March 1803

Test/ Stephen Clement



This day David Irby a Credible man of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia Personally appeared before m James Nance a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid and made Oath that he enlisted in the Revolutionary War with Captain Dillard and served in the Regiment which was commanded by Colo. George R Clark in the Illinois country. that he was transfered from Dillard to Captain John Montgomerys Company and continued with him in the regiment aforesaid untill the whole of the Illinois Country was taken by the said Colo. George Rogers Clark: after which I was discharged by Captain John Montgomery in the year 1778. that Identical discharge is now in my possession that he has never Received the land that was promised him or any thing in lew of it but that the same is still due Given under my hand this 15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1833                      J Nance JP

[The following appears to be in the handwriting of George Rogers Clark]

D'r Maj'r/                      The bearer Mr. Earley hath been with [me?] to inquire after some Ill[inois] claims of his The appe[ar to] me to be just but you can only [undeciphered] if they are or not an[d I h]ave advised him to see you                      [I am] s'r your [ver]y H Servt

Maj'r Croghan

G R Clark

[In [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) is an undeciphered paper dated 11 March 1833 apparently initialed by Gov. John Floyd.]