

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of James Dawson S9657      Jane Ford (former widow)      fn58SC  
Transcribed by Will Graves      1/31/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Tennessee Greene County: April session's 1818

Personally appeared in open Court James Dawson a citizen of the said County and made oath that he was a private soldier in the service of the United States during the revolutionary war. That he enlisted under Captain William Watts at New Providence in the State of South Carolina [sic, North Carolina] about the month of February 1779. That Captain Watts's Company belonged to the 3rd Regiment of Dragoons and that he served in the States of South Carolina and North Carolina and was at the Battles of Eutaw Springs and Cowpens and was prevented from being at the battle of Guilford by having the small pox. He states that the 3rd Regiment was commanded by Colonel William Washington and afterwards its commander being taken prisoner at the Eutaw Springs was called the 1st Regiment. This deponent states that at the close of the war he was furloughed on Santee and never again organized corps called into service: he also states that he never received any discharge and consequently cannot produce any. He states that he had a furlough from Captain William Watts his officer who furloughed him but the same is since worn out and cannot now be produced. This deponent states that he was born in the State of Maryland and lost his parents at an early age and never was taught to write being raised an orphan and is now near 60 years of age and resides at present in the County of Greene in the State of Tennessee and has resided in that State about 3 years and resided in the State of North Carolina from the close of the Revolution until the time he came to Tennessee and never was out of the United States in his life.

This deponent states that at this advanced period of his life he is very poor and unable to support himself and stands in great need of the liberal aid of his Government. This deponent states that he served in the revolutionary Army from the time he enlisted until furloughed about 2 years and a half, and does not know any person in this State by whom he can prove his service or who has any personal knowledge of the same and also states he never received any pension whatever.

Sworn to in open Court 28th of April 1818

S/ M. Payne, D. C.

S/ James Dawson, V his mark

State of Tennessee \_\_ County: On the 25 day of October 1820 personally appeared in Open Court, being a Court of Record with Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount keeping a Record of their proceedings, also having power of Fine and Imprisonment, for the County & State aforesaid James Dawson aged about seventy-six years who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st May 1820 that he, the said James Dawson Enlisted during the war at New Providence in the State of North Carolina sometime

before the battle of the Cowpens, in the company commanded by Captain Watts in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Washington in the line of the 3rd Virginia Regiment of Dragoons, on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in the said Corps until about the close of the war, until he was dismissed on furlough from the said service on Santee [River] in the State of South Carolina, that he was in the Battles of the Cowpens & Eutaw Springs, and that he has no other Evidence now in his power, of his said Services except his own oath, and in pursuance of the act of the 1st of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

1 Cow & calf & yearling	\$14.50
2 sows 8 pigs 3 Barrows	9.00
1 pot 9 Dunghill fowls	1.50
1 Owen hooks & Rack	2.75
2 Tables & Dresser Furniture	4.00
4 Barrels 1 spinning wheel	3.50
3 cheers 1 chest 1 Cradle	3.00
1 plough & Geers	5.50
2 Axes 2 Weeding hoes	<u>2.75</u>
	\$46.50

I James Dawson aged about 76 years by occupation a A farmer, and unable to labor hard, my wife James Dawson aged 29 years Nancy Shewmaker [Nancy Shoemaker?] aged 12 years Aswell Shewmaker [Aswell Shoemaker?] aged 10 years Sally Dawson aged 5 years, Lucinda Dawson aged 3 years, Wyly Dawson aged 6 months James Dawson applied for a pension under the act of the 18th March 1818 and obtained a Certificate bearing date the first April 1819, No. 8,679 – S/ James Dawson, X his mark  
Sworn to and declared on the 25th day of October 1820 in open Court before the Justices thereof.

[fn p. 50: an application dated April \_\_ 1821, substantially identical to the above—with exactly the same schedule and recitation of services and family members and ages]

[fn 15: certificate from John Grisham clerk of the Washington County Tennessee court in which he states that James Dason [sic] and James Shoemaker were joined together in wedlock on March 11, 1823 by John Lincoln, JP.]

[fn p. 17: On July 7, 1870, Jane Ford, about 88, filed in Meade County Kentucky to have her widow's pension reinstated stating that she was formally wife and widow of James Dawson (or Dosson), a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$96 per annum; that she married him in Washington County Tennessee March 11, 1823; that her name prior to her marriage was Jane Shoemaker and my former husband James Dawson died in Anderson County Tennessee June 30, 1838; that she married Mordecai Ford in Hardin County Tennessee on or about May 15, 1845; that Mordecai Ford left this country in the month of March 1856 to return somewhere in

Tennessee and we have never seen or heard from him since except a vague rumor not long thereafter that he was dead -- he was old and to some extent infirm; that she has never married since the death or departure of Mordecai Ford but remains a widow