Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Virginia documents pertaining to Charles Davis VAS749

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 25 Aug 2020.

[From bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia. Two documents that might provide details about Davis's service are mostly illegible in the online images. One is a letter from John Perry dated 21 Sep 1830. The other is a statement by Richmond Deadman of Fayette County KY indicating that Davis served two years in the Continental Army.]

State of Kentucky

Jessamine County Sct. December Court 20th Dec'r. 1830.

Thomas Davis and Hannah Davis widow of Charles dec'd. this day made oath in open Court that James Davis, Elizabeth White late Elizabeth Davis, Polly Heath late Polly Davis, Sally Kearsy late Sally Davis, Polly White infant Daughter of Nancy White late Nancy Davis are the heirs & legal representatives of the said Charles Davis dec'd. which is ordered to be certified for the purpose as alledged of obtaining bounty lands for the Revolutionary Services of the said decedent.

A Copy Test. David Price Clk./ Jessamine County Court

[To] Wm. Selden Esq [Register of Land Warrants, Richmond VA] House of Reps/ 10th Jan 1831 Dear Sir.

Your favour respecting the terms upon which bounty land was given in the revolutionary war by virginia places me under gratful acknowledgements.

I enclose the case of Charles Davis heirs. I presume they are entitled to a warrant from the proof in the case. you will see that under the 3 years enlistment he was wounded & retired from the service by a discharge on that account & I presume that does not prejudice his case. I however request your attention to it & If a warrant should be issued please to enclose & if not you will let me know the cause. With great respect & esteem your ob sevt

Rh M Johnson

Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford County Sct

Personally appeared Thos. Davis [Thomas Davis W8651] of said County and made affidavit as follows before the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County. That Charles Davis then of Spottsylvania [sic: Spotsylvania] County Virginia enlisted with the first regular troops under Capt George Stubblefield [VAS1818] I think about the year 1775 for two years and went Northward with the Continental army and faithfully served the above term and got his discharge then enlisted three years in the light horse service under what Capt I do not recollect but was under Col White of the light horse [Anthony Walton White W6477, 1st Regiment of Continental Light Dragoons] and in the year 1780 was in south Carolina about 25 Miles above George Town on the Santee River [probably Leneud's Ferry, 6 May 1780] and there got his left arm cut nearly off by the British light hore and thereby being disabled was discharged a few weeks before his three years expired the State of Virginia therefore allowed him a pension of twenty dollars a year and said Charles Davis moved to Kentucky and died in said County about thirty years since and Hannah Lewis of Jessamine County Ky is the widow and relick of said Charles Davis Dec'd and her Children is his legal heirs and Further said Deponant saith not given under my hand as a justice of the peace in and for Woodford County this 8th of February 1837

[signed] Fielding Davis

[Jessamine County KY, 10 Feb 1837]

Hannah Davis widow [one or two illegible words] Charles Davis states that she was married to the said Charles Davis about the year 1783 in the state of Virginia and lived together in that state about 13 years and then moved to Kentucky where they lived together until his death which

happened about the year 1807 He drew a Pension from the state of Virginia about 20\$ pr Annum – a few years before he left that State and afterwards to within a few years of his death, a few years of the last he gave (as I understood) a power of attorney to a certain John Hawkins to collect the arrears of his pension – before the return of Hawkins s'd Charles died and I know not whether he collected it or not never having seen Hawkins afterward

She further states that the following are the children and legal representatives of s'd. Charles Davis – Viz James Davis, Polly Heath late Polly Davis, Elizabeth White late Elizabeth Davis, Sally Kearsey late Sally Davis – and Mary Lewis a daughter of Nancy White dec late Nancy Davis a daughter of s'd. Ch's. Davis – She further states that the acc'ts given to her of the enlistments and time of service by said charles Davis corresponds with the affedavit of Thos. Davis his brother herewith transmitted

She further states that she does not know of his ever having disposed of his claim to bounty land but always heard him say that he was entitled to bounty land and also that she has remained a widow ever since his death and further saith not

Hannah herXmark Davis

War Dept Bounty Land Office/Feb'y 26 1837

Sir The required examination has been made in reference to the case of Charles Davis, and I have to inform you that his name is not returned in the records of the Virginia Continental line among those entitled to bounty lands from the U. States this is fully explained by Mr Perry in his letter to you, wherein he states that Chas. Davis's inlistments were for the limited periods of two, not three years

It appears from Rolls of the Virg'a. Continental Line, in the Pension Office, that the name of Charles Davis is returned as a private of Infantry, and that a settlement was made with him as such in 1783

It also appears from the same Rolls that the name of Chas. Davis is returned as a private of Cavalry and that a settlement was made with as such in the year 17[?]7 at which period he was paid £46 [illegible word] shilling — These Rolls furnish no particulars in relation to the extent of all Davis' services he is doubtless entitled to land from the state of Virginia

Mr Perry's letter is herewith returned The Hon'e R. M. Johnson House of Reps

I have the honor to be/ Your Obt Servt Wm. Gordon