

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Dunn R3143 Elizabeth Dunn VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } S.S.
Madison County }

On this 3rd day of April 1840 personally appeared before me Starling Wood one of the Justices of the County Court for the County of Madison aforesaid, Elizabeth Dunn, a resident of said County, aged seventy seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 7th 1838 entitled “an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows.”

That she is the widow of Richard Dunn deceased, who was a private in the Army of the Revolution. That he served three years as a regular soldier in the Virginia Continental Line or State Line of Virginia But these facts she can only state from information received from him & others, she understood when she married him & before & always since that he was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and believes he served three years or more. She has no documentary evidence in her possession & never had as she knows of, by which she can establish the services of her said Husband. She further declares that she was married to said Richard Dunn in the Spring of 1784 in the County of Campbell, State of Virginia, she was married by John Anthony a Baptist Preacher Her name was Elizabeth Butler before her marriage. That fall after her marriage she removed with her Husband to the now County of Madison Kentucky, where she has ever since resided with the said Richard Dunn as his wife till his death, which took place on the 5th May 1817 & since his death she has remained his widow having never intermarried. She has no record family or otherwise, of her marriage & knows of none. That she was not married to said Dunn prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January seventeen hundred and ninety-four – to wit at the time above stated She cannot state the exact day nor month of her marriage but knows that it was in the Spring of 1784 and that in the fall of that year her Husband moved to Kentucky.

Elizabeth herXmark Dunn

Commonwealth of Ky. Madison County Sct

This day [20 Nov 1839] personally appeared before me H B Hawkins Justice of the peace in and for the County afd. George Tomblinson [sic: Ambrose (or George) Tomlinson, pension application S31429] a resident of said County who being first sworn according to law makes oath. That he will be eighty five years of age in March next, that he was himself a regular soldier in the army of the Revolution belonged to the 1st Regiment in the Virginia State line, and is now a pensioner: That he was well acquainted with Richard Dunn Dec. in the Revolution, that said Dunn was a regular soldier during the Revolutionary War. His best recollection is that said Dunn belonged to Capt Kemp’s Company: He thinks he was in the 1st Regiment Virginia State line: It may be he was in the second Regiment: Capt Kemp was from New Kent County Virginia: He knows said Dunn was a regular soldier, and thinks he first saw him at Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg]. He is confident he Dun enlisted & served three years. He saw Dunn at the White plains in the State of New York and he and myself swaped hats. I had a white hat and had been drilled for making one false motion, after which the officers would hollow out “the white hat man, and I gave Dunne a good swap to clear of being noted the white hat man. To the best of my recollection I saw Dunn at West Point. Dunn was a low thick, chunky well set man: That after the war, he knew said Dunn well in the County of Madison Kentucky and conversed with him about their services in the Revolution said Dunn has been dead a good many years he cannot say how long. Said Dunn was a quiet, peacable man, and a good Soldier, and an honest man.

George hisXmark Tomlinson

A Return of men in Captain William Hoffler's company in the 1st Virginia State Regiment Commanded by Col George Gibson – September 8, 1778,

date of enlistment Remarks

Richard Dunn 1 March 1777 com'd Terry Town [probably Tarrytown NY]

I certify that the name of Rich'd Dunn is found on a roll in this office as above stated.

Tho. W. Dickins/ Clk. Dept. of State/ Apl 17th 1840

[See endnote.]

NOTES:

Note that this may be a different Richard Dunn (VAS1139). The company of Capt. William Hoffler was raised in Norfolk County VA on 9 Jan 1777.

On 4 April 1840 Charles Anderson, half brother of Elizabeth Dunn, certified her statement. On 24 Sep 1852 Edmund Dunn renewed the claim for a pension as administrator of Elizabeth Dunn, deceased. Other documents state that she died in August 1841 leaving the following children: Polly Holland, wife of John Holland; William Dunn; Nancy Stephens, wife of John Stephens; James Dunn, Elizabeth Ford, wife of Labourne Ford; Sucky (Susan) Webb, wife of James Webb; and Edmund Dunn.

On 23 Jan 1857 the Pension Office wrote that the claim of Elizabeth Dunn would be admitted for 18 months and 8 days service by Richard Dunn "when the evidence of the date of her marriage, required by the letter addressed to you on the 23^d of June last is filed." In reply, the agent for the heirs of Elizabeth Dunn stated that no record could be found in Campbell County of the marriage of Richard Dunn and Elizabeth Butler – only one of a Richard Dunn and Sarah Gibson in September 1782.