Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of James Davis S12724 VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } Sct On this the 4th day of March in the year 1833 personally appeared in Bourbon County } open Court before the worshipful Justices of the Court for the County afores'd. now sitting, James Davis a resident of said County of Bourbon aged 71 years the 8th day of July last past, 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herin stated. In May in the year 1778 in the County of Charles City Virginia he became a substitute & served for the Term of 3 months; His company was commanded by Capt. Jno. Bradley [John Bradley] who was under the command of Col. [William] Fleming. During this service he was marched from a point near the Long Bridge on Chickahominy River [near present Woodhaven Shores] to Williamsburg, thence to York and thence to Hampton, at which last place his term being out he was discharged. At Hampton he was in a slight skirmish against part of the forces of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis; see endnote], which was brought about by an attempt on the part of Cornwallace's Troops to effect a landing for the purposes of plunder. In the fall of the year 1780 in Orange County Virginia he was drafted for & served a tour of three months under Capt. Benjamin Johnston; during this service he was marched from Orange Court House to the City of Richmond, thence to Westopher [sic: Westover] on James River, from that to Cabin Point on the South Side of said River & thence to Petersburg, at which last place the Tour having expired he gave up his arms went to Richmond & drew provisions for his return home. Sometime in the month of July or August in the year 1781 in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County Virg'a. he was again drafted for & served a tour of 3 months under Captain William Stanton; during the service he was marched in pursuit of the British on the retreat under Cornwallase; at a place called Hotwater, near old James Town, a battle took place between the forces to which he belonged & the British [Battle of Hot Water Plantation 6 mi NW of Williamsburg, 26 Jun 1781]; the British were defeated. Col. Anthy Wayne [Anthony Wayne] was in that battle From Hotwater he was marched to Maubin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill] eighteen miles below Richmond at which place his term having expired he was discharged. He states that he served in all a period of nine months; that he was born in the County of Culpepper Va. on the 8th of July 1761, that he has a register of his age, that he moved from the State of Virginia to the State of Kentucky in 1788 & has been living in the County of Bourbon of s'd. State ever since. He states that he has no documentary evidence whatever in proof of his services; He thinks he did not get written discharges from his officers at the expiration of his Term of service, but if he did they are lost. He states that he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove his services, whose Testimony can be had, except Nath'l. Mothershead [Nathaniel Mothershead, pension application W8472] whose deposition accompanies this declaration; He is however known to many reputable persons in his neighborhood who can speak as to his character for veracity & to their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution and among others he will mention William Barton; David Barton, William Stamp, Abner Shropshire & John Edwards. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year afores'd.

the agency of any state

[Nathaniel Mothershead stated that he served with Davis on the tour under Johnson and also on the tour under Stanton near Jamestown.]

State of Kentucky, County of Bourbon, Ss.

On this 29th day of March 1842 before me, the subscriber, a Justice of the Peace for the said County of Bourbon, personally appeared James Davis, of said County, who, on his oath, declares that he is the same person, who formerly belonged to the companies commanded, (as he now thinks and beleives, though his memory is now very frail,) by Captain John Bradley, ___ Johnson, and ___ Slaughter, in the regiment commanded as he now beleives by Colonel Alcock, he being three different times, in the service of the United States; that his name was placed on the pension roll of the State of Kentucky. that he received a certificate of that fact, under the signature and seal of the Secretary of War, Lewis Cass; which certificate, about the 4th of Sept. 1841 he intrusted to the care of his son, Nathaniel Davis, his Attorney to draw his pension, due at that date, and which his said son has lost, as will appear by his affidavit. He further declares, that the copy of said certificate which was forwarded to the Hon. Garrett Davis, member of Congress from Kentucky, is correct from the original.

Jas Davis

NOTE: Troops under Lord Cornwallis did not enter Virginia until spring of 1781.