

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Dove S1661 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee } County Court July Sessions 1833
Knox County } On this 3rd day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court at a Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County, now sitting Thomas Dove a citizen of said County aged near 76 years who having been sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions of an act of Congress passed on the 7th of June 1832. That he was born in Albemarle County Va. on the 15th day of November 1757 where he continued to live during the whole of the Revolutionary war was living there at its commencement and continued to live there after its termination up to the year 1809. That sometime in the fall of 1779 as well as he now recollects, he entered the american Army, and was enrolled as volunteer private at Charlottesville Va. into a company of foot commanded by Captain Benjamin Wheeler – he states that his company with several others were under the command of Major Langham – under him as a superior officer – we marched to Richmond and from there marched on to Norfolk, and crossed over from there [to] Hampton, where we had a slight skirmish with the British and drove them to their shipping. We remained in and about Hampton for some time and were then marched back to Richmond and dismissed and returned home – applicant states that he was three months in actual service during this tour

Applicant states that a few months after his last campaign he was drafted in Albemarle County Va. – rendezvoused at Charlottesville and was enrolled into a company commanded by Captain Charles Langford under him applicant marched to Richmond and from there down the James River and on to Norfolk, after staying there a short time we were marched across the River and up to Williamsburg, here we had a light skirmish in which Captain Langford was wounded in the thigh. At Williamsburg applicant remained with his company untill the three months for which he had been drafted, had expired when he returned home. Applicant states that some months after his last campaign, he cannot recollect how long, he was again drafted in Albemarle County, rendezvoused at Charlottsville and was enrolled into a company commanded by his first Captain, Benjamin Wheeler, and under him marched to Richmond and from there down the James River to Portsmouth and over to Norfolk and after remaining there but a few days, and being under apprehensions from the British fleet, recrossed to Portsmouth and then up to Richmond where our company remained untill the three months for which it had been drafted had expired when we returned home.

Applicant states that some months after this las campaign, the time not recollected he was again drafted in Albemarle rendezvoused at Charlottsville and was enrolled into a Company commanded by Captain William Gouch [sic: William Gooch], and under him marched to Richmond where we were stationed and in its neighbourhood for three months, at which time applicants time of service having expired he was dismissed and returned home. Applicant states that some time after this he thinks it was early in the year 1781 he had attached himself to the minute service and was called out by his former Captain Benjamin Wheeler and under him marched from Charlottville to Petersburg Va. where after being stationed twenty days and the apprehension of an attack having subsided, he was dismissed and returned home. Applicant states that from the long time which has elapsed since the above services were rendered, his great age and consequent loss of memory he cannot state precisely the various marches and countermarches which he had to perform – he feels confident however that he performed services as above stated as a private for a term not less than twelve months and twenty days for which he claims a pension – he states that his services were performed at a time when the whole country on the James River below and at Richmond was constantly threatened with an attack from the British he states that in some of his tours he recollects of seeing some of the Regular troops he believes under the command of Genls [Anthony] Wayne, [Daniel] Morgan and La Fayette [Lafayette], but he was generally kept seperate from the Regulars and knows nothing about the officers or the number of their Regiments he states that he has a record of his

age in a Bible now in possession of his uncle's family in Virginia – he states that he moved from Albemarle in 1809 to Knox County Tennessee where he has lived ever since – he states that there is no clergyman living in his neighbourhood – he states that the persons now living in his neighbourhood who can testify as to his veracity and his reputation for having performed military services in the revolutionary war are George Traut William Rutherford, William Sawyers &c – he states that he got a written discharge for one of his campaigns but no other and that discharge he has long since lost – he states that he has no documentary evidence whatever of his said service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services – he hereby relinquishes every claim 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 in open court this 3rd July 1833

Thomas hisXmark Dove

State of Tennessee } Personally appeared in open court at a circuit court now sitting for said County
Knox County } before the Honorable Edward Scott, Thomas Dove a citizen of said County
seventy six years of age, who being sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following
declaration in order to obtain the provisions of an act of Congress passed on the 7th June 1832. That he
was born in Albemarle County in the state of Virginia on the 15th day of November 1757 where he
continued to live during the whole of the Revolutionary war and afterwards until the spring of 1809.
That he enlisted at Charlottesville Va. into the army of the United States on the 9th day of March 1781 for
the term of during the war into a company of light infantry commanded by Captain [John] Sharp and
attached to a Regiment commanded by Colonel Armand [Charles Armand Tuffin, marquis de la Rouërie],
a french officer – he does not now recollect the number of said Regiment but knows it was called
Armands Corps [Armand's Legion], and thinks it was composed of three companies of foot and three
companies of horse – he thinks the three companies of foot were commanded by his said Captain Sharp,
Captains Le Baron and Brefoe [sic: Augustine Briffault] and the three companies of horse were
commanded by Captains Le Bert [sic: Claudius de Bert], Bedkins and Le Brown [sic: Jerome le Brun de
Bellecoeur] – applicant states that his Regiment marched under the said officers from Charlottesville Va.
to Staunton Va where it was stationed a few months, and then marched to Winchester Va. where it was
stationed one or two months and then marched to Manchester Pa. where it was stationed one or two
months, when it marched into the state of New Jersey and remained there but a few days when they
marched directly back again to Yorktown where they joined the main army who were then beseiging the
British army at that place [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] – applicant states that at the time his said Regiment left
Charlottesville Captain Sharp had the command of applicants company, but when they arrived at Staunton
and was recruited a sufficient number of men to form two companies, Captain Le Baron took the
command of applicant's company and captain Sharp took command of the new company – applicant
continued from this time under the command of the s'd. Captain Le Baran until his regiment reached
Yorktown, when having recruited a sufficient number of men a third company was formed called
Yaugers [Jäger], and being mostly germans, and Capt. Le Baran being a German the command was given
to him and Capt. Brefoe took command of the light infantry company of which applicant was one –
applicant states that he remained at Yorktown until the surrender of Cornwallis shortly after which time
his Regiment marched to Little York Pa. where they were stationed about thirteen months when he was
honorably discharged – applicant states that he got a printed discharge signed by “Armand Marquis de la
rouerie Brigadier General” – he states that Col. Armand had been promoted to the rank of General a short
time before his discharge [26 Mar 1783] – he states that sometime after the war he sent his discharge to
Richmond Va. to draw his land for his services, but he was informed that shortly after he sent it it was
lost and altho he has made deligent enquiry after it, he has never been able to find it – he states that in
1809 he moved from Albemarle County Va. to Tennessee where he has lived ever since – applicant states
that he made out and forwarded his declaration more than a year ago, for a pension for services in the
Continental army, but in consequence of stating that his Colonels name was Armong instead of Armand,
his papers were returned because his name could not be found in Armong's Regiment, there being no

officer of that name – he has since been informed that there was a Colonel Armand whose name was pronounced Armong, and he has been induced to make a second effort to procure a pension for his services – he states that his name is now on the pension roll of the agency of East Tennessee under the law of June 7th 1832 for services which he performed in the Revolutionary army previous to his enlistment in Col. Armand’s Regiment, and which services were performed as a malitia man he states that his present pension is in no part for services rendered in the continental army, but when he was informed that his name was not to be found on the rolls of the regular army, and that without procuring the testimony of a witness which he knew to be impossible, he could not procure a pension, he made a second application, which was for services rendered in the melitia for which he now receives a pension – he states that besides the melitia service for which he now receives a pension he performed services in the continental army as above stated for twenty months, for which he claims an additional pension of so much as will make him a full pensioner – he states that he has a record of his age in an old Bible which his Brother has – he states that he has no documentary evidence whatever of his services nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his services – he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension or annuity except the one he now receives, and the present additional one, and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any state except the pension roll of the agency of East Tennessee –

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court this 12th Aug. 1834 Thomas hisXmark Dove

State of Tennessee } This day personally appeared before me Zac. Boothe and acting Justice of the
Knox County } Peace for said County Thomas Dove a citizen of said County aged 76 years who
being duly sworn on the Evangelists of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he enlisted at Charlottsville
Va. into the army of the United States on the 9th day of March 1781 as well as he now recollects, for the
term of “during the war,” into a company of light infantry commanded by Captain Sharp, and attached to
a Regiment commanded by Colonel Armand, a French officer – he states that he continued to serve in
said Regiment at different places – was at the capture of Cornwallis at Yorktown – was afterwards
stationed at Little York Pa. for a long time and he thinks was there discharged at the termination of the
war with his whole Regiment – he states that he received a panted discharge signed “Armand le marquis
de ruere, Brigadier general” – he states that some time after the war he sent his discharge to Richmond
Va. for the purpose of drawing a land warrant for his services, and it was there lost – he states that he
never received any bounty in land for his services nor any warrant or scrip for the same – he states that at
the time of his enlistment he was of fair complexion, blue eyes, and about five feet three or four inches
high

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 11th Oct. 1834 Thomas hisXmark Dove

[The following are among [bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#):]

Albemarle County towit

Nathan Gillaspy Personally appeared before me Dabney Minor a justice of the peace for this County and made oath that Thomas Dove of Albemarle County Virginia was enlisted for three years, and served for that or nearly that space of time in the Virginia line on the Continental establishment in Armong’s Legion during the American revolutionary War with Great Britain, and the said Gillaspy further saith that the said Dove served his time faithfully, & that he & the said Dove was discharged at the same time at the conclusion of the War at little York in Pensilvania and travelled home together, and the said Gillaspy also states that he is no ways interested in what he now swears to, he having long since received compensation for his services & I hereby Certify that the said Nathan Gillaspy is a man of veracity

Certified under my hand & seal this 24th March 1808/ Dabney Minor

Albemarle County to wit

Thomas Dove personally appeared before me Charles Yancey a Justice of the peace for said County & made oath that he received his discharged when Nathan Gillaspay did & give it to William Woods Babtist in the same year he came home to have the necessary steps taken at Richmond & said Woods afterwards informed him said Dove he had gave the discharge to James Kerr Sen'r. & James Kerr informed this affiant that he gave it to his son James Kerr living in Richmond & some time [several illegible words] said James Kerr Jun'r. (who is now deceased) that the reason the necessary steps had not been taken he could not find the discharge but would search for it again when he went to Richmond where said James Kerr then lived & this affiant has never received or heard anything of it since & further saith he has never Received any satisfaction whatever for the same I also Certify that this affiant is a man of varacity

26th March 1808

Charles Yancey