Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Dean S16761 Transcribed by Will Graves

f18SC 2/14/08 rev'd 12/3/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama, Madison County

On the Eighth day of November 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable William J. Adair Judge of the Circuit Court now sitting in the Town of Huntsville in the County and State aforesaid Richard Dean a resident of the said County of Madison Seventy three years of age 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. That about the last of June 1775 while he was a resident of Dobbs County in the State of North Carolina, he volunteered for a tour of six months under Jesse Cobb and joined a Regiment commanded by Colonel Caswell [Richard Caswell], his Regiment marched for Wilmington but when the said Regiment got as far as the widow Moore's Creek it there encountered a considerable number of Tories who made battle. Affiant was in the battle. General McLoud [Donald McLeod] was killed and General McDaniel [Donald MacDonald] taken prisoner several privates were killed some time after this affiant was discharged having completed his tour of six months.¹

On the 14th of June 1778 affiant being then a resident of Darlington district in the State of South Carolina enlisted in the Army of the United States in the 5th Regiment of the Continental line commanded by Colonel Isaac Huger his Captain was by the name of James Conyears, affiant was marched with the Regiment towards Charlestown [Charleston], to James Island at Fort Johnston. From there affiant was sent out with a recruiting party into the upper part of South Carolina and there remained until his Regiment marched to Savannah in the State of Georgia. There affiant joined his said Regiment just after it had been beaten back by the British from that city. There the said Regiment was commanded by Huger who had been promoted from Major to Colonel. From there affiant marched with said Regiment up to Black Swamp and was there stationed for a few days and thence by a forced march to Charleston. There are some of our troops going out of [word obliterated] and fort, to an engagement or skirmish with the British on their return in the dusk of the evening they were be mistaken for the enemy and were fired on by their fellow soldiers and Col. Huger² and several others were killed, after the death of Col. Huger the command of the 5th Regiment failed to Peter Horra [Peter Horry, affiant remained with said Regiment in Charleston until about the first of September 1779, when he was marched with it to Savannah on the way having joined General Lincoln who was commander in Chief and having also joined the French, after the said Army had remained there about three weeks an ineffectual attempt was made to take the Fort by storm, affiant was present with the

¹ The Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge occurred on February 27, 1776.

² Applicant is describing the engagement commonly referred to as the Charleston Neck which occurred between May 11-13, 1779. Applicant is mistaken in stating that it was Col. Isaac Huger who was killed in this action. Major Benjamin Huger led a party of men which was fired upon by 'friendly' fire resulting in the death of Huger and 12 of the men in his party.

assailing Army, which had to retreat with considerable loss, after this affiant was marched with the Army to Governor Bull's Hill and were there stationed until 1780, then the remaining troops were consolidated and formed into two regiments known as the 1st and 2nd Regiments of the line, affiant was then changed from the 5th to the 2nd Regiment, affiant's Captain in this new Regiment was by the name of Dunbar and the Colonel was Marion. From thence affiant was marched with said Regiment to Charleston and were then stationed under Major Hulshon [?] owing to the indisposition of Colonel Marion who had gone home on parole. Affiant remained in Charleston through the whole siege and had with others to surrender [May 12, 1780] as prisoners of war to the British some time after this affiant and about 30 more met with an opportunity of escape and by wading and swimming a marsh for about 3 miles we got clear, affiant then made his way to his father's traveling by the night through the woods &c to avoid the British that were scattered through the Country and the Tories that were still more dangerous, after this affiant's said Regiment was so much reduced by sickness &c that it never formed again although affiant was still liable to duty at a moment's warning, until the expiration of three years for which he enlisted.

About the 1st of June 1781 affiant went into Johnson [sic, Johnston] County in the State of North Carolina where he joined a horse company commanded by Captain John Bryant [John Bryan] as rangers through the Counties of Sampson, Cumberland and Johnston in said State of North Carolina we had two small skirmishes with the Tories affiant remained with this company until the close of the War, affiant has no written discharge now, he had one but it is lost, he further states he knows of no one now living by whom he can prove his services. His age was set down in a family Bible but that it is not now in his possession but he remembers well that it recorded that he was born the 1st day of April 1759. He was born in Dobbs County now Lenoir in the State of North Carolina. After the war affiant moved from North Carolina to South Carolina from there to the State of Tennessee from there to Alabama from there to Georgia and from there to Alabama in Madison County where he has remained ever since. Affiant can state that he is known in his neighborhood by David K. Hunter and by Bryant Cobb, who will prove his veracity and their belief of his services.

Affiant 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 Open Court 8th November 1832.

Richard Dean

Airhand Dean

Test/ S/ [illegible signature]

[Daniel K. Hunter, a clergyman, and Bryant Cobb gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 10: On May 23rd, 1843 in Franklin County Alabama, Sally Dean made oath that she is the widow of Richard Dean, a revolutionary war pensioner; that he died in Franklin County Alabama on July 21, 1842 and previous thereto he resided in Madison County Alabama and previous thereto he resided in the state of North Carolina. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 4: last pay voucher showing payment of the pension due the veteran from the time of his last payment to his death: paid to his widow's agent.

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[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]