Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Asa Davis S1757 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Tennessee } SS. Davidson County }

On this 24th day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & quarter Sessions, Asa Davis, a citizen of the County and state aforesaid, aged seventy six years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following affidavit in order to obtain the benefit of an act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, & served as herein stated, to Wit. That he was born in Amelia County Virginia, on the first day of October 1757 [sic] - from thence he moved at an early age to Petersburg, in the County of Dinwiddie Va. Here he commenced keeping store for messrs Dans, Ellott & Co. After continuing with them about a year he supposes they broke up their establishment, and Gen'l. Geo. Elliott [George Elliott] the gentleman with whom he was then living, being quarter Master, placed under his care a Government Store to furnish Gen'l Scotts [Charles Scott's] Army with forage which was then (in 1778 he thinks) in Petersburg, & took up their winter quarters there. he continued to perform this duty so assigned him, during this winter & the ensuing summer at the end of which time he was discharged by Gen'l. Elliott, receiving from him at the same time, a certificate of his service. whatever became of it, he is entirely ignorant – he took no care of it, not expecting it ever to be of any service to him. After his discharge he returned back to Amelia County, where as before stated, he was bred & born, and within a short time after arriving there, he was draughted as a militiaman, & served as such under Capt Dennes [sic: John Dennis], who appointed him orderly Sergeant - his draughted number was seven. The general place of assembly was Amelia Courthouse, where he thinks the army or militia of the County was assembled. They started from Amelia Courthouse, to what place or Country they were destined has escaped his recollection, but when they arrived at James River in Virginia, Capt. Dennes informed us, that we were no longer wanted, and discharged us - he went over the river, by order of his Captain & received the discharge - he enlisted for three months, but performed actual service for only ten or fifteen days.

Upon being discharged, he went home a second time, and remained there until the spring of 1781 when his number was called, and he enlisted in Capt. Royal's [sic: Royall's] Light-horse Company. Capt. Royal marched us to Head-quarters of the American Army, and after arriving there he (applicant) was placed under Col Call [possibly Maj. Richard Call of the 3rd Reg. Continental Light Dragoons], and the whole army marched from thence down to Petersburg under the command of Gen'l. Lafayette. We here attacked the British under Lord Cornwallis, and routed them, and they fled with much precipitation. I, with three four others, was on the approach of evening detached off, in order to watch the movements of the British Army. We left Petersburgh, & marched for Richmond, where we remained a short time, & thence marched to a place called Morben Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond], on our way to Little York, then in pursuit of Corn Wallace, & before we arrived at Little-york, applicants time being at an end was discharged. We received no written discharge – Col. Call seemed to be in such a hurry, that he could not give those whose service had just expired certificates of their service. His whole term of service amounts to One year & six months counting the time of his service whilst keeping store for the Government by the directions of Gen'l Elliott at one year & six months as a militiaman

He frequently saw Gen'l. Lafayette in his last route, and his own immediate Officers before named. He has no recollection of seeing or hearing the names of any others.

He knows of no person or persons living by whom he can prove his services. He has been living in the State of Tennessee for about five years, and all those by whom he could establish his services, if at

all, are living in Virginia, where he resided during the war, & from the conclusion of the war until his removal to the afores'd State of Tennessee.

He is known by the most respectable citizens of his neighborhood, including Michael C. Dunn Dunn Esq'r. Enoch Ensly Esq'r. Jason Thompson, James McEwen & various others. He lived in the neighborhood of Gen'l. Andrew Jackson for two years, on Timothy Dotson's land. He knows Gen'l. Jackson by sight, but he will not state that Gen'l. Jackson knows him. Wm Lytle of the Senate of the State Legislature is intimately acquainted with him – he refers to these Gentlemen for his character with regard to his honesty & veracity.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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 Ma Davis

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.