

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Jonathan Dunbar S19286

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia }
Nicholas County } SS

On this 14th day of January 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Nicholas the same being a Court of record now sitting Jonathan Dunbar a resident of said County and state of Virginia aged seventy two years on the fifteenth day of April next 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

He was drafted in as he believes the fall of 1780 and placed under the command of Capt. Cravens [sic: Robert Craven] for a term of three months and was engaged during his whole service in guarding prisoners at the Barricks near Winchester Virginia. At the end of the said three months he was discharged receiving a written discharge. He was very young at this time and his memory now will not enable him to say who signed his discharge or to give a list of the officers names under whom he served. His place of residence was in the County of Augusta Virginia.

In either December 1780 or January 1781 to the best of his recollection he again volunteered for a tour of three months service under the command of Capt. Thomas Smith who collected his company in Stanton [sic: Staunton] Augusta County Va. and was marched through Virginia to the State of North Carolina where they joined General Green's [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army and was present and an actor at the famous battle of Guilford which was fought in March [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781]. At the end of his said term of three months service he was discharged from the service receiving a written discharge which was handed to him by his aforesaid Captain Thomas Smith but whether he signed it himself or was signed by some other officer he cannot tell.

In the month of May 1781 he was again drafted under Captain John Dicky [John Dickey] Liut John Garnwell[?]. They were marched on to Eastern Virginia and Joined the regular Army at "Machunk Creek" [sic: Mechunk Creek, 14 Jun 1781]. the regular army was commanded by either Fayette, Muhlenburg or Wayne, which one he cannot say [sic: commanded by Gen. Lafayette with Gen. Anthony Wayne second. Gen. Peter Muhlenberg not present] Col. Thomas Heygood [sic: Thomas Hugart] - Lieut Col. Jno McCreary [sic: John McCreery] and Majer [John] Wilson commanded the regiment to which he belonged. They were hardly ever stationary they were kept almost constantly on the alert watching the enemy Maj. Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] especially. That their movements were confined pretty much to the Country about Richmond and Petersburg Va. He was in two engagements during this term of service. The first one was at a place called Hot water near Williamsburg [Battle of Hot Water Plantation, 26 Jun] where the Americans were defeated. The other was on the bank of James River near James Town [Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul]. This last battle was fought on as he thinks Friday and on Sunday he with others was called out to aid in burying the dead of the enemy - After serving his time out he was again discharged receiving a written discharge.

In the month of September 1781 he was again drafted under the command of Capt. Patrick Buckhannon [sic: Patrick Buchanan] for a term of three months He was marched to Yorktown and joined General Washington's army and was present when Lord Cornwallis' army surrendered [19 Oct]. He cannot recollect the names of all the Regimental officers but Col [Samuel] Vance belonged to the regt and Charles Baskins was Lieut. of the Company. After serving out his term of three months he was again discharged at Winchester to which place they had marched with the prisoners receiving a written discharge.

He was born near Lancaster Pennsylvania as he was informed on the 15th day of April 1762 and which he has on record at home - Augusta County Virginia was the place of his residence during all the time of his service. He moved then to Bath, then to Greenbrier

afterwards Monroe County Va from which place he moved to what is now Nicholas County in the year 1806. He was drafted for three termes of service and volunteered for the fourth He served under the officers stated in the foregoing declaration. He received four written discharges signed by some of his officers by whom he does not recollect nor does he know what has become of them but they are lost or destroyed He never received any commission as an officer He is known to Edward Rion and Robert Hamilton (there being no clergyman) of his neighbourhood who can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid [signed] Jonathan Dunbar

State of Virginia } S.S.

Monroe County }

On this 1st day of Febuary 1834 personally appeared before me James Hanly a Justice of the peace in & for the County & State aforesaid Samuel Clark [pension application S9188] of lawful age, who being first duly sworn according to Law, deposeseth and saith, that he is well acquainted with Jonathan Dunbar, who now resides in the County of Nicholas & State of Virginia; that the said Jonathan Dunbar as well as this deponant, were drafted in the year 1781, in the County of Augusta & State of Virginia to serve a tour of duty, in the revolutionary war, of three months; that they were marched from the said County of augusta in the month of May 1781 under the command of Colo Thomas Huggart, Colo John McCreery and Maj'r Wilson until they joined the regular army under the Command of Generals La Fayette and Wayne near Richmond Va; that the said Jonathan Dunbar did serve with this deponant, the full term of three months as aforesaid, and that during the said term they were in two engagements with the enemy, one near Williamsburg Va. and the other near James Town Va.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this date above

[signed] Sam'l Clark

[The following report, now barely legible, is by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated many pensioners from present West Virginia. For details see the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111).]

Jonathan Dunbar. Pensioner -

This man died in November 1834. I was unable to procure any evidence of his services - and I was equally unsuccessful in my efforts to ascertain the neighborhood opinion - There seemed to be no opinion on the subject - The Declaration in this case was written by Samuel Price of Nicholas - if it be correct, it is the only one of that Gentlemans writeing -

W. G singleton Jany 20, 1835