Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Nathaniel Dacus S21153 VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of South Carolina } Ss. Greeneville District }

On this nineteenth day of March AD 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Judge now sitting Nathaniel Dacus a resident of the district and state aforesaid aged eighty three years, 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 7 1832. That he was born near Williamsburg virginia in the year 1749 – from thence he moved to the County Lunenburg, Va, where he first entered the service as a malitiaman in the year (he believes) 1779. That his first tour was one of three months duration, under Capt. Edward Broadnax, that he marched to Williamsburg which was then the Head quarters & from thence to Little York, where at the expiration of his time, he was by his captain discharged, which discharge has long since been lost

He was next drafted to serve a three month tour, which he did under Capt. Sylvanus Walker, was attached to the Second Regiment of Malitia commanded by Col. Nathaniel Cook [sic: Nathaniel Cocke], in the Brigade of Gen'l. Stephens [sic: edward Stevens]. That he together with his brigade joined Gen'l. [Nathanael] Greene at Irvin's ferry [sic: Irvine's Ferry 4 mi W of present South Boston] on Dan River, Halifax county in Virginia. That he remained with Gen'l. Greene until the battle with Lord Cornwallis, at Guilford [Guilford Courthouse] No. Ca. in which he was engaged – on the fifteenth day of March 1781. That after recruiting about two days Gen'l Greene started in pursuit of Cornwallis. When Green's army arrived at Ramsey Mill on Deep river No Carolina it was expected that a general engagement would ensue. A halt was ordered for the purpose of making the necessary preparation – but it was soon discovered to be merely a manouvre of Cornwallis in order to transport his baggage &c across the river in safety. At this place he was discharged by Col Nath'l. Cock. That shortly after he return home he was again called on & had made preparation to obey the call, but was prevented from so doing by the extreme illness of his family; in consequence of which he was compelled to offer a substitute, which he did by hiring one William Moore, who was at the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown [19 Oct 1781]. That he has no documentary evidence of his service, but that Richard Lock [pension application S21351], & William Stokes are living witnesses of his being at the battle of Guilford. He hereby relinquishes all claim whatever to every other pension except the present & declares that his name is not on any pension roll. sworn to and subscribed this 19 day of March AD 1833 in open court Nathaniel hisXmark Dacus

NOTE: On 22 Aug 1851 William Dacus applied for the pension that would have been available to his mother, Elizabeth Dacus, as the widow of Nathaniel Dacus. The file includes a family record transcribed as follows:

Births

Wm. T. Dacus was born Oct. 22nd 1798

Critty Dacus was born March the 22nd 1802

Eliza I. Dacus was born January 19th 1826

Emily C. Dacus was born September the 27th AD 1830

Sarah E. Dacus was born September 15th AD 1833

Marriages

Wm T. Dacus and Crilly Dacus his wife was Married August the 31st 1824

Mrs. Sarah Wade was born Feb'r. the 18th 1759

Mrs. Sarah Wade Dec'd. July the 18th 1842

David Wade Sen'r. Dec'd July 23rd 1808 Deaths

Nath'l. Dacus Sen'r. Dec'd March the 25th 1835 Elizabeth Dacus his wife Dec'd. January the 21st 1840 John W. Dacus Dec'd September the 20th 1843 Mary C. Cox Dec'd May the 30th 1853