

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Francis Dunlavy S2526

VA PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

The State of Ohio }

War. Com. Pleas

Warren County } Ss

September Term 1832

On this third day of October A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas, at Lebanon, in the County aforesaid, now sitting: Francis Dunlavy, resident of the Town of Lebanon, in the county of Warren & State aforesaid, aged seventy 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<sup>th</sup> 1832 – That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated for the term of nine months. That on or about the first day of October 1776 he volunteered as a private in the militia of the United States and in the company of Capt. Isaac Cox, and David Steele Lieutenant [from Yohogania County] & that he encamped with said company on the second bank of Ohio river at a place then called Hollidys cove [sic: Hollidays Cove in present WV] opposite a large Island in the now County of Brook Va. That the company built a fort or chain of cabins called block-houses on said ground, & scouted or ranged up and down the River, a certain distance every day, two at a time. This was one of a line of stations from Fort Pitt to Grave creek – saw no field officer but Col. John Gibson, who passed and called at the stations along the River, as visiting or supervising them. Of Capt. Coxes company were John Sappington, Edward King & some of the name of [Daniel] Greathouse, who became notorious afterwards, as having been concerned in the murder of a number of drunken Indians in the month of April 1774 [Massacre of Yellow Creek, 30 Apr 1774] – remained there until the twentieth of December when he with the rest were discharged having served two months & one half and upwards. That in the month of July 1777 he served in the militia at Fort Pitt fourteen days as substitute for his Father Anthony Dunlevy [Anthony Dunlavy], who served the first half of a month for which time he had been drafted. Gen. [Edward] Hand had just arrived but brought no troops with him. – don't certainly recollect the names of any militia officers as he with other privates did duty in the Garrison under regular officers. Col. John Gibson and some of the 13<sup>th</sup> Va. regiment in the garrison, Capts. Scott [David Scott of Monongalia County, pension application S25425], Bell [sic: Robert Beall of Yohogania County], & David Steele, above named, well known about Pittsburg during & many years both before & after the revolutionary war. Simon Girty, a subaltern, but at that time chiefly engaged in intercourse with the Indians many of whom were in and about that place and which he thinks was the reason that the Malitia were called in at that time on or about the first of March 1778 this deponent volunteered his services for one month rendezvoused at Cox's station, waters of Peter creek [at Mingo Bottom N of Wellsburg in present Brooke County WV], Cols Isaac Cox & John Cannon attended to organize the men, after remaining about eight days, some negotiation took place in which it was agreed that the militia should give up their arms, and that certain recruits who were enlisting in the regular service, but who were not yet provided with arms, should take the place of the militia in stations of defence and that the latter should return to attend to their crops under this regulation were all (that is the militia) dismissed – on or about the 15<sup>th</sup> of August following, this deponent was drafted for one month rendezvoused at Pittsburg – put under the command of John Springer, Lieutenant, who was attached with his militia troops to Capt Ferrol lately from the Seaboard who had no troops of his own (but whose company of one years men shortly after arrived or were enlisted) but had a company of men detached from those of the 13<sup>th</sup> of Va. Capt Ferrol with his command marched or ranged the woods on the fronteer line to Wheeling, calling & visiting various stations, or places of resort for the surrounding inhabitants between Pittsburg & Wheeling, at the latter, relieved and took the place of a company of malitia from Hamshire Va. [sic: Hampshire County, now in WV] under the command of captain Daniel Cressap [sic: Daniel Cresap] Brother to the celebrated Mike Cressap [see endnote], remained in the Garrison at Wheeling some time, ranged or scouted the woods up and down the

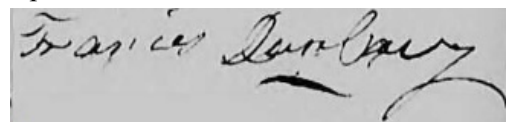
river and around the Garrison. Lieutenant Springer and his men returned to Pittsburg where at the close of the month we were discharged. About the 5<sup>th</sup> of October entered the company of Capt John Crow, as a substitute for Andrew Flood (subalterns not certainly recollected – rendezvoused at mouth of Beaver [at present Beaver PA], G. [Lachlan] McIntosh commander in Chief. Col. Stephenson (thinks Hugh) [Hugh Stephenson] commanded the battalion or regiment that Capt Crow was in; Col. Wm Crawford [William Crawford, BLWt921-500] half brother to Stephenson, the regiment or larger number of troops, also militia Col. Evans with his troops was under Crawford Cols. John Gibson of the 13<sup>va.</sup> and Daniel Broadhead [sic: Daniel Brodhead] of the eighth Pennsylvania with their respective regiments or parts of them in the army Daniel Leet adjutant of the regular troops, but to which regiment attached don't recollect. Laughlin McIntosh [sic: Lachlan McIntosh, Jr.], son to the General, aid decamp or Brigade Major, great number of Militia from Hampshire, Berkeley, Frederick, Rockingham, Augusta, & even Botetourt Counties in Va., Cols. John Morrow, [William] Bowyer, Major [Patrick] Lockhart (of the staff) and others, Built a fort of much strength & capacity [Fort McIntosh, begun Sep 1778]. On the 5<sup>th</sup> of November marched for the interior thro' the Indian country, as it was then called, crossed into the forks of Muskingum, some distance above the Moravian Towns, built Fort Lawrence not far from New Philadelphia [sic: Fort Laurens at present Bolivar OH, begun 10 Nov 1778] – left Col. Gibson & some regulars in the Fort – returned to McIntosh, and was discharged about the 20<sup>th</sup> of December, deponent having served two months & one half & upwards. On the 25<sup>th</sup> [sic] of August 1779 was drafted & rendezvoused at Fort Pitt – encamped three days in the Kings orchard [at Fort Pitt] on the banks of Alleghany River [sic: Allegheny River], fourth day in the afternoon marched up the river [11 Aug]; about 700 men, some light horse, & some Indians, perhaps 60. Col. Daniel Broadhead commanded part of his regiment along. Col. Gibson the next in command with part of 13 Va. some independent companies, Col. Flannegan (he thinks Thomas) [Thomas Flannagan] commanded the militia this applicant was in the company of Capt. Ellis. Joseph Beeler Jun. Lieutenant, Brigade Major Findley (not Samuel) & Major Varneer & Major Campbell of Steubnan ville [sic: Steubenville]; last three all of the regular troops. John Monteur [sic: John Montour] a half blood (son of Andrew Monteur [sic: Andrew Montour] a Frenchman) a man of information and education, but a great savage. marched up the Alleghany on the east side crossed Kistamenates [sic: Kiskiminetas River] at the mouth – crossed Crooked Creek and came to the Kittening [sic: Kittanning] where was a garrison, lay some days at an old town on the River bottom some 12 miles above the Kittening – marched up the river and crossed to the west side, some 15 miles below the mouth of French creek crossed the latter creek & moved on towards the Muncy [Munsey] Towns, met some 30 or 40 Indian warriors defeated them, killing several, & wounded some, who escaped, some fled up a steep hill to the west, some took to the river & escaped to an island, had none killed but 4 or 5 wounded on our side, thinks Jonathan Zane, a pilot or spy, was one of the latter, went into the Towns then abandoned lay there nearly a week, cut up several hundred acres of corn growing along the river on each side, returned to Pittsburg [14 Sep] all the way on the east side. John Ward, a youth, and perhaps an ensign, but of what troops don't recollect, had his thigh broken by his horse falling on a rock in a creek, ever since called slippery rock. Crossed the Alleghany opposite Pittsburg and was discharged about 29<sup>th</sup> September after serving inclusive about 35 days Nota Bene Lieutenants John Hardin & Samuel Brady, first of the 13<sup>th</sup> Va. & the other 8<sup>th</sup> Pa. and who afterwards became famous in Indian warfare, were in the above expedition.

About the first of April 1782 deponent volunteered his services to march against the hostile Indians, rendezvoused at Deckers station on the east banks of the Ohio about one mile above the mouth of Cross Creek [at present Follansbee WV]. lay there some days – was dismissed by Col. James Marshall of Washington County Pennsylvania, thro whom the call was made, not having men enough to undertake any thing of importance, returned home after an absence of ten days inclusive.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of May following returned to Deckers Station – crossed the Ohio, and lay encamped three or four days in the Mingo Bottom, being volunteers chose our officers. Col. Wm Crawford elected commander in Chief; Col. David Williamson second in command, this applicant was in the company of Capt. Craig Richie. John Millar, Joseph Bean, Andrew Hood & others Captains of companies. Jonathan

Zane & John Slover, Pilots. Dr. [John] Knight Surgeon Daniel Leet Brigade Major, whole number of troops about 500 mostly mounted on horseback. marched for the Indian Towns about 20<sup>th</sup> [25 May 1782] – crossed the Muskingum below the Moravian town, then lately laid waste [Gnadenhutten Massacre, 7-8 Mar 1782] – up Kilbuck & Moheecan Forks [sic: Killbuck and Mohican] – crossed over to Sandusky plain – met the Indians on the Western verge of the plains on the 4<sup>th</sup> of June P. M. had a battle – fought ‘till dark with various success – had about 21 men killed & wounded – both parties lay on their arms all night within sight of each other. Indians lay all round us next day, at long shot distance, some skirmishing, but no regular battle seem’d to increase considerably – appeared to be commanded by Simon Gerty above mentioned – deponent heard him speak often – knew his voice well – at the close of daylight on the 5<sup>th</sup> broke through the Indian lines, who appeared very much alarmed – we retreated all night without ever halting – stopped a few minutes in the morning to collect – had about 300 men when collected under Col. David Williamson about two O’clock the Indians on horseback overtook and attacked in the front left flank & rear – formed and repulsed them – had some killed or taken, & wounded. Capt. Joseph Bean in particular was shot thro’ the body but recovered – died some 12 years ago, Nelson County, Ky. where he had resided near thirty years. Major Harrison, Wm Crawford Jun. [William Crawford, Jr.] (Nephew to the Col.) and some others killed or taken, continued the retreat – Indians pursued, and fired on us occasionally, but were repulsed when approaching near shot, a violent rain rendered fire arms nearly useless – encamped in the woods some miles east of the plains. Indians encamped about a mile off, we marched at daybreak, they fired on our rear at the moment of moving – killed or took some – did not pursue us, but betook themselves to the pursuit of straggling parties, who, from accident or design, had separated, among these were Col. Crawford John Slover & Dr. Knight & others, these three all taken – Crawford burnt – Dr. Knight & Slover made their escape, and returned home after some 20 days, this applicant arrived at Mingo Bottom & crossed over about the 12<sup>th</sup> and was discharged next day, and returned home, after a service of 28 days or 32 inclusive; besides the abovementioned persons were several militia field officers Col. McLelland, Majors Geddes, Brinton & Rose (a foreigner) [John McClelland; Thomas Gaddis; James Benton; John Rose, born Gustavus Henri de Rosenthal, a Russian] but as most of them served in the capacity of privates can’t say who of them had command. he was in no battle or skirmish except as aforesaid. – was born the latter part of the year 1762 in Frederick County, now state of Va. has no record of his age, was living about 12 or 14 miles southwardly from Pittsburg when called into service, & during the whole of the revolutionary war, and for many years before & afterwards – lives now in this state, in Lebanon Warren County & has lived in this county & Hamilton (from which Warren was taken) 40 years. Sometimes, but not often, received a written discharge, but knows nothing what became of them, nor any of them – has no person by whom he can prove these services, but can prove by Wyllys Pierson Esq. and Wilson Thompson his character for veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, and this deponent further says, that all the above services were under regular calls from government, all but those of 1782 by the authority of the State of Virginia. The latter under the State of Pennsylvania {The district of Country changed between the provinces & states of Virginia & Pennsylvania several times during the time applicant lived there} and also states that living on the verge of the frontier, the people often turned out in mass on sudden alarms, without any authoritative call, and on these occasions he with others often turned out, but that the above services were all in consequence of regular or legal calls & that in all the above he performed the duties of a private soldier except in the expeditions of 1778 under Col Broadhead, & that of 1782 under Col. Crawford he acted in the capacity of Sergeant.

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, except as above set forth

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Francis Dunbar", written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

NOTE: Michael Cresap is noted mainly for having been accused of the Yellow Creek Massacre by Chief Logan in an eloquent speech cited by Thomas Jefferson.