Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Drury Pettiford S41954 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 11 Dec 2014.

District of North Carolina SS.

On this twenty seventh day of May 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the United States for the District afores'd, personally appeared Drury Pettiford, aged Sixty five years & upwards, resident in the County of Wake in the said District, who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled, "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war." That he the said Drury Pettiford, soon after the commencement of the revolutionary war, the date he does not recollect, enlisted under Captain Lewis Burwell (in Mecklenburg Virginia) of the Second Regiment of the Virginia line, on the Continental establishment, in the war afores'd, for the term of three years; that he continued to serve in said company in the service of the United States until the end of his said term, & for three months longer, when he was discharged from service, at Fredericksburg, in Virginia, which discharge is worn out & completely destroyed; that he was in the battles of Monmouth [NJ, 28 Jun 1778] and Stony Point [NY, 16 Jul 1779] – and that he is in reduced circumstances, & stands in need of the assistance of his country for support. [Certified by Laurance Pettiford and Martha Pettiford, "free persons of Colour," who stated that Drury Pettiford was also "a man of Colour."]

State of North Carolina }
Wake County }
Court of please & quarter Sessions on this 25th day of August 1820

Personally appear in open court it being a court of record Drury Pettiford aged 69 years who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of congress of the 18th March 1818 and 1st May 1820. That he the said Drury Pettiford enlisted for the term of Three years on the day of August in the year [blank] in the State of Virginia in the company by Capt. Lewis Burwell in the 2nd Regiment comanded by Col. William Brunt [sic: William Brent] in the line of the State of virginia on the continental establishment that he continued to serve in the said corps untill the full expectation of his time when he was honorably discharged from the said service on the 18th Feb'y. in the state of virginia having served 4 or 5 months over the Three years he enlisted & that he was in the great battle of Monmouth & that he has no other evidence now in his power of his s'd. services. And in pursuance of the act of 1st May 1820 I do solemnly swear that I was a resadent Citizen of the united States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or any manner disposed of my property or any part therof with intent therby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and navil service of the united States in the revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or Security contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed and by me Subscribed —

North Carolina } Schedule

Wake County \ Court of pleas and quater Sessions

on this 25th day of august 1820 Personly appeared in open Court it being a court of Record for the county aforsaid Drury Pettiford aged 69 years – resident in said County & State who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows. that he served 3 years in the 2nd Rigment in the company commanded by Capt. Lewis Burwell and that he has hereunto rec'd a pension certificate No. 5443 upon his original declaration made before Judge Potter on

the 27th day of May 1818. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident citizen of the U.States on the 18th day of March 1818. and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my Property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it, as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the united States in the Revolutionary war – passed on the 18th day of March 1818. and that I have not nor has any person intrust for me any property or Securitey, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereunto annexed and by me subscribed. ~

Real Estate none

Personal " one blind sorrell mare

One Sow and 2 Shoats 4 chairs

2 Dishes and 1 Basin

1 Sett knives & forks

One pott

Names & ages of the family now resident with him are myself aged 69, Dicy his wife aged 66.

Jesse aged 18 years Nicholas aged 16 years

Janey 12 years Drury aged 9 years & Thomas aged 2 years — That all the assistance he has is from the labour of his two oldest sons Jesse & Nicholas that himself and wife are not able to do much & his eldest daughter only assists her mother in the house, that his occupation is a farmer and have to rent land and being verry old and infirm he is himself unable to pursue his Occupation having also been wounded with a cannon ball at the battle of Monmouth in his right knee which verry much injured their bones & senews of his leg & knee, & much burned by the blowing up of a magazine in middlebrook [NJ] Sworn to and Subscribed in open court Drury hisXmark Pettiford

NOTE: In the 1830 federal census for Wake County NC Drury Pettiford is listed as a "Free Colored Person" aged 55-100 with a female in the same age range, two females 24-36, and two males 10-24.