Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Nunnally S5844
Transcribed by Will Graves

f27VA 2/26/09 rev'd 1/25/13

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia County of Dinwiddie

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the County Court of Dinwiddie County, now sitting, William Nunnally, a resident of the County and State aforesaid, aged 77 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 the 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following officers, and served as herein stated; to wit; -- That on the first day of July 1779 he was called into the militia service of the United States being detailed by a draft by numbers, from Dinwiddie County under Capt. George Pegram, whose Lieut. was Peter Eppes whose Ensign was Boswell Hutchings [also spelled Boswell Hutchins], that the company was marched to Hillsboro North Carolina where it joined a body of troops of about two thousand in number who were commanded by General Stephens [Edward Stevens] -- & that his company was there attached to a Regiment commanded by Col. Faulkner [Ralph Faulkner] and was detained at Hillsboro some three or four weeks, for the purpose, as he understood, and as appeared, of being trained & disciplined previously to the march for Camden which was contemplated. That about a week previously to their departure thence, General Gates [Horatio Gates] on his way to overtake his own Army, considerably in advance in its march on Camden, passed by the troops at Hillsboro aforesaid -- remained there a day or two with General Stephens and reviewed the troops there. That the company to which this declarant belonged as aforesaid then marched on with all of General Stephens Command to the Headquarters of General Gates near Camden where he remained until the expiration of their three months term of service when they were discharged & returned home. That an action [presumably the battle of Camden August 15-16, 1780] between the British under Lord Rawdon [sic, the British in the battle of Camden were commanded by Lord Cornwallis] and the American troops occurred previously to this discharge in which the Declarant was engaged, and in which his right hand man was killed.

That the next tour of three months service which he performed as aforesaid was under Capt. Baker Pegram of the said County, with whom he marched as a company of volunteer light infantry to Suffolk in Virginia from whence the Company was subsequently ordered to march to Portsmouth to attack the British stationed there, but the British having retired to their shipping and sailed away, before the arrival of the company, it was countermanded just before its arrival at Portsmouth, and in a few days after discharged by the expiration of the three months of service.

That subsequently in the year 1781 he was again drafted for duty as a militia man under Capt. Gilliam Booth [also spelled Gilliam Boothe] & that he cannot recollect so as to be certain in his own mind who were the subalterns under Capt. Booth. That the company marched to

Yorktown in Virginia where he recollects the following Superior officers as commanding the Battalion Regiment and Brigade -- to which he was attached Major Walker, Col. Blunt and General Lawson [Robert Lawson], and that he remained there until his term of service expiring he together with the rest of the Company was discharged, previously to any active the engagement towards the reduction of the town.

That he was born, raised, has ever resided in the County of Dinwiddie; -- that he knows of no record ever having been made of his age, but always understood that he was born in the same year of Braddock's defeat in 1755 and from that and other information does not doubt that his age is what he is above represented. That he never received any written discharge, and has no documentary evidence of his services, but from that he can prove the performance of the two first mentioned tours of duty by Joel Sturdivant who was with him during both those tours; and the last by Sloman Wells [sic, Solomon R. Wells] and his brother Daniel Nunnally both of whom were detailed with himself for that tour of duty.

He the said William Nunnally 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 whatever.

William 1 Swom al

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Nunnally

I Joel Sturdivant² (formerly a soldier in the Revolutionary war and at present a planter residing in the said County of Dinwiddie,) do hereby certify that I am well acquainted with the Declarant William Nunnally and have been so from an early period in the Revolutionary War -- that I know that he served the 2 former tours of service in his Declaration set forth, because I was myself present and served in the same company with him on each of those occasions -- I do not know anything personally of the 3rd tour of duty which he represents himself to have performed. Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ Joel Sturdivant

I Solomon R. Wells,³ formerly a soldier in the Revolution, & at present a planter residing in Dinwiddie County, do hereby certify, that I am well acquainted with the Declarant William Nunnally and knows that he performed the second and third tours of duty stated by him in his foregoing declaration having myself served in the same company with him both those occasions. I know nothing personally of the previous tour of service which he speaks of not having been engaged in them but have often heard that he performed a tour to the South and have no doubt that it was performed as he represents.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

¹ Daniel Nunally (Nunnally) R7740

Joel Sturdivant S6150

³ Solomon R. Wells S14812

S/ Solomon R. Wells, X his mark

[Isham E. Hargrave, a clergyman, and Boswell Hutchings gave the standard supporting affidavit.

State of Virginia at Dinwiddie County to wit:

Personally appeared before the Justices of Dinwiddie County Court, in open Court, William Nunnally, who in addition to his former Declaration appended it hereto, states that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service or the periods of the war in which it was performed more explicitly than he has already done; but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than 9 months in the grade of a private, for which service he claims a pension, that from the same cause he cannot state the names of any other regular Officers -- or other Continental or Militia Regiments with which he served than has already done -- nor can he refer to any persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood who can testify as required by the 7th interrogatory prescribed by the War department than the witnesses whose certificates the court heretofore has given an annexed to his declaration. Sworn to & subscribed this 20th day of May 1833.

S/ William Nunnally

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia militia.]