Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of David Blackwell S6666 Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Virginia. Hanover County to wit:

On the 22nd day of October 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of said court now sitting David Blackwell a resident of Hanover and state of virginia aforesaid aged sixty eight 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

He states that he was born near Newcastle [New Castle, now Old Church] in Hanover on the 24th day of August 1764 as appears from family register there being no record of his age – that he went into service in the united states in the fall of 1779 as a substitute for John Blackwell of Hanover and marched from Newcastle in Hanover under Captn John Stanley, through New Kent [County] to the City of Williamsburg from thence to York Town where he was placed under Col Nelson and during the time he remained there there were frequent alarms occasioned by the enemy. He was there discharged after serving a tour of three months. He was drafted & called out again the first of Jan'y 1780 [see endnote] and marched from Hanover under Captn Tho Richardson [Thomas Richardson] & Col. Nelson Anderson and was stationed a short time in Henrico at a place called Duval's Hill just above Richmond where he saw the town on fire - our army then determined to attack the enemy whilst they were destroying the town but before we could get to the town they had fled down the James River and we took some prisoners of them below Richmond we then marched to Maubin Hills [sic: Malvern Hill, 15 mi SE of Richmond] from thence to Charles City Court House and on to Williamsburg. He served on this tour two months. He went into service in the month of May 1781 as a substitute for [illegible] Mitchell and marched from Hanover under Captn John Quarles & Col Charles Dabney and joined the army commanded by the Marquis Delafayette [sic: Marquis de Lafayette] in Hanover and marched from thence through Goochland, Fluvanna, Louisa, Spotsylvania and Culpeper and hearing that the French Fleet commanded by Count Degrass had blocked up the British Fleet in York [sic: De Grasse, arrived Chesapeake Bay 30 Aug 1781] we then marched to the City of Richmond and from thence to Maubin Hills and was there discharged Having served in this tour two months - He was drafted & called out again under Captn Thomas White & Col Thomas Meriwether & marched from Hanover through New Kent to a place called the new magazine in James City [County] just above Williamsburg and from thence to Yorktown where he served until the surrender of Lord Cornwallis of the British army [19 Oct 1781]. He served in this tour one month & two weeks. He states that he served during the revolution eight months and two weeks. He states that he has risided a part of his time since the revoulution out of the state of virginia but for the last eight years he has resided in Hanover and now resides in said county near Col. Charles P. Goodall's Tavern, that he has no documentary evidence but can prove some of his services by William Bumpass [pension application 2718] and Jacob King [W7988] but knows of no other person by whom he can prove them. He refers to Col. Charles P. Goodall, Francis Blunt & Col. William L. White as persons who reside in his neighbourhood who can testify to his character and their belief as to his being a soldier of the revolution

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present & declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state or territory whatever. Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid [signed] David Blackwell

NOTE: Blackwell's second tour may have been in Jan 1781 at the time of Gen. Benedict Arnold's raid on Richmond.