Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Dozier S8349 VA Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

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State of Virginia, Westmore- } land County – To wit }
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On the 28th day of January in the year 1833 before the Justices of the Court of the County aforesaid then in Session, personally appeared Richard Dozier, a resident of the said County, aged eighty five 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 the 7th day of June 1832. that immediately after the rupture between Great Britain & the then Colonies, he was enrolled as a private in the Militia of Virginia, in the County of Westmoreland, & was in the Summer of 1775 mustered in the Company commanded by Capt. Jos. Lane [Joseph Lane], attached to the Reg't in said County commanded by Colo Richard Henry Lee. That very soon after the War of the Revolution opened, the River Potomac was occupied by a Hostile Fleet from which the most distressing & savage warfare was carried on, & continued, except at very short intervals, thro' the whole war. As Westmoreland in its whole extent lies on the River Potomac, and was therefore at all times exposed to sudden attacks from the enemy, an arrangement was made by which every Militia-man was required, under severe penalties for disobedience or failure to repair at a minute's warning to any designated place of rendezvous, & bring with him his arms, ammunition, and three days provision. This was the condition in which the militia of Westmoreland stood during this whole war, besides being liable at the same time to the occasional Drafts from the whole body of the Militia of the State. That under the foregoing arrangement numerous calls were made on the Militia of Westmoreland to take the field in masse – in all which he, the said Dozier was included, & turned out. But not having now, or at any time, the aid of records or other written memoranda of the years, & the particular periods in each successive year, when these calls were made & answered, that he the said Dozier cannot now, after such a lapse of time recall to a memory, impaired as that faculty in most men is by the pressure of eighty five years of laborious exertion both of body and mind to gain an honest support, the particular years, and the particular periods in those years, at which he was required to perform, and did perform, military duty in the war of the Revolution. That tho his memory will not allow him to be explicit in regard to dates so far back, yet there are circumstances still graven on that memory which nothing can erase. These are the hardships endured in the performance of those tours. That an indelible recollection of these, so often recurring to the mind, & as often recounted to others, associates in the memory the particular tours of duty in which these hardships occurred. That therefor, tho' he is well satisfied that he performed in the course of the war many other tours of duty, he has the most distinct recollection of having performed eight tours, at different times, making an aggregate service of thirteen months. That the first of the aforesaid tours was performed under Capt. Jos. Lane in the year 1775. Rendezvous Hickory Hill – thence to the Potomac at different points, served one month. 2^d Tour I performed was two months under Capt Edwards. Rendezvous - Nomony Ferry. The 3^d Tour was under the same Capt, Rendezvous Nomony Ferry – and was for one month. The 4th Tour was for one month. Same Capt. Same Rendezvous. The 5th Tour was for two months. Same Capt. Same Rendezvous. The 6th Tour was for two months. Same Capt. Same Rendezvous. The 7th Tour was at Nomony Ferry to guard Boats – one months. The 8th Tour was a Draft for six months. That he was marched, in pursuance of this Draft, under the command of Capt. Edwards, as far as Price's Tavern in King George County. After remaining there some time, associated with other troops, was marched to Leeds Town [Leedstown] on the River Rappahannock where he remained till a few days before Capt. Edwards marched to the siege of York, when he was taken sick, and had leave to go home, having performed three months service of the six for which he stood Drafted. That before he recovered sufficiently to rejoin his Company, the siege of York was over [19 Oct 1781], his company discharged, not called out again. That for the thirteen months service thus rendered by him as a private in the Militia

of Virginia in the war of the Revolution he claims a Pension under the provisions of the aforesaid Act of Congress. That he has no documentary evidence of his aforesaid service; nor does he know any one now living who could prove it That the evidence of his service herewith exhibited is all he can obtain That he hereby relinquishes every claim 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. That in answer to the interrogatories from the court he says, that he was born in the County of Westmoreland in the year 1748, & is now eighty five years old. That he has no record of his age. That he resided in Westmoreland County when he was called into the service, in the manner stated in the foregoing Declaration. That he has resided ever since & now resides in the said County. That he never was associated in service with any portion of the regular Army, and therefore had no personal knowledge fo its officers, or with its Regiments & corps. The theatre & circumstances of his service were near his home, and are as stated in the Declaration. That he never received a written discharge from any service in which he had engaged. That he knows & is known by, every respectable man in Westmoreland County. And that all who are advanced in years will tistify to the fairness of his character & state their belief that he was a revolutionary soldier. That he is well known to the Rev'd Sam'l. Templeman, Gen'l John P. Hungerford & to every Justice of Westmoreland County Court.