## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Speakman Downum W128 Esther fn20NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/11/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this If transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of Tennessee Franklin County: On this 26th day of December 1840 Personally came before me James F. Green an acting Justice of the Peace for said County of Franklin, Mrs. Esther Downum the widow of Speakman Downum, a Soldier of the revolution from the State of North Carolina and County of Wayne, aged 73 years and after having made oath in due form of law saith that she is the widow of Speakman Downum, from the State of North Carolina and County of Wayne, who was enlisted in the War of the Revolution by Abraham Shepherd Junior for the term of three years & in the Regiment of Abram Shepherd Senior which was the 10th Regiment of the North Carolina [line], this declaration is made in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July seventh 1838. This deponent states that she was married to the aforesaid Speakman Downum, and the State of North Carolina & County of Wayne on the fifth day of August 1782 and that the aforesaid Speakman Downum died in the State of North Carolina and County of Mecklenburg on the 18th day of September 1800, and said deponent has remained a widow since that period, which will more fully appear by having reference to the annexed proof.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written before

Attest
S/ Nathaniel Borum,
S/ Esther Downum, X her mark
Sworn to & subscribed before me
S/ James F. Green, JP for Franklin County

State of Tennessee Franklin County: personally came before me James F. Green an acting Justice of the Peace for said County of Franklin John Denson Senior of said State & County aged 79 years, & after having been sworn in due form of law saith on oath that he will has a perfect knowledge of Speakman Downum, who was enlisted by Captain Abraham Shepherd Junior & in the 10th Regiment of North Carolina commanded by Abraham Shepherd Senior Colonel -- and that the aforesaid Speakman Downum served as a Continental soldier, in the Army of the United States, until said Speakman Downum, received a wound by having his thigh broke at Georgetown while in the service of the United States, and from that period in consequence of disability was discharged from further duty, the deponent further states that the marriage of the said Speakman Downum and Esther Straley took place in the State of North Carolina and County of Wayne on the fifth day of August 1782 & that the aforesaid Speakman Downum died in the State of North Carolina and County Mecklenburg on the 18th day of September 1800. The reason why deponent has a perfect knowledge of all the circumstances pertaining to the enlistment, service, marriage etc. of the aforesaid Speakman Downum & his widow Esther

Downum is in consequence of his deponent's having married the sister of the aforesaid Esther Downum & that the said Esther Downum is a resident of the State of Tennessee & County of Franklin, a widow and has remained such since the death of her husband as aforesaid. Sworn to and subscribed this 26th day of December 1840

S/ James F. Green, JP

S/ John Denson Senior

State of Tennessee Franklin County: personally came before me James F. Greene Esther town and made oath in due form of law, that she has not a record of her marriage with her husband's Speakman Downum as aforesaid, but the enclosed she purporting to be the ages of the children of said deponent & her husband as aforesaid is genuine.

Sworn to & subscribed this 26 December 1840. And from old age & consequent infirmity is unable to attend court.

S/ Esther Downum, X her mark

[fn p. 7: typed verbatim]

William Downom Son of Speekman and Esther Downom his wife was born the 11<sup>th</sup> Day of May in year 1783

James Downom Son of Speekman and Esther Downom his wife was born the 6<sup>th</sup> Day of September in the year 1785

Speekman Downom Son of Speekman and Esther Downom his wife was Born the  $21^{st}$  Day of September in the 1787

Elizabeth Downom Daughter of Speekman and Esther Downom his wife was Born the 12<sup>th</sup> Day of March in the year 1790

Ester Downom Daughter of Speakman Downom Ester his wife was born first day of july in the year of our Lord 1792

Lydia Downam the Daughter of Speakman and Esther Downam was born June 6<sup>th</sup> in the year of our Lord 1795

Speakman Downam [obliterated] of Speakman and Esther Downam was Born Nov [obliterated] in the year of our Lord 1796

Mary Downam was born March the 5<sup>th</sup> in the year of our Lord 1803

[fn p. 11]<sup>1</sup>

State of South Carolina Richland district: This is to Certify that I Abram Sheppard Junior Captain did enlist James Stradley in the 10th Regiment of North Carolina Commanded by Colonel Abram Sheppard Senior -- I do hereby Certify I Abram Sheppard Junior did enlist the above James Stradley for the tirm [sic] of three years as a contenaltal [sic] Soldier

Abra Sheppard

this the 25 November 1802

Certify'd before me

S/ John C. Dams [Davis?] [last name very uncertain]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> An undated letter in the file has the following explanation for why documents relating to James Stradley are included in this file: "you will find two discharges given for the same person a mistake I presume by the officer who gave them, the fact of the wound received by the testimony of John Denton Senior as respects Speakman Downum, will show that one of the enclosed discharges was intended for him, Downum & Stradley were brothers-in-law & at the time Downum received his wound, was in consequence of it discharge from further duty and Stradley after the dismission, from the service, of Downum, obtained both discharges at the same time, and there by the error was committed which the records of the war office will show."

[fn p. 18]

State of South Carolina Richland District: This is to Certify that I Abram Sheppard Junior Captain did enlist James Stradley in the 10th Regiment of North Carolina commanded by Colonel Abram Sheppard Senior I do hereby certify that I Abram Sheppard Junior did enlist the above James Stradley for the term of three years as a Continental soldier and he served as a good soldier and received a wound in George Town in Meriland

Given under my hand this 25th day of November 1802

S/ Abram Sheppard

This the 25th day of November 1802 Certify before me S/ John C. Dams [Davis] [?]

[fn p. 13]

State of North Carolina Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State of North Carolina do hereby certify that the muster rolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war shows that Speakman Downum a private in Captain Shepard's company of the 10th Regiment entered the service on the 20th of June 1777. The muster rolls does not show for what length of time he enlisted or how long he served, but a warrant for bounty land was issued to him for three years service.

Given under my hand this 19th day of January 1841 S/Wm Hill