Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Charles Duncan W22973 Margaret Duncan VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 28 Nov 2013.

Virginia Giles County to wit

at a Court held for the County of Giles on tuesday the 27th day of July 1819

Personally appeared before the Court Charles Duncan aged fifty nine years Resident in the County of Giles in the State of virginia, 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 late act of congress Intituled an act to provide for Certain persons ingaged in the Land and Naval Service of the united states in the Revolutionary war that he the said Charles Duncan Inlisted for the term of three years on the 12th day of January 1777 in fauguier County in the state of virginia in a Company Commanded by Captain william Blackwell of the Eleventh Regiment Commanded by Colo Daniel Morgain [sic: Daniel Morgan] in the virginia line attached to the brigade of General woodford [William Woodford] on Continental Establishment that he the said Charles Duncan continued to serve in the said Corps or in the Service of the united states untill the Expiration of three years the term of his inlistment when he was discharged from his Service on the 12th day of January 1780 In Fredericktown [Frederick] in the State of Maryland by Major Williams of the said Corps which discharge he has lost, he the said Charles Duncan was in the battle of brandywine [11 Sep 1777] and that he is in reduced Circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his Country for Support and that the said Charles Duncan produced in Court John Kirk Esq'r [pension application S5558] a respectable witness who proved the said Services performed by the said Duncan thus stated and the Court do Certify that it appears to their satisfaction that the said Charles Duncan did serve In the revolutionary war as stated in the preceding declaration against the Common Enemy for the term of three years at one time on Continental Establishment and they now Transmit the preceeding & testimony taken & had before them to the Secretary for the department of war persuant to the directions of the aforementioned act of Congress

Virginia Giles County towit

on this 30th day of may 1821 personally appeared in open Court being a court of record because it has power to fine and imprison and proceeds according to the course of the Common law with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount keeping a record of its proceedings and has been Solemnly adjudged so by the Superior &c Courts of this state Charles Duncan aged sixty years resident in the the County of Giles in the State of virginia who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war three years as follows towit, that he enlisted on the 12th day of January in the year 1777 under Captain William Blackwell of the 11th Regiment in Genl. woodfords Brigade in the virginia line and that he served in the revolutionary war untill the 12th day of Jan'y 1780 and was discharged at Frederick Town in the State of maraland by Major Williams which discharge he has lost and that he was in the battle of brandywine and he dose solemnly swore that he was a resident citizen of the united states on the 18th day of march 1818 and that he has not since that time by Gift Sale or in any manner disposed of his 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 and Naval service of the united states in the Revolutionary war passed on the 18th day of march 1818 and that he has not nor has any person in trust for him any property or Securities Contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other then what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed towit

27 head of hogs worth about \$15. three Cows worth about \$21. one heifer worth about \$4. four calves worth about [illegible] two head of sheep worth about \$10. one small bay mare 13 years old worth \$30. nothing owing to him & owes about thirty Dollars

his occupation was a farmer while he had health & strength but now he is old and infirm and not able to

support himself by Labour he has a wife and five children that lives with him one son Named Braxton the first of February 1798 who is week & sickly and not able to do hard work one daughter Named Peggy born the 10 July 1800 one D'o Named Alsey born the 20 November 1801 one D'o Named Nancy born the 4th march 1806 & one D'o Named Judith born the 14th July 1808 he also made a former Declaration of his services on the 26th day of may 1818 and also one other declaration subsequent to that time and has received a pension warrant or Certificate No 16578 and has Rec'd. \$41 50 Cents pension money Sworn to and declared on the 30th day of may 1821

State of Illinois } SS

Mercer County } On this first day of March AD Eighteen hundred and forty seven, personally appeared before the County Commissioners Court, in open Court, the same being a Court of Record, Buford Duncan aged fifty nine years who being first duly sworn according to law, on his oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the provisions of the acts of Congress passed July 7th 1838, 3^d March 1843 and 17th June 1844 granting half pay and pensions to certain widows; that his Father was a soldier of the Revolutionary War; that he has often heard his father say that he served at the battle of Brandywine and at the South [see note below], and that he was under Captain William Blackwell at one time and a part of the time under General Greene at the South; that he does not recollect the Colonels name, but that he believes that his Father served in all about four years and a half; that his said Father received a pension from the Government of the United States many years up to the month of September 1838, which was paid at Richmond Virginia, and that his said Father died in Giles County Virginia on or about the 24th of October 1838.

He further declares that he has often heard his Father and Mother say that they were married in Forquier County Virginia on or about the Seventeenth day of December Seventeen hundred and Eighty-six (1786) by a clergyman named James Paige[?]; that he further knows that they cohabited together as man and wife from and after the year AD 1793 until the time of his said Fathers death; that his father died as above set forth on the 24th of October 1838. that they (his Father & Mother) were not married prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January Seventeen hundred and ninety-four. Viz at or about the time aforesaid.

He further declares that his mother, the said Margaret Duncan emigrated from Giles County Virginia to the County of Mercer and State of Illinois sometime during the year AD 1842 and died in said latter County and State on the 29th day of August AD 1846, that his said Mother died leaving the following named Children her only heirs and legal representatives at law to wit, Buford Duncan aged fifty nine years, Braxton Duncan aged forty nine years, Elizabeth Lett aged fifty six, Margaret Bolten aged forty seven years, Thornton Duncan aged 54 years, Elizabeth Brooks aged 40[?] years, Judith Brown aged 39 years who are her only heirs now living. He further declares that the paper hereto attached and purporting to be a copy of the family Record of the said Charles and Margaret Duncan, is in fact a copy of the family Record of said Charles & Margaret Duncan, the original of which, he knows to have been kept by them as a true Record of the Births & deaths therein recorded. [signed] Buford Duncan

NOTES:

The service performed by Duncan in the South according to his son may have been in the militia, which would explain why it was not mentioned in Duncan's own applications for a pension for Continental service. Gen. Nathanael Greene was commander-in-chief of the southern army after 2 Dec 1780.

On 23 Mar 1840 Peggy Duncan, 72, resident of Walker Creek Settlement in Giles County, applied for a pension stating that she married Charles Duncan on 7 Dec 1786, and he died 24 Oct 1838. Her maiden name appears to have been Margaret Kirk. In addition to the copy of the family record referred to by Buford Duncan, the file includes an original record certified on 23 March 1840 by Braxton Duncan of Mercer County IL and transcribed below.

On 1 March 1847 Buford Duncan applied for the pension due her mother, who moved from Giles

County to Mercer County in 1842 and died there on 29 Aug 1846, leaving the following children: Buford Duncan, Braxton Duncan, Elizabeth Lett, Margaret Bollin, Thornton Duncan, Nancy Brooks, and Judith Brown.

Charles Duncan & Peggy his wife were married Dec. 17th 1786

(1) Floyd Duncan was born Nov. 20th 1825.

Judith Duncan was born July 14th 1808

Sarah Duncan was born May 4th 1811.

(2) James Kelley was Born Jan 4th 1824

Buford Duncan was born Sept. 15th 1787

John K. Duncan was born Jan. 26th 1789

Elizabeth Duncan was born Jan 20th 1791

Thornton Duncan was born Jan. 14th 1793

Ezekiel Duncan was born June 12th 1795

Braxton Duncan Feb. 1st 1798

Peggy Duncan Was born July 10th 1800.

Elsby Duncan was born Nov. 20th 1802

Nancy Duncan was born March 4th 1806

(3) Araminta Kirk was born Jan 15th 1845

(4) Margaret Susannah Duncan was born August 13th 1837

Charles Duncan was born Jan. 19th 1761

Peggey Duncan Sen. was born Oct 3rd 1767.

Sarah Duncan Dec'd. Sept. 28th 1813

J. K. Duncan Dec'd. Dec 11th 1811 [or 1814]

Charles Duncan Departed this life 24th day of Oct. 1838