Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of David Denham, Nat'l Archives Series M804, Roll ____ Application #W27540

Transcribed by Nancy Poquette

Hawkins County, Tennessee}

On this first day of December, 1834, personally appeared before me, John I. Walling, one of the justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said county, David Denham, aged about 80 years old, who first being duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration...:

About the 26th day of August 1778, he entered the service of the United States by volunteering in the County of Guilford and state of North Carolina in the company commanded by Captain John Leak of the regiment of militia commanded by Colonel James Martin and Major Pasely [John Paisley] and was marched to Salisbury at which place General Rutherford was commander and from Salisbury he was marched to Cathey's Fort on the Catawba River and being stationed there two months, he was marched to the Indian towns near the head of the Tennessee River where he was discharged by his said captain and colonel which was about the 10th day of February 1779, and in about returning home, his said captain prevailed on him to continue in service three months longer.

This declarant did ?say? he did then volunteer under his said captain, John Leak, of the militia and Colonel Martin, which was about the 12th of February 1779, he entered the service of the United States and was marched to the frontiers of South Carolina and North Carolina and Virginia, serving in turns around the frontiers of those states until about the 14th of May, 1779, and on the 15th day of May he was discharged by his said captain and colonel and returned home having served nine months and was discharged in writing, as he believes, at Cathey's Fort, North Carolina.

This declarant states about the 15th of August, 1779, he entered the service of the United States by volunteering in the said county of Guilford and state of North Carolina [at this point it is obvious that this elderly petitioner is having difficult with his memory, since the officers that he names are of Washington County, North Carolina. See his brother Harden's pension application, in the company commanded by Captain Sevier of the militia commanded by Colonel Holston and from Guilford County was marched to the Long Islands of Holston, and from the Long Islands of Holston, he was marched to the frontiers of North Carolina to an Indian town, and he was in a battle with the Indians, in which battle there was thirty Indians killed and twenty taken prisoners; and from there he was marched to the frontier's of South Carolina and North Carolina, and he was discharged at Wilmington, North Carolina, having served six months, which was about the 18th of February, 1780 and returned home.

This declarant states about the 12th day of September, 1780, he entered the service of the United States volunteering in the said county of Guilford [once again it was from Washington County, not Guilford], in the company commanded by Captain Elijah Witt of the militia commanded by Colonel John Sevier and Major Walton, and he marched with the intention of being in the expected battle of the British at King's Mountain, which did take place about the 24th of September, 1780. This declarant states about the 23rd of the said month September, he was wounded by the kick of a horse which prevented his being in the Battle of King's Mountain. This declarant states he then continued in service until about 14th of March, 1781, when he was discharged in writing and returned home, making six months.

This declarant states sometime about the 14th of July 1781, he entered the service of the United States by volunteering in the said county of Guilford [Washington, not Guilford] and was marched under the command of Captain Elijah Witt of the militia commanded by Colonel John Sevier and Major Walton, and was marched again to the frontiers of South Carolina, Georgia, and North Carolina, guarding the frontiers of those states until about the 20th of January, 1782, when he was discharged. This declarant states that sometime about the 14th of March he entered the service of the United

States six other months under the command of the said Captain Elijah Witt, who was commanded by Colonel John Sevier and Major Walton, guarding the frontiers of North Carolina, Virginia, and South Carolina until ____ of September 1782, when he was discharged in Washington County, state of North Carolina. This declarant state that about the 1st of March he again volunteered under the above named officers and served six other months and was discharged by his officers in Washington County, state of North Carolina, which was about the 3rd day of August, 1783, when he was discharged in writing, making altogether, three years and 3 months, which last tour he was discharged in Washington County, and states he was acquainted with Generals Lawson and Stephens, and Colonels Preston and Lynch, and Generals Butler, Eaton and Rutherford of North Carolina and Virginia who commanded the militia from their states, and with General Greene of the regular army, and he is acquainted with James Gilbert, clergyman for the counties of Claiborn and Hawkins. He is also acquainted with Christian Pearson and E. S. Goodman, and he was born in Luisa County, state of Virginia, and he has no record of his age, and was living in North Carolina when first called into service, and he received a written discharge as before stated, but they have long since been lost or mislaid so that he cannot produce them...etc.

Hancock County, Tennessee}

On this 2nd day of July, 1852, personally appeared before the justice of the peace, Fanny Denham, aged about 80 years, a resident of Hancock County, state of Tennessee, having been first duly sworn according to law, declares that she is the widow of David Denham, deceased, who was a private in the company of Captain Leak and Colonel James Martin in the Revolutionary War about 1778-1779. She further declares that she was married to the said David Denham in September 1811 in Hawkins County, Tennessee by Thomas McKnelly? a minister of the Gospel. That her husband aforesaid, David Denham, died on or about the 14th day of June 1850, and that she has remained a widow since that time, and is now a widow and that her name before her said marriage was Fanny Lucas. That she nor her said husband never kept any record in writing of the dates and other facts of the said marriage...

They raised a family of nine children, whose names were not mentioned.