Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Drake W3788 Louisa fn47NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/12/10

[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 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.]

[fn p. 4: family record]

Richard Drake son of Tristram Drake and Elizabeth his wife was born the 22nd of August 1762 Louisa Drake his wife of Richard Drake was born the 5th of October 1767

Edulad Diake his wife of Kichard Diake was both the 3 of October 1707

Ethelbert Drake son of Richard and Louisa Drake was born February the 3rd 1788

Elizabeth Drake daughter of ... was born the first day of March 1791

Alfred Drake was born 6th day of October 1793

William H. Drake was born November the 7 day 1796

Edmund J. Drake was born May 22nd 1800

Richard Caswell Drake was born November 11th Day 1805

[fn p. 9]

State of North Carolina Chatham County: Court of Pleas and quarter Sessions August Term A.D. 1832

On this 14th day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of our said Court Richard Drake a resident of Chatham County in the State of North Carolina aged seventy years __ this month 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated

(To wit) he volunteered in the North Carolina Militia in the County of Halifax in the year 1780 in the company commanded by Captain Pitts & Lieutenant Bagot he marched with his company from Halifax to the Cape Fear River opposite Cambleton where they joined the Head Quarters under the command of Generals Richard and William Caswell he does not recollect what Regiment he joined but is of opinion that Colonel Dickerson commanded from thence he marched up the River and crossed at Northingtons Ferry from thence to Cheraw Hill in South Carolina from thence to Janisons [sic, Jamison's?] Branch near Camden where he reached General Gates Army, the night before the Battle was fought (commonly called Gates defeat) his company was dispatched with prisoners to the Pee Dee [Pedee] at Cheraw his company joined several regiments commanded by Colonels Seawell, Brickle & Jarvis from Cheraw he marched to Ramsey's Mills on Deep River in Chatham County, at Ramsey's Mills Captain Pitts deserted and Captain Judge took the command of his company from Ramsey's Mills he marched to Salisbury thence to Charlotte thence to the Waxhaw Settlement in South Carolina where they joined General Davidson's Regiment for a few days when the General's Regiment marched up

the Catawba to intercept Cornwallis where he was killed. The troops with which he acted marched to Charlotte from thence to the Island Ford on the Yadkin [River] thence up that River to the Shallow Ford he marched under the command of Colonel Paisley [John Paisley] and Major Rawlston of the Militia and Major Brinkley of the Regulars at the Shallow Ford the Whigs had an engagement with the Tories under Colonel right and defeated them. After the Battle he marched to Salem thence to the Island Ford again, from thence he marched under Colonel Jarvis and Major Axum (having in charge of a number of Prisoners) to Hillsboro where he was discharged on the 28th or 29th of October 1778 [sic] after having performed a tour of duty of six months he received written discharge signed by Colonel Jarvis & Major Axum which is now lost.

In August after his discharge as aforesaid he enlisted himself and the Light Horse of Halifax County and served for three months as a cornet in the company commanded by Captain Nathaniel Bradford and Lieutenant Pope this service was specially designed to act against the Tories in Halifax County, when his service expired he received a written discharge -- In October 1780 he substituted in place of Watts Eady and served a Term of three months under Captain Kidd Lieutenant James Judge and Ensign William Rhymes he served this Term in the Town of Halifax in guarding prisoners at the end of his Term he received a written discharge signed by Captain Kidd and Lieutenant Judge which is lost. He further states that he served all of the time in the North Carolina Militia -- that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person except Joseph Johnson and William Drake who can prove anything about his services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever 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 or Territory in the Union.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Richard Drake

[William Avent and Thomas Ragland gave the standard supporting affidavit. They state that Richard Drake has been "for many years" a registered minister of the gospel of the Methodist denomination.]

[fn p. 37]

State of North Carolina Chatham County

This day personally before me Abraham G Keen one of the acting Justices of the Peace of the said County Captain Joseph Johnson¹ and after being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God deposeth and saith, That Richard Drake did to the best of his knowledge served a tour of duty in Major William Brentley's Battalion, and that he was regularly and honorably discharged from the said service, that he always understood from the officers of the said Battalion that he conducted himself as a dutiful and good soldier and further this deponent saith not.

Given under my hand this 14th day of September 1832.

S/A. G. Keen, JP

S/ Joseph Johnson

[fn p. 7: on August nine, 1841 in Chatham County North Carolina, Louisa Drake, 74, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Richard Drake, a revolutionary pensioner; that she married him August 15, 1786; that her husband died September 7, 1835 and that she remains his widow.]

¹ Joseph Johnson S7093

[fn p. 13: on July 17, 1841 in Warren County North Carolina, Caswell Drake made oath that the family record of Edmund Drake late of the County of Nash and State of North Carolina is now in his possession; that he, Caswell, is the son of said Edmund and Mary his wife and was born the 18th day of February 1776; that he has a sister who he understands is still living in Chatham County by the name of Louisa who was born October 5th 1767; that Richard Drake son of Tristrain Drake of Halifax County came to live with Caswell's fault for when Caswell was a small boy of 10 or 11 years of age; Richard work in the capacity as the overseer; Richard married Caswell's sister Louisa and they have thereafter lived together as man and wife; that they moved to Chatham County North Carolina and settled on Deep River above Ramsey's Mills."