### Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Davis W8651 Susannah Davis VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 16 Aug 2013.

State of Kentucky Fayette County Sct

On this 8th day of August 1818 before me the subscriber, one of the judges of the Circuit Court of s'd State personally appears Thomas Davis, aged fifty six years resident in Woodford county, in said State who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress, entitled an "act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the U.S. in the Revolutionary war" – That he the said Thomas Davis enlisted in Spottsylvania county [sic: Spotsylvania County], Virginia in the company commanded by Capt Alexander Parker, of Colonel Parkers [Richard Parker's] Regt & was afterward transfered to Col Heiths [sic: William Heth's] Regt. & then to Col Abraham Bufords Regt & Capt H Marks [probably Isaiah Marks, pension application R16055] company. That he continued to serve in s'd Regts & companies or in the Service of the U.S. from the 25th day of April 1779 to the month of October 1780 being eighteen months when he was honorably disch'd. from service at Hillsborough, North Carolina, that he was in the battle when Col Buford was defeated at the Waxaw Settlement, by Col. Tarlton [sic: Battle of Waxhaws SC in which Abraham Buford was defeated by Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton, 29 May 1780], where he was taken prisoner & that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; & that he has no other evidence now in his power except that which is hereto annexed. W. Davie

Fayette county Sct

I do state that the above named Thomas Davis is known to me – I served in the same company with him during the Revolutionary war, at Col Buford's defeat, & previous thereto I knew him to have been in service as before stated by him. R. Dedman August 3<sup>rd</sup> 1818 [see endnote]

Woodford Circuit Sct. September Term 1830.

The following schedule and affidavit was produced in Court by Thomas Davis and ordered to be spread upon the Record towit "District of Kentucky SS. Woodford Circuit – On this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1830 personally appeared in open court being a Court of Record for the said District and Circuit of Woodford County Thomas Davis aged 68 years resident in Woodford in said District who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war as follows He enlisted for the Term of 18 months in the Regular army and on the 25th of April 1779 rendezvoused at Fredericksburg Virginia in Spottsylvania County where he was born raised and enlisted in the Virginia line. He marched from thence to Williamsburg thence to Petersburg where I was place in Capt A Parkers Company in Col. Rich'd. Parker regiment then transfered in Col. Wm. Heaths reg't, and thence to Col Abram Bufords and there continued till 25th Oct'r, 1780 at which time he was Honorably discharged. He also served another six months and was at the Capture of Lord Cornwallis [19 Oct 1781] under Capt Charles Christian and was discharged by Genl. Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg]. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my 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 person 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 I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

One old woman Slave diseased and her three small grand children worth about. \$400.00 

He has no debts except about \$56 and he owes nearly fifty Dollars. His wife is infirm and aged about 66 years and he himself is unable to work not even able to cut his own wood or plough his occupation is farming He has one daughter living with him aged about 18 years. Thos. Davis

## State of Kentucky Fayette County Sct

This day came Thomas Davis of Woodford County, before me the Mayor of the City of Lexington & made oath that he was inscribed on the U.S. Pension list under the law of March 18<sup>th</sup> 1818 and after drawing twice, he was droped on account of his property & the evidence of his service is now in the War office or other proper department at Washington, D.C. – he again made proof & sent on another application in the year 1830, but his claim was rejected because it was said he had too much property say \$705. – He served under Col Dick Parker & when he marched to the South, he was transferred to Col Heaths Reg't in Capt L. Butlers company, on continental service & was then transferred to Col Bufords Reg't. under Capt H. Marks & was taken prisoner at Bufords defeat in the Waxaw Settlement, Carolina – He then escaped from the British & joined his corps again under Capt Wm. Eppes [William Eppes] & was discharged by Col Buford on Oct'r 25<sup>th</sup> 1780. This will be found to agree with his former statement & show his title to a pension. He resided in Woodford county Ky. when he made his first & 2<sup>nd</sup> declarations & still lives there. The Davis

Sworn to & subscribed this 19 July 1832

# Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford County sct

On this 7<sup>th</sup> day of October 1833 personnally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Woodford county now sitting Thomas Davis a resident of the county of Woodford and State of Kentucky aged Seventy two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

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

That in the month of March 1781 being a citizen of Spottsylvania County in the State of Virginia where he was born and raised he served a tour of duty of two months as a substitute for his brother Benjamin Davis in the company of Militia commanded by Capt William Mills. James Cunningham Lieut and John Hutchinson Ensign, we were marched to Williamsburgh and placed under the command of Col. Matthews [sic: Sampson Mathews] this tour they were stationed in Williamsburg and the vicinity untill the expiration of the tour was honorably discharged and returned home in the month of May. On the day after his return home he was drafted to serve another tour of two months in the company commanded by Capt Andrew (or Anthony) McCauley by whome he was immediately appointed a Sergeant and served in that capacity the whole tour we rendezvozed in three or four days after my return from the first tour at Peter Stubblefield's tavern in Spottsylvania we were marched to Williamsburg and again placed under the command of Col Matthews. Major Hardeman [sic: Henry Hardman] was in the same regiment he was detached from Williamsburg to Burwells ferry below on the river [Burwell's Ferry, Hog Island in Surry County to Carter's Grove, James City County] and was there when General Arnold landed and was

in the skirmish with his troops [Benedict Arnold, April 1781]. Major James Jameson commanded the American troops in said skirmish, we retreated back to Williamsburg from thence to the burnt ordinary [8] mi NW of Williamsburg] from thence to Richmond at which place the Marquis Lafayette took the command from thence through Hanover county crossing Southannah river at the ground squirrel bridge [sic: Ground Squirrel Bridge on South Anna River 20 mi above Richmond] thence through Louisa County crossing the Pamunky [sic: Pamunkey River] at Maj Pettis's mill thence through Spottsylvania past Matapony church to Corbin's bridges [on Po River] thence across the Rapadan river into Culpepper county [sic: Rapidan River into Culpeper County] untill we got near the fork church from thence we changed our direction to meet the Britaish we repassed the Rapadan into Orange county marched to Pollocks mill where we were joined by General Wayne [Anthony Wayne, about 10 Jun 1781], we were then marched to Louisa county by way of Brocks bridge [on North Anna River near Monrovia]. I was here dismissed my tour having expired and went home about first of August a short time after his return home he went to the County of Amherst where he substituted for a tour of two months in the room of Reuben Hudson in the company commanded by Capt Charles Christian subalterns not recollected the regiment was commanded by Col. Holt Richardson [Holt Richeson]. we were marched to Little York to besiege Cornwallis where he remained untill after the surrender, the prisoners were marched away and the regiment to which he belonged took charge of the prisoners himself and another private was on the Provost guard when the reg't marched they remained a day or two and were honorably discharged by General Muhlenburgh some few days before the expiration of his tour. he would further state that he served as a regular eighteen months for which he now draws \$60 a year at the time he prepared that claim he was advised to omit his militia services which he did under the belief he would not be paid for them he has no documentary evidence and knows of but one person whose testimony he can procure and that for a tour of two months. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present (and the \$60 a year allowed him for his services with the regulars) and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state only on that of the agency of the state of Kentucky

### Commonwealth of Kentucky Woodford county sct

This day John McQuady [pension application W7603] personally appeared before me T. W. Sillen one of the commonwealths Justices of the peace for the county aforesaid who made oath in due form of Law to the following facts that he is now seventy three years old that he was born and raised in the State of Virginia that during the war of the Revolution he was acquainted with and served a tour of duty with Thomas Davis who now resides in the county of Woodford Kentucky that during the tour they were stationed a part of the time at Williamsburg which they were compelled to evacuate to avoid the British troops that they marched from thence to Ruffins ferry [on Pamunkey River near Sweet Hall] from thence to Richmond from thence to Williamsburg from thence to little York. the Captains name under whom the said Davis served he thinks was Mills the length of time he cannot state but thinks it was a long tour

October 7<sup>th</sup> 1833

John hisXmark McQuady

#### NOTES:

In the 1820 and 1830 federal censuses for Fayette County KY the only person with a name similar to "R. Dedman" is the following: 1820: Richmond Deadmon, over 45; 1830: Richmond Dedman, 70-80.

On 10 June 1841 Susanah Davis, 76, applied for a pension stating that she married Thomas Davis on 1 May 1783, and he died 8 Nov 1839. She submitted a family register written on the back of the title page of a Book of Common Prayer with "1809" written on it. The original is damaged at places in

brackets in the transcription below. There is also a more legible list of the children of Thomas and Susannah Davis, also transcribed below.

On 15 May 1841 Jane Daniel, wife of Beverly Daniel, of Montgomery County KY, stated that she "was raised with Susannah Hiette (now Susannah Davis) in Orange County Virginia, and she was married to Thomas Davis of Spottsylvania County Virginia, for I went with them to Parson Douglasses in Louisa County and he married them and this took place I think about three years before I was married myself, and I was married agreeable to the best Information I have 1786." *The Douglas Register* (W. M. Jones Ed. Baltimore, Clearfield, 1966) has the following marriage record kept by Rev. William Douglas: "Davis, Thomas and Susannah Hyat, in Orange 1783, May 1."

On 15 May 1843 Susannah Davis stated that she was 78 and that she had lived in Kentucky for 54 years, and in Virginia before then.

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[?] was born March the 5<sup>th</sup> 1741
[?] Davis was born January the 10 1743
[?] Davis was born February the 22<sup>nd</sup> 1745
[?]d Davis Was Born May the 16<sup>th</sup> 1748
[?]am Davis Was Born August the 26<sup>th</sup> 1750
[?]ry Davis Was born May the 24th 1753
[?] Davis Was Born April the 27<sup>th</sup> 1755
[?]rles Davis Was born October the 22<sup>nd</sup> 1758
[?]as Davis Was born November the 30<sup>th</sup> 1761
He married Susan'h Hieatt May the 1st 1783
Elizabeth Davis the Daughter of Thomas & Susan'h [?]vis was born October the 16<sup>th</sup> day 1784
[?]ary Davis was born December the 22<sup>nd</sup> day 1786
[?]lding Davis was born May the 9<sup>th</sup> day 1789
[?] Davis Was born September the 27<sup>th</sup> day 1791
[?] Davis was born January the 3<sup>d</sup> day 1794
[?] this life October the 20th day 1794
[?] was born August the 29th Day 1795
[?] Was born April the 7<sup>th</sup> Day 1798
[The following are written vertically along the margin:]
[?]sannah Davis was Born Aug't 13<sup>th</sup> 1[?]1
James Davis was Born April 17<sup>th</sup> 180[?]
[The following is transcribed from the more legible record:]
Elezebeth Davis was born October 16 1784
Mary Davis was born December 22<sup>d</sup> 1786
Fielding Davis was Born May 9th 1789
Larking Davis was Born September 27th 1791
Thomas Davis was born January 3<sup>d</sup> 1794 }
And departed this life October 20<sup>th</sup> 1794
Thomas Davis was born August 29th 1795} & Died May 27th 1817 in Tennessee
William Davis was born April 7th 1798 Died December The 10 Day
John Davis was born June 9<sup>th</sup> 1800
And departed this life August 8<sup>th</sup> 1800 }
Susannah Davis was born August 13 1801
James Davis was born April 17 1804
Diannah Davis was born June 17 1806
Benjamin Hieatt Davis was born March 1st 1809 Died 6th of September 1828
Salley Stephens Davis was born April 26 1811
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The above are the names of Thos. Davis & Susannah Davis Children, born to them (the two first) in old Virginia in the County of Spotsylvania, the others born in Kentucky

[The following is from the other side of the above. The first four lines are crossed out, and "Omit" is written beside them.]

Black peoples ages — By Thos. Davis Sen'r. in his own handwriting

Betty was born June the 28th 1782

Rachel was born June 13th 1802 Died October 6th 1828

Ralph was born January 7<sup>th</sup> 1810 Aggy was born May 21<sup>st</sup> 1813

Sold – Aggy was born May 21<sup>st</sup> 1813 Sold -- George Lawson was born March 17<sup>th</sup> 1818

Died 11<sup>th</sup> July 1828 Mary Lawson was born October 11<sup>th</sup> 1819 Died – Winney Lawson was born March 11<sup>th</sup> 1821

and died in about two weeks

Meriah Lawson was born May 18<sup>th</sup> 1822 John Bull Lawson was born June 6<sup>th</sup> 1824

Sold – Charles Lawson was born November 13<sup>th</sup> 1825

Dewit Lawson was born March 7th 1828

Sterling was folded [foaled] May 5<sup>th</sup> 1813 Dead

Fancy was folded May 1<sup>st</sup> 1817 Jinny was folded May 4<sup>th</sup> 1818 Snip was folded March 29<sup>th</sup> 1823

Blaze was folded March 30th 1825 Dead

Prince was folded April 20 1826 Shade was folded April 8<sup>th</sup> 1827 Bolt was folded April 14<sup>th</sup> 1827 Martin was folded May the 2<sup>d</sup> 1829