

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Robert Downs W8673 Pamela Downs DE
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 13 July 2015.

THE COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
Montgomery County, Sct.

On this 13th day fo July, 1818, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the circuit court, in and for the state aforesaid, personally appeared Robert Downs aged Sixty two, or three years; – who being by me first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath, make the following statement and declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the late law 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:” that he is a citizen of the state of Kentucky and resident in the county of Montgomery; and that he was enlisted for during the war at Sussex County in the state of Delaware on or about the 3^d day of April 1778 by one George Purvis and served in the company commanded by captain [John] Patton of the Delaware Blues Commanded by Col [David] Hall of the Delaware line on Continental establishment – the number of the Regiment he does not recollect, – he thinks it had no number – that he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States, in the continental army, against the common enemy, until about the year 1783 when he was honorably discharged from service at Lewistown [sic: Lewes] & Newcastle in the state of Delaware & that he was in service to the end of the War and was in the battles of Gates’s Defeat [Defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] – Cowpens [17 Jan 1781] – Siege of 96 [Ninety Six SC, 22 May - 19 Jun 1781] – and several small affairs – That was wounded in the Siege of Ninety Six and that he is in reduced circumstances and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has lost his discharge, and has no evidence in his power, of his services and discharge, other than that which is here transmitted.

William Ellis states on oath that about 22 years ago he had Land to rent as agent on the waters of state, in the present County of Montgomery, and the within named Robert Downs offered to rent, and this affiant ask him for some evidence that he was a respectable man, upon which the said Downs (to the best of his recollection) showed his discharge as a revolutionary Soldier, and that said Downs had his House burnt down years after together with all his property papers and furniture as this affiant heard and this affiant has no Doubt that his discharge was burnt in it, but that he cannot say of his own knowledge

Additional CLAIM

Montgomery County SS. & Circuit Kentucky Sct

On this 7th day of October 1820 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for the circuit & county aforesaid Robert Downs aged 64 - 5 years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March, 1818, and the 1st May, 1820, that he, the said R. Downs in the year 1778 in the state of Delaware in the company commanded by captain Patton in the regiment commanded by colonel Hall in the line of the state of Delaware on the continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said corps until the war was over when he was discharged from the said service in Newcastle in the state of Delaware – That he belonged to the Delaware blues & his original statement, upon which his certificate was granted will show whatever else is required &c.

That he was in the battles stated in his former application and that he has no other evidence, now in his power, of his said services, except what was heretofore sent.

And, in pursuance of the act of the 1st May, 1820, I do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be,) 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

to the now county of Montgomery in the State of Kentucky upwards of fifty years ago and knew the said Robert Downs and Parmelia his wife up to the time of their deaths. Robert Downs died some several years before his said wife Parmelia but the exact time that either of them died deponent is not able to state – but they both died in Montgomery County Kentucky. Deponent has lived in Montgomery County or Bath County which adjoins Montgomery County Kentucky ever since he came here upwards of fifty years since. Deponent has always understood and believes that said Robert Downs drew a pension from the United States. The said Robert Downs & Parmelia his wife had nine children all of whom are dead but two – namely Abram Downs who now lives in or near the town of Marshall in the State of Illinois and William Downs who now lives in the County of Bath and State of Kentucky. Said William Downs is next to the youngest child and is now forty eight years old. Deponent states that the said Robert Downs entered the revolutionary army at the commencement of the war of the revolution or immediately after it commenced and served during the war. And further this deponent saith not.

Thomas hisXmark Ingram

NOTE: The file includes a copy of the last will and testament of Robert Downs dated 1 July 1826, which refers to his wife “Amelia” and three sons, William, Daniel, and Isaac, as well as two orphan grandchildren, John Allen and Shelby Southard. On 27 Feb 1849 William and Abraham Downs, “the only surviving children of Parmelia Downs,” applied for the pension that would have been available to their mother, Parmelia Downs, who died on 25 Aug 1839. They stated that Robert Downs died in July 1826.