

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of George Davidson: W283

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee}

Dickson County} SS

On this 2nd day of July in the year 1833 personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Pleas [sic] and quarter sessions now sitting George Davidson a resident of and in the County of Dickson and State of Tennessee aged Eighty two years 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. Who saith that he was born in Albemarle [sic: Albemarle] County Virginia in the year 1751 he has no record of his age that he volunteered and he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and Served as herein stated Robert Crawford Capt, John Drening Lieut., James Crawford Ensign Joseph Cashshaw [sic: Kershaw] Col. _____ Marshal Major Thomas Sumpter agetant [sic: Thomas Sumter, Adjutant] in the month of October 1775. He resided in Craven County afterwards Lancaster County South Carolina and rendezvoused at a place on the Congaree now Called Columbia General Richardson [probably Col. Richard Richardson] commanded them marching across the Congaree and Saludy [sic: Saluda River] to Duncans Creek [sic: Duncan Creek in present Laurens County SC] thence to Rayburns [sic: Rabon] Creek he then went one of a party under agetant Sumpter to Goldengroves Creek [now probably Grove Creek near Golden Grove in Greenville County SC] where the Tories were imbodyed we took about ninety five Tories prisoners then marched to Rayburn's Creek and there Discharged on the 25th of December 1775 said Discharge Signed by Lieut. John Drening which discharge is lost or mislaid so that he cannot now produce it. making a tour two months. And he again Volunteered and entered into the service of the United States on the first of July 1776 under John King Capt, John Drening Lieut, James Crawford Ensign William Haggins Col. at the Packet [sic: Pacolet] Springs South Carolina and then marched against the Cheroke [sic: Cherokee] Indians we had a skirmish with the Indians and then marched to Buffingtons Ironworks and then Dismissed from the service making a turn of two months and Eight days. and he again Volunteered and entered the service of the United States the first of March 1779 at Camden South Carolina under John Drening Lieut and acted as Capt. James Crawford Ensign Eli Cashshaw Col. [sic: Col. Eli or Ely Kershaw] Prestell agett and marched to Savanah [sic: Savannah] River on the South Carolina side opposit to Augusta Georgia and there Joined the Army under Ginneral Williamson [Gen. Andrew Williamson] and wile encamped there General [Benjamin] Lincoln arived and took the Command and then [on 6 May] marched to the three rivers [Combahee, Ashpoo, Edisto in South Carolina?] thence to Bacons bridge [near Old Dorchester SC] and then to Ashlys [sic: Ashley River] ferry and then Dismissed from the service on the first of June 1779 having served three months he received no written Discharge. He again Volunteered and entered into the Service of the United States on the first of June 1779 and Served in the Company under Capt. Beard in the Reg't Commanded by Col Goodwin the names of the Major Lieut. and Ensign he does not recollect and Joined the army under Gen. Lincoln and marched to Bluefords [sic: Beaufort SC] and thence to Portroyal [sic: Port Royal] and then to Purisburg [sic: Purysburgh] then marched to the highhills of Santee [High Hills of Santee in present Sumter County SC] from then to Wrightsborough [Wrightsville?] in Georgia then to a place called the two sisters in South Carolina [Two Sisters Islands in Savannah River at present Jasper County SC] and then Dismissed from the Service on the first of September 1779 making a term of three months. He again Volunteered and entered into the Service of the United States the first of July 1780 Fredrick Kimbill Col. Robert Crawford Major John Drening Lieut. and acted as Capt. James Crawford Ensign and Joined the army under the command of Genneral Sumpter and then marched to Rockamount he was in the battle at Rockamount [Skirmish at Rocky Mount SC, 30 July 1780] Gen. Sumpter Commanded the Americans the British Commandant he does not recollect Gen. Sumpter retreated and marched to Landsford [sic: Landsford] on the Catawba he then got a furlough & went home and Joined the army under Gen. Sumpter the same day he was defeated by the British under Col.

Tarlton [sic: Banastre Tarleton at Fishing Creek, 18 Aug 1780] on the Catawba. we then continued in small parties Scouting about through the Country untill after the arival of Gen. Greene and the command of the Southern army was assigned by Gen. Gates to General Greene [see note below] he was under the command of Col. Kimbill and Joined the division of the army under Gen. [Daniel] Morgan Col. Kimbills command was attached to Col. [William] Washingtons Reg't of Cavalry and fought under Col. Washington in the battle at the Cowpens in January [the 17th] 1781 Gen. Morgan commanded the United States army in that Battle Gen. Pickins [sic: Andrew Pickens] Commanded the militia. Col. [John Eager] Howard Commanded the United States Infantry and Col Washington the Cavalry in the said battle of the Cowpens. Col. Tarlton command the british troops the British was defeated and a large number of the British taken prisoner he Continued in the reg't. commanded by Col Kimbill and was in the battle fought near Camden in April 1781 [Battle of Hobkirk's Hill, 25 April 1781]. Gen. Greene Commanded the United States army in said battle Lord Rodden [sic: Francis Rawdon] Commanded the British army. Col. Washington as he is informed and believes charg[page torn] in the rear of the British army and took a number of prisoners the British gained the victory and the United States army retreated. he still continued in the United States Service under Col. Kimbill untill after the Battle at Utah spring in September 1781 [sic: Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781] he was in that battle Gen. Greene commanded the United States army, Col [Alexander] Stewart the british army in said Battle Col. [Henry] Lee was in said battle Col. Washington was wounded and taken prisoner the British retreated he was Dismissed from the service the last of September 1781 and returned home to his habaritation[?] in Craven County Southcarolina and removed from there to Blount County State of Tennessee and from thence to Dickson County Tennessee where he now resides he has no Documentary evidence that he can prove his services by as he never received but one written discharge and that is lost or mislaid so that he cannot now produce it he knows of no person now living that he can make any further proof of his services by then by Samuel Dunlap whoes affidated is attached to this Declaration David Campbell and Matthew Gilmore are present who are acquainted with him in the neighbourhood where he now resides and can testify to his Carrecter for his verasity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim what ever to a pention or anuity Except the present and Declares that his name is not on the pention roll of any agency State or if any only on that of the agency of the State of Tennessee.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

[signed] George Davidson

NOTES:

Gen. Horatio Gates did not assign command of the Southern army to Gen. Nathanael Greene. After Gates's disastrous defeat at the Battle of Camden on 16 Aug 1780, Congress replaced him with Greene. The transfer of command took place at Charlotte NC on 2 Dec 1780.

On 6 Sep 1839 Elizabeth Davidson, 73, applied for a pension stating that she married George Davidson on 20 Oct 1784, and he died 4 Sep 1833. On 16 Dec 1840 Mathew Gilmore, 71, declared that Elizabeth Davidson he was his sister.