

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Virginia documents pertaining to Conquest Royston VAS4319
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

[From [rejected claims in the Library of Virginia](#) in two files.]

A certificate for £60.4.8 issued on the 28 May 1783 in the name of Conquest Royster a soldier of infantry in the State line being for the balance of his full pay or depreciation [part missing at bottom of page] was delivered to Capt. Boswell [rest missing at bottom of page]

Jefferson County E Tennessee June 1st 1816

Respectfull Sir. Some time in the year 1811 as well as I can Recollect I had some Clames for Milletary Land Warrants & Certifcate &c due me from the State line of Virginia I never until that time ever knew that there were any provisions made to pay those Clames justly due I procured part of my evidence In the County Court of King & Queen I had it not in my power to attend with these evidences personally I sent them by a Mr Dawson Cook [possibly W4657] about this time some most fatal Circumstances happened to me I was shamefully Plundered & Reduced to a State of poverty Confusion and & deep distress through the means of Securityship & Shaving Shireffs [Sheriffs?] so that I Could not attend my poor unhappy wife by those Circumstances fell into a State of Insanity if I leave her to do such business from home she must die nor have I a Child Old enough to do her or myself any service I have scuffled and got into this Country where I have to Labour & dig on the Earth & to give the one third part of my Labour for the Rent of a place the Country Very justly Owe me Land a plenty with the evidences I sent by Mr Cook I sent a warrant for 100 Acres Obtained by Alexander Roane assee of James Edwards & by his son & Representative Charles Roane Indorsed on the back of it to me & the Indorsement witnessed by John Bland I sent this warrant to be Renewed by Mr Cooke [part missing at bottom of page] he Returned said it was Enterd to Mr Roane. I [part missing at botom of page] with the Register of the Land office [part missing at bottom of page] who was kind [part missing at bottom of page] I suppose it must have been Left in your Office will you be so kind as to enquire & send it here to me by the [illegible] I donot wish it to be Renewed on the 24th of March last I sent on some Cirtificates under seal directed to Mr Wm G Pendleton Register of the Land Office but having no anser in this time I am doubtful some Accident may have happened or perhaps he May have Quited that office Will you be so kind as to Enquire in to the Result of which & write to me Informing me of the Circumstances of the Business my Circumtances & past favours Require attention & Lenety of the Greatfull Particularly of the police did I not suffer all that a man Coul bear to Raise the fame of America Long were the Cold Ground My Lodging the unfriendly Elliments my Covering. I was Inured to all kinds of hardship my boddy still Bears the Tokens of Perrils which I went through Often have I Rush throug Distructive fire armes to the Swifter Vengence of the Steel oft have I Curbed the pride of brittons when I've been Out Numbered more than Two to one Since then to support a Government I have paid from 40 to 50 dollars a year Tax Why then am I so slighted & neglected by those who hold the Reeign of Government were I not a Great Avocate in Placeing them in those Aliveated Spheres of human greatness of all Sin is not a national ingratitude the most shameful when the members of Government were at Ease & Slumbered on their Tranquil Pillow I was for many [part missing at bottom of page] suffering the worst of hardship if you will [part missing at bottom of page] thing for me there is a Clue [part missing at bottom of page] & if you Can or will do any thing for me on that case be pleased to do it as soon as you Can your Trouble in such Case will assuredly be Rewarded, if I Can have no Other be please to send me the warrant of 100 Acres by the mail it will help me much & it will do the Country no good to keep me out of it your Compliance will Greatly Oblige &

also Release the distresses of a poor Old man aged Dedriped & half blind – your Neglect of such a Duty may hasten my nonentity the Result of which I leave you to judge I have wrote nothing here but facts such that I know to be Open to Eye of a Critirion who Cannot Err through whose Mercy I subscribe my self y'rs [undeciphered] & Ob't Se't



NB please to write to me as soon as you Receive this I want to know how it will be with my poor hapless family, I feel much for them & beleave I shall not be here Long by Seing[?] a Letter dated the 25th of March directed to the Register of the Land office you may be better acquainted with the business I should be glad to know whether it Ever got there



Mississippi Territory October 20th 1816

The Honourable Wilson C Nicholas Esq'r Governor or Chief Magistrate of Virginia

Respectful Sir In points of Duty and Justice I am under the Obligation to state to you the following facts I hope not to Err in a Case of Such Importance at the same time that you as one of the Order of Benevolents may pay some Regard to this how ever Trivial it may appear to be it may be weighty when time Shall Cease with us In consequence of which I shall State to you the facts Verbatim. I was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War Listed [enlisted] by Cap'n Benj'n Pollard [Benjamin Pollard VAS224] of the 2^d Virginia State State Regement Commanded by Col'n Thomas Mason and Marched out to the North under the Command of Col'ns Wm Brent [William Brent VAS2639] & Charles Dabney [R13624] In General Mullenberghs [sic: Peter Muhlenberg BLWt1495-850] Brigade Where I Served my time out as a faithfull Soldier and had the promise of Land bouty which Encouraged me To pur[?] it as the Clames of Other Soldiers To witt Thos Collins [Thomas Collins] a Lieutenant John Ripley [VAS4239] a Sargent John Didlake [VAS3371] a Sargent John Stephens a private Wm Robins [William Robins VAS4270] a private & Took their Conveyances for the same Some time after I was discharged of the Service I applied for the Land but was in formed that there was no provissions made for the Virginians to get their their Land bounty and in this time I had purchased of a Mr Dawson Cooke a Land Warrant which he had procured for Paper money at the time the Continental money was Call'd in & those Warrants Granted in Lieue[?] there of this warrant as well as I Recollect [part missing at bottom of page] Since I left Virginia A Certain Mr Dawson Cooke [several undeciphered words] the Clames of Collins & Ripley's Representatives & have Receved[?] the warrants and many years agoe some person has [undeciphered] a Clame [two undeciphered words] drawn the warrants of John Stephens & Wm Robbins These Clames I Submit to Lose I am not able To Contend for them, but Mr Wm G Pendleton Informs me that no person has ever drawn any warrants Either upon my Own Clame or John Didlake's. These Clames I proved in the County Court of King & Queen Some time in the year 1811 or 12 & being not able to attend personally with them I sent them by a Mr Cooke to be Lodged in the Office in Richmond. I also Sent by him a warrant of one hundred acres Obtained by Alexander Roane assignee of James Edwards and by his Representative Indorsed to me and wittness'd This warrant Mr Cooke Says was Entered by the Clark in the name of Roane I sent the warrant to have it Renewed Supposing it to be Right as I had never understood before that there was any provissions made to pay those Clames to the soldiers Since I lived in E Tennessee I wrote to the Register of the Land office in Richmond Concerning the business & Receved the Kind Information of how to proceed in that Case) he Informed me to make a Duplicate in Some Court of Record Certifying to that office that the warrant which I left was distroyed nor any Benefit Ever derived from it this I did in the County Court of Jefferson E Tennessee I think it was in March Term of the Court

of pleas & Quarter Sessions 1816 I also prove by my Own Evidence the Service of John Didlake & my self & of Didlakes Conveyance to me and then sent the docu[part missing at bottom of page] Directed to the Register of the Land office in [part missing at bottom of page] Is most Shameful, I think what I Indured to Rais the fame of America. It placed the police in the most Ellevated Spheres of human Greatness while they Slumbered on their Tranquil pillows. The Cold Ground was my Lodging & the Open Ellements my Covering oft have I been Coverd with Snow oft have I Slep'd half Coverd with no other hunger & thirst was my Intermet [intimate] Companions Oft have I met the fierce foe when I've been Out numberd more than two to one forced my way through the Rank Sweeping Cannon the Loud Clang of Small arms to the more Swifter Vengeance of of the Steal) after all this I was discharged without a penny or a Suit of Clothes fit to appear in a months Wages would not purchased me a Dinner how hard to think on but worse to feel why is the Votives[?] of Virtue Sat at naught & die Neglicted thus I have wrote to your Lordship nothing but the truth on whose Great Bass the heavens are supported with which all things Come to Naught Can you Se me die a poor Lazerous [Lazarus] at your Gate yet my Case is different he Asked Almes but I ask only that which is Just due me which I have been many years kep'd out I once was able to give to my Country haveing Enough to Live on with out it but now I am Reduced to Extream distress through the Means of Some persons of Virginia who treated me just as ill as Noe would have been tread had the poepile have Taken the Ark from him after the flood began to Rise. I am now aged & Decriped & none to help me but a pore deranged wife and an Infant to Dig in the Earth for our bread [part missing from bottom of page] Labour for Rents when [the rest missing]

Rejected Feb'y 16 1819 no Evidence to support his claim

Virginia Gloucester County [22 May 1832]

The affidavit of Almon Dunston [W731] a Soldier in the Revolutionary war taken before Peter Billups and Robert C. Custis two of the Commonwealth Justices of the Peace for the County of Gloucester. this affiant saith upon Oath that he was well acquainted with Conquest Royston a private Soldier in the Revolutionary war that he was in the Survice to the North and in the Battle at Monmouth Courthouse [28 Jun 1778] and also in the Battle at Stony Point [16 Jul 1779] and that the said Conquest Royston served three years in the Revolutionary war and that he was honourably discharged, and being now dead has left only one son by the name of Conquest which is his only heir at Law and further this affiant saith not.

Almon Dunston

Virginia Gloucester County [22 May 1832]

[part missing at bottom of page] Revolutionary war and was orderd to the North and was theire several years and is now dead and left only One son by the name of Conquest which is his only heire at Law and further this affiant saith not.

Thomas Royston

Gloucester County Court June 1832

Upon the mo[tion] of Conquest Royster, the County Court of Gloster hereby Certifies that satisfactory evidence was produced to them that Conquest Royster a private Soldier in the Revolutionary war served three years and was at the battle at Monmouth Courthouse and at the battle of Stony Point and after serving three years was honorably discharged, that there is but one child of Conquest Royster whose name is Conquest Royster who makes this motion to the Court and moreover that he is the only heir at Law of said Conquest Royster.

1833 June 17 Rejected

This claim rests mainly on Dunston whose evidence is not satisfactory