

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

Pension Application of David Cashon R1782

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

For the purpose of obtaining the benefit of an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldier of the army of the Revolution approved on the 15th of May 1828 I David Cashon of the county of Weakley and State of Tennessee do hereby declare that I enlisted in the continental line of the army of the Revolution for and during war, and continued in its service until its termination, at which time I was a private in Captain Frank or Franklin Good's [sic: Francis Goode's] company in the (the Col name not recollect) Regiment of the Virginia line – and I also declare that I afterwards received a certificate for the reward of eighty dollars, which I was entitled to under a resolve of Congress, passed the 15th of May 1778. And I further declare that I was not on the 15th day of March 1828 on the pension list of the United States – Suffer me to say in addition to the foregoing, that I was at the seige of Little Yourk [sic: Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], that my zeal in defence of my country was unerspassed by but few – that I am now unable from bodily infirmity – to work for a living – and in indigent circumstances
Sworn to before me August 20th 1829 [signed] David Cashon
[Certified by Pleasant Cashon and Basset A. Beadles.]

Dear Sir – Paris Lumesse[?] August 25th 1829

Your letter post marked the 31st of July last directed to Mr Peter Owen or myself – has been rec'd I have seen the old man [unnamed], he informs me that his Capt's name was William Hays – and his Lieutenant Richard Hays – he belonged to the Virginia line, the number of the Regiment or the Col's name that commanded it, he informs me he cannot recollect – he says that his Capt was a much older man than himself, and that he has every reason to believe that he is dead otherwise he would get the necessary information from him – he says that he can prove nothing in addition to the foregoing unless he could visit the place of his nativity, where he enlisted in Virginia – this he says would be wholly impractable, from extreme proverty and old age. The above statement of facts [page torn] substance applyes to David Cashon the present applicant for a pension – it would truly be an act of charity in the Government – to bestow their bounty upon those two old Revolutionary Soldiers – as it is a tax the Government would not long be burthened with – you now have before you, all the information their meanes will enable them to give your relative to their claims upon the Government for a pension.

Very respectfully/ John N Dunlop/ Paris/ Henry county/ Tennessee

[Because of poor penmanship, the following transcript should be used with more than usual caution.]

State of Tennessee } County Court October 1832
Weakley County }

On this 8 Day of October 1832 personally appeared in open Court before President Jno R Shirtz S Smart J H More Jno Parker J Houshnon Justices of Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for said County now sitting at the Courthouse in the Town of Dresden in the County of Weakely State aforesaid, David Cashin a resident of said County and State aged 74 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 7 1832

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

In the year 1775 in Chesterfield County and state of Virginia in my 18th year. I enlisted in a minute [i.e. Minuteman] Company for Twelve months, our Company was separate from the other Militia Companies we were bound for that time to be always in readiness upon a minutes warning to go into

service. Evry four weeks we had to meet at a common place of Rendezvouz with our arms & provisions ready for immediate service. when we were always kept three Days & nights for the purposes of Discipline. During my enlistment in this Company, and in the year 1776 I with the ballance of the Company were called out into service, and continued out as well as I know recollect, between three & four months – our Captain was Francis Goode our Lieutenant was George Markham, the name of the Ensign I do not now recollect. We marched from Chesterfield, through Williamsburg, & by Little York, to Hampton & thence by water to Portsmouth in Virginia where we staid untill our tour of duty had expired. I was discharged a few days before Christmas The Colonel under whom we served was a continental officer, but his name I cannot now recollect. All the members of the Company in which I served, after the expiration of the term of their enlistment returned back to the common malitia companies.

In 1778 or 79 as well as I now recollect. I still reside in Chesterfield County I was called out or drafted as one of the militia of that County together with some others in all 25 men, for the purpose of guarding some British prisoners who had been taken in the West called the British OPost [St. Vincent Fort at Vincennes IN, 20 Jul 1778] – about fifty in number we guarded them at Chesterfield Courthouse for three weeks untill some regulars came and carried them down to Old Williamsburg as I understood for the purpose of being [illegible word] I do not know who commanded the regulars Robert Elam commanded the Company of Guards. In one of the same years, whether before or after that transaction I cannot now state from a failure of my memory at my present age; I was engaged for two weeks in guarding a magazine some where about six miles form Chesterfield Courthouse. The names of the Officers I cannot now recollect.

In 1781 in the month of January or Februry at the time the British first came and burnt part of Richmond [5-7 Jan] I was drafted in the [illegible word] of said County; and served for one month we rendezvoused opposite Richmond, we were upon the [illegible word] side of James River when Richmond was burning. We staid but a few Days, before we were marched down James River to place Called Cabin Point [in Surry County] where we staid four or five Days & were marched down to different places untill the British upon the dettetection of a larger body of Americans took shiping & sailed out at the Capes. we were discharged below Cabin point in about a month after the first rendezvouz. My Captain was Creed Haskins. My Lieutenant & Ensigns name I do not know recollect. Col. Jno. Bott [John Bott] was at that time Col. Commandant of Chesterfield County Col. [George] Robertson Lieutenant Colonel and Robert Goode was Major who were all out at that time & every man capable of bearing arms was called out upon that occasion

In April 1781 I was again Drafted for no specified time but as long as we were wanted, out of the millitia of Chesterfield County to go against the British who had come and taken Petersburg in Virginia [Battle of Blandford Hill, 25 Apr]. I went out under the same Capt. Haskins Col. Robertson & Botts were both out at the same time. during this time at Richmond Gen'l. LaFayette took command of us; there were also in command at that time who I recollect of the Continental service Major Boice [sic: William Boyce] and Major [Alexander] Dick as he was called. we marched first to Petersburg & from thence to Richmond & to different other places untill we were discharged below Richmond, at the end of Eleven weeks from our first call, sometime in the month of June

In August 1781 I was again Drafted from the militia of the same County for three months to the best of my recollection and went out under Capt. George Markham and Lieutenant James Moody [James Moodie] and as well as I now can state Ensign Elam, Col. [St. George] Tucker of Chesterfield County who then served his first Campaign. we marched through Petersburg from that & crossed James River a little above Old James Town just below the mouth of Chickehomeny [sic: Chickahominy] River thence through old Williamsburg & thence to Little York when Cornwallis was taken. I was at the taking of Cornwallis, in service two months and a half; the Campaign having ended earlier in consequence of the surrender of Cornwallis. I do not recollect of having served with any continental regiments & companies or recollect

being with any Continental Officers except Major Bird[?] and Dick and Genl. Mulenbug [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] and [Robert] Lawson who were with us at Petersburg in April 1781 & took the command untill Lafayette took the command at Richmond. I never got any discharge in writing as it was not a common thing at that time for the militia to get regular discharges. I know of no living witnesses by whom I can prove my sevice but Burwell Cashin [sic: Burrel Cashon, pension application S8181] and Thomas Cashin [Thomas Cashon, pension application W5890] who live in Mecklenburg County North Carolina, and whose affidavit I have proving part of my service, taken on the 1st Day of Sept. 1832 before James Doherty[?] a Justice of the peace for said County of Meclenburg & which is regularly Certified by the Clerk of the County Court & Chairman of the County & which I rec'd. by mail on yesterday evening. On my return from Little York on the 29 of October 1781. I obtained at Richmond from the Commissary Gen'l. of the Military Store a Receipt for three mess kits three Cart'g Boxes [cartridge boxes] & one Bayonett.

I was born in Chesterfield County Virginia on the 13th Day of February 1758 as well as I can now recollect from the Record of my age which I saw about 18 years ago which was preserved by one of my brothers. I lived about 13 years in Virginia after the close of the Revolutionary War, from whence I moved to North Carolina, from whence I moved in 1817 to this State, and am now living in Weakly County Tennessee. I hereby relinquish evry claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declare that my name is not on the Pension Roll of the agency of any state

I am known in my present neighborhood to the Rev. Mr. F Mitchell & Basset A Beadle who can testify to my veracity and their belief of my servises as a Soldier of the Revolution
Question 1st by the Court

Where and in what year were you born

Answer I was born in Chesterfield County State of Virginia on the 13th Day of February 1758.

Question 2nd. Have you any Record of your age; and if so where is it.

Answer. I have no record of my age myself; but I saw the Record of it upon a Record of our family by my Brother about 18 years ago at Iredele [sic: Iredell] County North Carolina

Question 3. Where you were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you know live.

Answer. When called into service I was living in Chesterfield County Virginia at which place I resided after the War for about 13 years. I then removed to Cabarras [sic: Cabarrus] County and State of North Carolina where I lived one year then removed to Iredell where I lived five years. I then removed to Burke County and lived nearly five years. I removed from there as well as I now remember to Montgomery County Tennessee in 1807 after living there about six years I moved to Sumner County in this State where I lived untill in January 1825 I moved to this County where I now live on the North side of the North fork of Obion River

Question 4. How were you called into service, we you drafted, did you volunteer or were you a substitute.

Answer. The first time I went out I was called out in the minute Company as I have stated. On the other occasions I was called out as I suppose by drafting under the Militia regulations of Virginia; I was not a substitute for any person during the War

Question 5. State the names of some of the regular Officers who were with the troops where you served, such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect and the General Circumstances of your service

Answer I do not recollect the names of any regular Officers except those I mentioned. Major Boice, and a Gentleman who was called Major Dick; who as I was informed then came to take command of the Militia at Petersburg in April 1781 and also General Lawson and Genrel Mulenburg who was then as I then understood also to command the militia, I also recollect General La Fayette, when he came and took the Command of our troops at Richmond. I can only restate the circumstances of my service as I

have detailed them in the Body of my statement; I am so old that my memory fails me as to exact Dates of [one or two illegible words] the [illegible word]; all which I have stated as clearly as my recollection will allow me. I was not in any engagement unless that of the taking of Cornwallis I was then in the Militia service, & had been in the militia all my service, and did not have an opportunity of knowing any of the regular officers except those I mentioned My regiments was the Chesterfield Regiment. I Recollect to have know at that time of a slight engagement between Gen'l. Wayne and the British troops at old James Town just before the taking of Cornwallis [sic: Anthony Wayne, Battle of Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul 1781] from my situation of the army which was then very [illegible word] I had no opportunity of observing personally the different parts of the engagement. The circumstances I have before stated, as stated with as much precision as my memory permits me

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge.

Answer. I never received any discharge in writing, it was not usual for the militia at that time to receive such discharges as we were frequently called out to protect the seabord Towns and discharged as soon as the enemy retired.

Question 7. State the names of some persons to whom you are known in your neighbourhood

Answer. I am know to the Rev'd. Matthew F Mitchell, and Basset A Beadles who can testify to my veracity & their belief of my services.

Sworn to & Subscribed the Day and year aforesaid David Cashin

Richmond Oct'r. 29th 1781

Rec'd. of David Cashin of the Chesterfield Militia Three Muskets three Cart'g Boxes & One Bayonett
the above arms Rec'd. of David Cashin W Hennedy of A Bohannan/ Com'y Gen'l. M Stores
Rich'd. Robertson/ John Male

State of Tennessee }

Weakley County } March 2nd 1833.

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace for said County David Cashin of said County who being duly sworn, deposith and saith, that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the pirods below and in the following grades. For three months as a private in the year 1775 when I joined the minute Compy in 1775, and as a private for one month in the year 1781 when I was called out in the month of January also as a private in the spring of the same year Eleven weeks also as a private when I was called out in August 1781 one month and a half makeing in all my service as a private in which capacity alone I served seven months and one week, and for such service I claim a pension. for a more particular account of which service see my original Declaration.

He also swears that he knows of no living witness by whom he can prove said services, unless it is by the authority of Burrul Cashin & Thomas Cashin who might be able to prove some of the service, who are aged & infirm & live at a great distance from this Deponent, to wit in Mclenburg County North Carrlina, & whose affidavits were procured and together with an old Rec'pt for some Guns which Deponent had about him since the year 1781 were by him produced in the County Court of Weakly County at the time he made his application original Declaration; which is all the proof it is possible for this affiant to produce and to his service owing to the reason stated in this & his original Declaration

[signed] David Cashon

NOTE: On 3 Jan 1853 Pleasant Cashon applied for a pension on behalf of the children and heirs of Sarah Cashon, widow of David Cashon who died on 24 June 1835. She stated that David and Sarah Cashon were married in 1788, and that Sarah Cashon died on 18 Oct 1851. She named the heirs and children as

follows: Elza, Elizabeth, Pleasant, Martin, Sophia, Nancy, Annis, Polly, Rebecca, David, Sintha, Emeline, and Pulaska (commas inserted between each name). The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Iredell County on 6 June 1813 by David Cashion and Joel Cashion for the marriage of David Cashion to Sally Harvell. The Pension Office rejected the application under the 1838 Pension Act because the marriage occurred after the cutoff date of 1794, noting that "It is rather singular, however, that the marriage was asserted to have taken place in 1788." It was also rejected under the 1853 Pension Act because the widow died before that date.