

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Daffron (Difforn) R2614

f13NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/22/08 rev'd 11/24/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County

On the 11th day of August 1834 personally appeared in open court before this county court, of this county aforesaid, now sitting, John Daffron, a resident of Bledsoe County State of Tennessee, aged 73 years after 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.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. In Chatham County State of North Carolina he volunteered and entered the service under Captain __ Cage [William Cage] and was stationed at ~~marched to~~ the barracks in Chatham County, commonly called "Littrell's Barracks" [Luttrell's Barracks]. They were on Col Littrell's [John Luttrell's] land and applicant believes were commanded by him. Applicant does not remember the year -- he recollects that it was not a great while before there was a battle with the enemy at Lindley's Mill [September 13, 1781] in which Col Luttrell was killed. This tour applicant served, he knows at least two months -- he is well satisfied it was more, but cannot state the precise period from loss of memory. Very soon after leaving the barracks in Chatham, County, applicant believes in about two weeks he again volunteered and joined the Light horse in Randolph County, under the command of Captain Edward Williams (then called Ned Williams) Captain Aaron Hill who also commanded a company of Light Horse lived in the same neighborhood, and the two companies generally went together. Alexander Patterson was lieutenant in Capt. Williams' company. Applicant was attached to this company for about two years as a private and a volunteer. Most of that time he was in actual service, for in the section of county where applicant resided the Tories were so bad that it was unsafe to remain out of camp. He cannot state the precise time he was in service, but is confident and certain that it was not before those twelve months in the light horse. Applicant was not in any engagement with the enemy. The company which he was in was generally engaged in scouring the country and keeping the Tories in subjection. Col James Dugan [also spelled James Dougan] and Maj. Thomas Dugan [Thomas Dougan], who were brothers were applicant's superior officers in Randolph County. Applicant recollects substituting to serve in place of a certain John Grice who was drafted and having his name put on the roll in Captain Wm Cole's [William Cole's] company in Rowan County but before the company marched peace was proclaimed.

Applicant states that his memory from age or other causes is remarkably defective and weak- He has detailed his services as well as he can, but cannot remember dates -- he never received any written discharge from the service nor did he ever want any that he recollects. All his services was performed as a volunteer and as a private in the militia. He was much longer attached to companies and in readiness to act but is confident that his actual service was not less

than fourteen months as before stated. He thinks it was more, but when he cannot be certain, would rather have it too little than too much. He has no documentary evidence, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of this Agency in any state.

He was born in Fairfax County, Virginia, from the best information he can get, in the year 1760 or 1761. He is altogether illiterate, and has no record of his age.

He was living when called into the service in Randolph County, N. Carolina. Many years after the revolutionary war he moved from there to Spartanburg District in S. Carolina where he lived, about thirteen years from there he moved to Jefferson County, Tennessee where he lived one year, and from there he moved to this Bledsoe County, Tennessee, where he ~~has~~ lived for five years. – he then moved back to Jefferson county, where he lived four years – and then back to this, Bledsoe county, where he has lived for about eight years, and where he still resides.

He entered, and was in the service as a volunteer.

He has stated the names of his officers, and the general circumstances of his service as well as he can recollect them,

He never received a written discharge that he remembers.

He is known in his present neighborhood to Samuel Cathey & John Carter who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief as to his services as a soldier of the revolution. There is but one clergyman living, in the neighborhood of applicant and he is prevented from coming to court by the sickness of his relations as he informs applicant -- consequently he is unable to procure the certification of a clergyman as required by the regulations.

Sworn to & Subscribed this day and year aforesaid

S/ John Daffron, X his mark

[Samuel Cathey and John Carter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Note: This contains a 3-page, undated a letter inquiring as to the pension entitlement of the widow of John Difforn. The widow is stated to be 101 years old. Her husband's services are described as having served under Col. Colyer, Col. Belford, Capt. John Knight, Capt. Aaron Hill, and Capt. Edward Williams; that her husband was taken prisoner by one Thomas Fannin [sic, probably an erroneous attempt to identify David Fanning] a leader of the Tories. The contents of this letter lead me to believe that it has been erroneously placed in this file and the Long's in the file of [John Dafron R2615](#). That said, I think there is a very strong probability that this veteran is the same man as [John Dafron R2615](#).]