

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Dafron¹ R2615

Sarah Dafron (Difforn)

f26NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/10 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 Jefferson County: December County Court A.D. 1845

On this 1st day of December 1845 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Jefferson County now sitting John Daffron, a Resident of Jefferson County and State aforesaid aged ninety-three years old, 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 the United States, under the following named officers, and served as herein stated. That he served as a Volunteer three months under Captain Cage, and Colonel John Luttrell in Chatham County North Carolina, at the Commissary Barracks, where Colonel Luttrell got killed: the Army [indecipherable word].² He then went to Rowan County and Volunteered under Captain Ned Williams [Edward Williams] of the Light Horse, Colonel James Doogan [James Dougan or Dugan] and Colonel Colyer marching through Randolph County into Moore County served two years, and then peace was made. The three months service above mentioned was in the Infantry, as to the dates his recollection does not serve him, and that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service, he further states that the reason why his application was not sooner made is that his papers were prepared by Judge Pook [?]³, taken to Dandridge and that the Public House at which the Judge put up was burnt up and the papers destroyed and that from his infirmity he neglected to have [several indecipherable words] until the present time.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ James Fielder, Clerk of Jefferson County

S/ John Dafron, X his mark

[James R. Miller, a clergyman, and John Mitchel gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Interrogatories put by the Court

1st Where and in what year were you born?

I was born in Fairfax County Virginia the year not recollected. I was upwards of 24 years

¹ Also shown as Daffin, Dafforn, Daffren

² 

³ 

of age at the close of the War as I have always understood.

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

I have none neither do I know where it is

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

I was living in Randolph County North Carolina and since the War, I have lived part of my time in North Carolina, South Carolina and part in Tennessee and am now living in Jefferson County.

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

I volunteered.

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

I recollect [several indecipherable words] I have mentioned

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

I have no Recollection of ever receiving a discharge if one was given I do not know what has become of it.

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Reverend Samuel R. Miller and John Mitchel

[p 6: on the December 6, 1851 in Walker County Georgia, Sarah Dafforn, 88, filed for a widow's pension under the 1836 act stating that she is the widow of John Dafforn; "... that the said John Dafforn resided in North Carolina at the time of the commencement of said war and was drafted she thinks in 1778 and served in the militia of said State under the command of Colonel Litral [John Luttrell] and Captain Mayburn until these officers were killed by the Tories, that soon after this her said husband was taken prisoner by Colonel Fanning the noted Tory; that he made his escape from Fanning and volunteered and served as a light horseman under the command of Captain Williams and she thinks at different times under the command of each of the following Officers, to wit, Colonel Belford, Captain Aaron Hill and Captain John Night [John Knight], that she this deponent lived during the war in Randolph County North Carolina and was acquainted with the said John Dafforn while he was in service..."; that she married him in the summer of 1781; that they were married by Richard Shacelford [sic, Shackelford?] a Baptist minister; that she has no documentary evidence of her marriage having no family record; that after their marriage her husband the rendered service as a horseman until the cessation of hostilities; that she recalls his saying that his discharges were in the possession of John Grist, a man who was with him in the service and who has been long dead; that her first child Joseph Dafforn was born in the summer of 1782; that she and her husband resided in Randolph County North Carolina at the end of the war and for 12 or 15 years after peace was made; then moved to Spartanburg district South Carolina where they remained until 1816 when they removed to Jefferson County Tennessee; that her husband died August 18, 1849 in Jefferson County Tennessee; that soon after his death she moved to Walker County Georgia where she now resides.]

[p 8: on December 8, 1851 in Walker County, Georgia, Joseph Dafforn, 69, gave an affidavit in support of his mother's application for a widow's pension; he states he is the oldest child of his parents.]

[Susan Shaw, 65, gave testimony on December 8, 1851 in Walker County that she lived a close neighbor to John and Sarah Dafforn while living with her parents in Spartanburg district South Carolina; that Joseph Dafforn was their eldest son; that Joseph was about four years older than herself; that her father John Grist, and being a "good scholar and pensman" was entrusted with the papers and discharges of a number of his fellow soldiers; that she remembers distinctly and unmistakably that her father had one or more discharges that belonged to John Dafforn; that she repeatedly heard her father say that John Dafforn was with him a long time in the Revolutionary War"; that her father has been dead 32 years.]

[Note: I think there is a strong probability that this veteran is the same man as [John Daffron \(Difforn\) R2614](#). Since there are two separate files with two separate file numbers assigned by the War Department, I have transcribed the contents of the files separately.]