

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robert Davis R2761

f44SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/30/10: rev'd 4/14/20

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 3]

State of Mississippi County of Clark } SS

On this the 4th day of December in the year of our Lord AD 1843 personally appeared in open court before the court of Probate, a court of record, in and for said County and state now sitting Robert Davis a resident of the County of Clark, in the County of Clark and State of Mississippi -- aged eighty-six 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. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated, under General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] in South Carolina, Colonel Lines¹ and Captain Kemble [this might be a reference to Captain Frederick Kimball of the Camden District Regiment of Militia], the precise day month ~~and~~ year he entered the service he does not now recollect from old age and the great distance of time which has elapsed, but that it was during the revolutionary war, that he entered the service as a volunteer soldier and served as such for the space of three years, when he was promoted to the command of a volunteer company and he served in that capacity as Captain for the space of twelve months, under General Sumter of South Carolina and was discharged from service sometime during the year of our Lord 1781 after the capture of Lord Cornwallis [Yorktown, October 19, 1781] by General Washington and Lafayette at Yorktown, Virginia. That he resided in Kershaw District South Carolina when he entered the service, and during the period of his service, he was in the Battle of Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] -- and the battle of Camden [August 15-16, 1780], under General Gates [Horatio Gates] at that time -- and -- that he was also under the command of General Green [Nathanael Greene], a part of the time of his service, and acted as his pilot when he marched to log Town. That he was present when DeKalb was killed, that during the whole war -- he served 3 years as a volunteer soldier and one year as a Captain, for which he claims a pension. He further states that, he has no documentary evidence of his service, that all of his service was in the militia, that he once had his appointment or commission as Captain which was given him by General Sumter but that the same has been long since lost or mislaid and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure to testify to the services. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatever or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any State except only on that of the agency of the State of Mississippi.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

¹ I cannot make a guess as to the possible identity of this officer.

S/ Robert Davis



[Isham Moody, a clergyman, and JC Scott gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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The State of Mississippi Clark County } SS Probate Court holden in and for said County on the 4th day of December A.D. 1843 now at this term of the said court on the application of Robert Davis for a pension the following Interrogatories were put to the said applicant in open court and answered as follows

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Ans: I was born in South Carolina in Kershaw district on Lynches Creek near Camden in the year of our Lord 1757 as I have been told by my parents

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

Ans: I have no record of my age

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

Ans: I was living in South Carolina in Kershaw district to near Camden when called into service, and lived there after the revolutionary war near the place where I was born until about 20 years ago when I moved to Mississippi and settled in Wayne County, near Winchester, and after the treaty of Dancing Rabbit with the Choctaw Indians, I moved and settled in Clark County Mississippi near Quitman where I now live, near this place

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

Ans: I was a volunteer in the militia

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.

Ans: I knew General Sumpter, General Greene and General Gates, when I served I entered the service as a volunteer soldier under Captain Kemble and Colonel Lines and General Sumpter. I served 3 years as a common soldier -- under my officers at the end of one term of service I volunteered for another and at the end of 3 years from the time I entered the service I raised a volunteer company of my own, and served one year as Captain of a volunteer company.

6th Did you ever receive a commission and if so by whom was it signed and what has become of it?

Ans: I received a commission which I believe was signed by General Sumpter, but have long since lost or mislaid it so that I cannot now find 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.

Ans: All these bystanders those me -- in my neighborhood your honor knows me the clerk here Mr. Willerford knows me Esquire Clark, Esquire towns, William H. P. Poll the post master here and many of you and all of these people round Quitman knows me.

S/. Robert Davis

[p 11: On December 6, 1852 in Clark County Mississippi, Rosier Davis, a resident of said County and state made oath that he is the child and legal heir of Robert Davis the applicant for a pension for his revolutionary services. He signed the document with his mark.]

[p 14: On February 6th, 1854 in Clark County Mississippi, the court found that Robert Davis died October 15, 1846, a widower, survived by Rosier Davis and Joseph Davis his sons and only surviving children.]

[pp 41-44: SC Comptroller's office certificate showing payments made to a Robert Davis for several terms of service as both a foot and horse soldier in 1179, 1780 and 1781 under Capt. George Dunlap and Lieut. McElvain.]