

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

Pension Application of William Dishman R2965

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky, County of Barren Set

On this 20th day of August 1832 personally appeared before the County Court of the County of Barren William Dishman, a resident of the County of Barren in the said State of Kentucky, aged 77 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 provision made by the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832: That he enlisted in the army of the revolution in the year 1776, with Capt Alexander Dick, and served in (he believes) the third Regiment of the Virginia State line, under the following named officers & for the time & in the manner following: He first entered the marine service in the year 1776 for two years under the said Capt. Alexander Dick, and was stationed at Tappahannock (or Hobbes' hole [sic: Hobbs Hole] in Essex County Virginia, in which county he then resided. After having kept guard at Tappahannock for some time, waiting for a vessel, it was at length said that none of the publick vessels belonging to the State of Virginia were fit for sea, and some of the officers read letters purporting that those marines stationed at Tappahannock should be put on board the row gallies at York (or some where in the Chesapeake) unless they would enlist in the regular army for three years – the said William Dishman, with others, then enlisted for three years in the regular army under the said Capt. Alexander Dick of the Virginia line and (he believes) the third regiment. George Catlett [pension application W2524] was first Lieutenant & Charles Thornton second Lieutenant of the Company – the names of the other officers are not recollected by the said Dishman, nor does he recollect the name of the Colonel or other field officers of the Regiment. He, the said Dishman was afterwards ordered to rendezvous at Fredericksburgh [sic: Fredericksburg], and went under the command of said Capt. Dick [as a marine] on board the Brig Musquito [sic: *Mosquito*] to sail on a cruise against the enemy – he does not recollect that any of the other officers belonging to the company went on this expedition. John Harris [R41] was the Capt. of the said Brig & Bird Chambers [sic: Byrd Chamberlayne, R22] first Lieutenant & George Chambers [sic: George Chamberlaine, R23] 2^d Lieutenant. After embarking on board the Brig they dropped down to Hampton Roads where they lay until about the 27th February 1777 when they sailed. On her passage to the West Indies the Brig captured a transport ship (name not recollected [the *Noble*]) belonging to the enemy, loaded with provisions, candles &c, & carried her to Point Peter, Gaudaloupe [sic: Point-à-Pitre, Guadeloupe]. The said Dishman afterwards understood the captured vessel and her cargo were sold, but he never received any of the prize money. – The said Dishman afterwards sailed on board the said Brig, but after a few days, discovering that one of the crew had the small pox, she was obliged to return to Gaudaloupe to inoculate the rest. – After they got well she again sailed, but after a few days she was captured by a 20 gun vessel (the *Ariadne*) belonging to the British Navy, & all on board (said Dishman among the rest) made prisoners. This was, to the best of said Dishman's recollection, about the 4th of June 1777 in the night. The said Dishman farther states, that the prisoners, & he among them, were carried to Barbadoes [sic: Barbados] where they were imprisoned (he thinks at a place called Bridgetown) & detained until January 1778, when a fleet of British merchantmen under convoy touched at Barbadoes & took the prisoners on board, separating them & distributing them in different ships. As to Capt. Dick & the commissioned officers, he understood they were sent to England. The said Dishman & two of his brothers, James [James Dishman, pension application W9409] and John [John Dishman] (both now dead) were put on board the same vessel and carried to the Island of Jamaica where they were set at liberty. He and his brothers remained on the island some time & at length worked their passage to America on board a British merchant ship commanded by Capt. Smith, bound to Philadelphia, then in the possession of the British; and by the intercession of a merchant on board, a Scotchman by the name of Buckannon, they

were landed on the Delaware a short distance below Wilmington, about the month of May 1778. After landing, he and his brothers went to the quarters of Gen'l. [William] Smallwood at Wilmington – he does not recollect to have seen him, but Maj'r. Smith gave them a passport to return by the way of the Head of Elk [now Elkton MD] and Baltimore to Virginia; and he recollects that they got to Baltimore on the night that the city was illuminated on account of the news of the then late treaty with France [signed 6 Feb 1778]. On his return to Virginia, being informed that his Regiment had been sent out of the State, & not knowing where to report himself, he went to the Governor of Virginia, Patrick Henry, by whom (as well as he recollects) he was directed to go to Williamsburgh [sic: Williamsburg] & put himself under the command of Capt [Edmund] Waller at the Barracks. He did place himself & served under the command of the said Capt. Waller, and after the expiration of the term of his enlistment, Lieutenant George Catlett (then a Captain) gave him a certificate, on the production of which he received a regular discharge from Col. Samuel Hawes, which discharge is now lost.

The said William Dishman hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid. [signed] Wm Dishman

[On 24 Nov 1832 Dishman made a statement attempting to explain why his name could not be found on the military rolls. This statement adds no new detail, but it ends as follows: "And unless the bounty of his Government will aid in rendering his situation comfortable in the decline of life, he will end his already closing career with no other feelings toward his government that that of a regret, that owing probably to accident, he was unable to obtain the favour of that Government, by convincing it of the fact of that service."]

State of Kentucky } SS.
County of Barren }

On this 15th day of July 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court for the County aforesaid William Dishman aged 78 years the 26th September 1832 last, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following Declaration by way of amendment to his Declaration heretofore made out before the County Court for said County On the 20th August 1832 to obtain a Pension under the act of Congress of 7th June 1832, which Declaration has been returned with a Brief and objections "XI" "XII" that he has not obtained the Certificate of a Clergyman & respectable Citizen as to their belief of his services – Objection "XIV" not on the Roll & farther Proof required. – Objection "XVII" Questions 1. 2. 5. 7" not answered.

In relation of Objection "XI" "XII" he refers to Certificates given below.

As to objection that there is no Proof of service & his name not on Roll he refers to the Affidavit of Henry Raines [sic: Henry Rains, pension application S31317] herewith sent for consideration, marked (A). At the time he made out his former Declaration & Affidavit he did not know of any proof he could get and in fact did not know that said Rains was living & if alive he was not aware of his Residence. He discovered him in this way. He sent the names of some of the members of his Company last Winter to his Representative in Congress to examine if they were on the Pension Roll or applicants. On examination it was found that said Raines had applied as having served in Cap Dicks Company, and it appeared that he lived in Hardin County Ky.

In answer to the Questions he says 1st He was born on the 26th September 1754 in Essex County Virginia. – 2. He has no Record of his age, he recollects of seeing it on his Fathers Record, which he does not know whether it be lost or what has become of it.

–5– In the sea service he knew by sight Cap John Harris, 1 Lieutenant Byrd Chambers, 2nd Lieut George Chambers, Charles DeKay [R34] Sailing Master, John Hamilton Masters-Mate, John Smith Boatswain, Tillis Harbane Boatswain's Mate, Edward Eagles Gunner Timothy Laws Gunners Mate, And the

Carpenter Howell who were the Officers on the Brig Musquito where applicant served. He cant say they were Regular Officers. He don't know any thing about any Continental or Militia Regiments. As to his Recollection of the 3rd. Virginia Regiment he refers to his former Declaration. He has no distinct knowledge of belonging to said Regiment.

-7- He would name Fleming [illegible], Claibourne Harlow, Joseph Steffey – Simeon Buford and Charles Martin and could name others if necessary. For the services he has heretofore made out he respectfully claims a Pension.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid. [signed] Wm Dishman
[Certified by Zacheus Quesenberry, clergyman, and William D. Harlow.]

NOTE: On 16 May 1839 Sally Dishman applied for a pension stating that she was born in Goochland County VA on 20 Sep 1763 and married William Dishman on 15 Feb 1782 in Bedford County VA. She stated that they moved to Kentucky in the fall of 1810, and her husband died on 4 Dec 1833. Her account of William Dishman's service was as follows: "a part of his services was as a Marine on board of a Privateer, that he was taken prisoner by the British and carried to the Island of Bermuda where he was kept in confinement for some time, and then was exchanged and returned to Baltimore." On 7 Aug 1851 Nancy Dishman stated that William Dishman and Sally Salmon were married in 1784 or 1785, and that she herself married Jeremiah Dishman, brother of William Dishman, a year or two earlier. On 7 Oct 1857 William Dishman of Glasgow KY, son and administrator of Sally Dishman, stated that she died on 7 July 1839.