

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

Pension application of Lewis Dishon (Dishong) R2966 Elizabeth fn53NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/5/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Orange County

On this 27th day of November A.D. 1832, personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions of the County aforesaid, now sitting, Lewis Dishon, alias Dishong, aged 69 or 70 years, resident in the County & State aforesaid, who first being 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 into the service of the United States under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated. In the year 1778 or 1779, as well as he recollects, he was drafted in Chowan County in the State aforesaid, for the term of six months, in the State Militia, sometime in the fall of that year. His company was organized at Edenton under Captain Elisha Hunter -- but Captain Hunter being an old man, resigned his Commission, and Lieutenant James Robards was appointed Captain in his place. John Walter, Ensign. -- from Edenton, his company was ordered to march to Kingston [sic, Kinston], NC where the North Carolina troops were to rendezvous. The when on Albemarle sound, detained his company some days, on their way to Kingston -- & when they reached Kingston, the Main Army had moved to the South. His company left Kingston & marched after the Main body to join them, first to Elizabeth in Bladen County NC -- thence to Charleston, South Carolina; thence to the Two Sisters [sic, Two Sisters Ferry] on Savannah River; & thence to Augusta in Georgia, where he overtook the Main body of North Carolina Militia, commanded by General Ashe [John Ashe], General Bryant & Lieutenant Colonel Bob Pugh Williams [sic, John Pugh Williams]. From Augusta, he was marched with the Main Army down to Briar Creek - - and at Briar Creek, had an engagement with the British -- which resulted in the defeat of the American forces. From this defeat, the declarant fled as best he could, & made his way to the vicinity of the Two Sisters where they scattered Americans were rallied. There, the rallied forces were placed under the command of General Lincoln, a Continental officer; General Ashe, of the North Carolina Militia, not being in command over the declarant, after the Battle of Briar Creek. After being placed under the command of General Lincoln, the declarant was stationed about four miles above the Generals Main Army, upon the Savannah River, -- where the declarant remained until the term of six months expired, for which he had been drafted, & was then discharged & returned home. Whether he received a written discharge or not, the declarant doth not recollect. -- The declarant remembers distinctly, that after his discharge from the aforesaid service, on his return home by way of Georgetown in South Carolina, a severe frost fell that bit the young corn down which was five or six blades high. -- After remaining at home some few months, the declarant determined to enter the naval service of the United States; and accordingly, he went to New Bern in the State of North Carolina, and volunteered for a six weeks cruise, on

board the Brig *Belona*¹, [sic, *Bellona*] a privateer, under the command of Captain Harrison. From New Bern, the said Brig set sail, the declarant being on board; & sailed to the mouth of Cape Fear [River], NC, & there remained some days, until Captain Harrison could go home on White Oak, to attend to some domestic business -- thence said brig set sail, the declarant being on board, to make her intended cruise. After she had been out at sea, a few days, she met with a British fleet of merchant-men, & expected to make prizes of some of them -- but a British convoy ship of 44 guns, supposed to be the *Gallatier* [sic, *Galatea*], gave the *Ballona* [sic, *Bellona*] chase from early in the morning until dark. After dark, Captain Harrison changed his course in order to deceive the pursuing enemy -- and after having run some two hours, the *Bellona* ran on shore & was wrecked. One of the crew was drowned -- the rest clung to the wreck until morning. They were wrecked in nine miles to the south of St Augustine in East Florida. The crew saved their boat, on deck -- and at great hazard, they got on shore that day with the aid of the boat thus saved. At that time there was a British force stationed at St. Augustine, under command of a Colonel Glazier: -- this force captured *Bellona's* crew, among whom was the declarant, on the night of the day in which the crew got to land. The declarant & the rest of his crew were taken prisoners by the British, about the 2nd or 3rd day of December 1780 -- and he was detained as a prisoner of war, by the British, at St. Augustine, from that time until the 5th day of May 1782, at night -- when he and four more men of the crew made their escape -- and were about 20 or 22 days in the wilderness. While in the wilderness, the declarant & his comrades got on the track of the cattle, which one McGirt,² a robber, had taken from Georgia to St. Augustine for the British. He discovered the track of a cow that had got away from McGirt's drove & was returning towards Georgia; & he & his men pursued it & finally overtook her & made beef of a part of her -- which perhaps saved their lives -- as they were nearly starved. At length they reached Ogeechee, the edge of the white settlement, & thence made their way home where they arrived the latter part of June 1782. -- The declarant was born in the County of Chowan in the State of North Carolina in 1762 or 63, as he supposes -- he hath no Register of his age. He resided in Chowan a few years after the close of the Revolutionary War, & thence removed to Orange County aforesaid where he hath resided ever since. -- He hath no documentary evidence of his service -- no [sic, nor] does he know any person by whom he can prove it. -- 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 as far as he hath knowledge.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

26th of November 1832 Sworn to in Open Court

S/ Lewis Dishon, X his mark

S/ J. Taylor, CC

[John King and Edward King gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

North Carolina Orange County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions August Term A.D. 1833

Declaration of Lewis Dishon by way of Amendment to the above declaration made by him in November Sessions A.D. 1832 of the Court aforesaid in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1833 [sic, 1832].

¹ <http://www.awiatsea.com/Privateers/B/Bellona%20North%20Carolina%20Brig%20%5BPendleton%20Harrison%5D.html>

² **Daniel McGirt** was a notorious Tory militia leader. Born in South Carolina, he lived in Georgia and Florida during the Revolution and participated in many raids into South Carolina and Georgia in support of the Crown. Hall, *Land and Allegiance*, 150-154.

The declarant states that for the tour of six months, set forth in his former declaration above, for which he was drafted -- that he was drafted as a private & served as a private, in the militia of North Carolina -- and that for the incidents and circumstances of that service, he asks leave to refer to said former declaration. -- as to the service set forth in his said former declaration, as having been rendered by him at sea; the declarant is at a loss how & in what manner to shed more light on the history of that service than what his former declaration will do, by a particular reference to it: on board the privateer, Brig *Balona* [sic], on board of which he volunteered as set forth in his former declaration; the declarant served as a marine. The incidents of his ship wreck & capture by the enemy, which soon occurred after his embarkation at Wilmington NC & the circumstances attendant on his escape from the Enemy, after and imprisonment of one year & five months and two or three days -- our circumstantially set forth in his said former declaration -- to which he hereby respectfully ask a reference. The declarant hath to rely proof of his services in the War of the Revolution in the absence of living witnesses to testify to them, none of whom can he procure -- on the reputation in the Country where he resides of his having been a soldier of the revolution and on the strength of his character for veracity & integrity -- which he hopes can be abundantly shown. The declarant resided in Chowan County NC from his birth until after the revolutionary war.

Sworn to & subscribed
[John Giles, a clergyman, David Perkins and Benjamin Hurdle gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

S/ Lewis Dishon, X his mark

[fn p. 51: on August 27, 1842 in Gwinnett County Georgia, the veteran filed for a transfer of his pension benefits from North Carolina to Georgia to which he has recently moved because his son has sold his possessions in Orange County and moved to Georgia.]

[fn p. 13: on November 7, 1845 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Elizabeth Dishon, 74, made application for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Lewis Dishon; that she married him February 2, 1787; that her husband died May 21, 1843 and that she remains his widow.]

[fn p. 15 family record: copied verbatim]

Elizabeth Rhody Daughter of Peter Rohdy and Mary his wife was Born April ye 5 day 1771

Radrick Dishon was Born July ye 2nd day 1788

Nathaniel Dishon was Born December ye 10th day 1790

Sarah Dishon was Born February 12th day 1792

Lavina Dishon was Born February 7th day 1795

Mary Dishon was Born July ye 8th day 1797

Lewis Dishon was Born August ye 22 day 1799

Elizabeth Dishon was Born December ye 2nd day 1801

Jacob Dishon was Born February 20th day 1804

Nancy Palmer was born December the 9th Day 1808

Henry Palmer was born April the 27th Day 1810

Jesse Frankling Dishongh was born March the 25th day 1811

Henry Palmer was born April 27th day 1810