

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of George Dobson R2983

PA VA

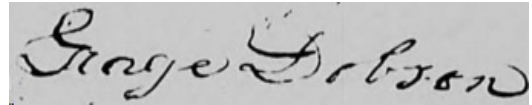
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Pennsylvania } Ss

Butler County }

On this 4th day of April AD 1839 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Common Pleas of Butler County State of Pennsylvania now sitting George Dobson a resident of Slipperyrock Township County and State aforesaid, aged seventy seven 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 7th June 1832

Claimant being fifteen years and six month old was drafted in the month of October and year 1777 at the Town of Staunton Augusta [sic: Augusta] County and State of Virginia where he resided on a Tour of Malitia duty for two months under Captain James Tate and Colonel [Sampson] Mathews they marched from Staunton towards Richmond but before they reached Richmond, they returned by orders about the last of November 1777. Afterwards Claimant moved to Bedford County Pennsylvania, and in the month of April 1781 volunteered in a Company of Rangers to form a Scouting party against the Indians under Captain David Walker and Col Davis and left this service the last of September 1781 making six months of service. Claimant was in no engagment excepting a small skirmish with the Indians on "Brush Creek" Bedford County Pennsylvania. Claimant has no documentary evidence of his service and knows no person who can testify to his service. 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



NOTE: Rev. Samuel Stoughton and John Gilmore certified that Dobson was honest and had the reputation of having been a Revolutionary soldier. A letter from the Pension Office dated 22 Aug 1839 states that Dobson's claim was rejected for the following reason: "The militia who were called out to perform any specified service did not serve more than two months under one engagement. The actual service of the applicant did not amount in all to six months and was not of that character excepting the service in 1777, provided for by the act of 7 June 1832." Dobson in fact did not state that he was "called out," but volunteered. In 1834 the Pension Commissioner, James L. Edwards, decided that defending the frontier against Indians was not really military service. For discussion, see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111).