

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Joshua Dover R3053

f23GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County: County Court May Session 1834

On this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 1834 personally appeared before the justices of the County Court of Bledsoe County, Joshua Dover a resident of the County of Bledsoe and State of Tennessee, aged eighty-one 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. –

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States, at the time of the first enlistments made in the war, in the section of the country where he resided, but is unable from loss of memory to state the year with Captain John Burk and served in the \_\_\_ Regiment and of the Georgia line under the following named officers. -- He supposes it was the Georgia line, as his service was principally performed in that State. At the time he entered the service he resided on Santee River just below Rocky Mount, he is unable to tell now what State it was in,<sup>1</sup> and at which same place he was enlisted as a private soldier for a term of two years to serve in that class of the Army denominated "minute men." He entered the service when he enlisted under the command of Colonel Elijah Clark [Elijah Clarke] (afterwards General Clarke) Captain John Burk, Lieutenant \_\_\_ Baldwin and Sergeant Benjamin Blake – and was marched to Carr's Fort in the State of Georgia at which place he was stationed most of his term, but at times for short periods at other places – the service of the force with which he served being in guarding the frontiers. Captain \_\_\_ Baldwin, the father of the lieutenant above named, succeeded Burk as Captain, and under whom applicant served part of his time. Applicant was on one occasion marched from Carr's Fort in Georgia under the officers above named on an expedition to St. Augustine which went to the St. Mary's River where Clarke had a skirmish with the enemy, got wounded by a shot in the leg and returned and discharged applicant at Sunbury [Sunbury], he does not recollect the State – his discharge was written, and is lost, but in what manner or how applicant does not know. Applicant states that it was not his belief that he belonged to the regular Army, nor that he belonged to the militia but is advised that it was probably one or the other. He recollects enlisting for two years and at the time receiving the bounty of \$30 and giving a promise of land & more money for his services – but understood that he enlisted & served in what was called the "Minute service." He does not know of any class of troops denominated "State Troops," though there may be such. He was in actual service for the two years for which he enlisted. He does not remember the number of the Regiment nor indeed does he recollect that it had a number. Besides his service as an enlisted soldier, he served in the Militia afterwards, his service under this enlistment being in the first of the war and while in the militia service was in the battle of Stono [June 20, 1779] under Captain Drury Pace. But being so confident that his name will be found on rolls of the war office as an enlisted soldier he will not now attempt to enumerate his services in the Militia which he is advised he can do after should this application be

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1 Rocky Mount and the Santee River were in the State of South Carolina.

unsuccessful.

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

Sworn to & subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Joshua Dover, X his mark

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August 1834 personally appeared in open court before the justices of the County Court of Bledsoe County State of Tennessee Joshua Dover made the foregoing declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 who being first duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that in addition to and explanation of the facts stated in the foregoing declaration he declares that he with has no documentary evidence, nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure, who can testify to his service. He states that he was in actual service for two years as stated in his original declaration, in station and in marching – and in addition to that term applicant states that he was 10 months in the Militia service as a drafted soldier under Captain Drury Pace under whose command applicant was in the battle of Stono-- these 10 months include three separate tours of service but the time of entering, on each, or even the year applicant is wholly unable to state from age and the consequent loss of memory – applicant does not remember getting any discharge from Captain Pace, but knows he served out his time.

He was born on Haw River as he was informed by his parents, who left there when applicant was and infant – he does not know the County or State but believes it was in North Carolina and according to the best account he can get in the year 1753. He has no record of his age.

He was living when called into service upon Santee River below Rocky Mount in the State of South Carolina but does not remember the County – Shortly after the revolutionary war he moved to Rutherford County North Carolina from there to Burke County North Carolina. He has resided in Overton County Tennessee – in Jackson County Alabama and in this Bledsoe County Tennessee where he now resides.

He has always believed that he was first enlisted and served two years as an enlisted soldier under Colonel Clarke in what was called the “minute service” -- He served 10 months under Captain Drury Pace as a drafted soldier and as a private.

He has stated the names of his officers and the general circumstances of his services as well as he can recollect them

He received a written discharge from Colonel Clarke at Sunbury but does not know what became of it – he did not receive any over that he remembers.

He is known in his present neighborhood to Samuel Cathey and William Johnson who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution here he applicant states that clergyman living in the neighborhood where he resides so as to enable him to procure the certificate of one.

Sworn to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Joshua Dover, X his mark

[Samuel Cathey and William Johnson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe County

Be it remembered that on this 8<sup>th</sup> day of April 1836 personally appeared before me Elisha Kirklen an acting justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Joshua Dover, the same person who made the accompanying declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832 for the relief of revolutionary soldiers and in amendment of his said declaration, and in addition to the facts therein stated, after being by me first duly sworn according to law deposeth and saith that to the best of his knowledge and recollection he first entered the service of the United States

in the revolutionary war in the year 1776. That his first engagement was for two years, that he was in actual service during that time under the officers, and at the places stated in his original declaration, at the end of which time he was discharged.

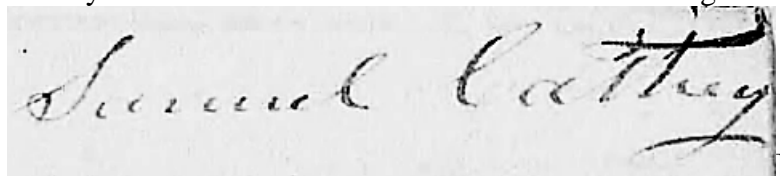
Applicant cannot from mental weakness & defective memory remember the time of each subsequent engagement in the service. He was much in the Army throughout the whole of the war – he recollects that he was in the Battle of “Briar Creek” [March 3, 1779] under Captain Drury Pace – Applicant was in the battle at the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781] in South Carolina under General Green [Nathanael Greene]. The Captain under whom he served at that place, and under whose command he was placed but a few days before, was killed in the battle – Applicant does not remember his name – This battle was fought in the latter part of the war – applicant thinks in 1780 or 1781. In the Briar Creek battle applicant received a slight gunshot wound in his right leg just above the ankle. This was a battle or skirmish with the Tories.

Subscribed & sworn to before me the date above.

S/ Elisha Kirklen, JP

S/ Joshua Dover, X his mark

[Samuel Cathey of Bledsoe County again gives testimony as to Dover's character but adds that he, Cathey was born in 1776 according to his best information and that he has known Dover for about 40 years. Cathey states that Dover “boasted of his services, Affiant often heard him recount the circumstances of his services in conversations with others who were then said to have been in the war – with Samuel Stout – a Mr. Burchfield, and with affiant's father, Archibald Cathey, who died in 1810, and who returned from the Army on one or two occasions, affiant remembers... this being in Burke County North Carolina where affiant was raised having been born in Union District South Carolina.”

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Samuel Cathey". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper. The letters are fluid and connected, with a prominent flourish at the end of the word "Cathey".