

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Durham R3135 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky Green County Sct.

On this 22nd day of January 1835 personally appeared before me Durham Sanders a Justice of the peace in and for Green County Samuel Durham a resident of said County aged 82 years the 6th day of May last 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 in the fall of the year 1776 he thinks in the month of September, in Mecklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] County State of Virginia, he was drafted for a tour of 3 months and ordered to prepare to march to Norfolk against the British who had landed there and who it was supposed would there make a stand, that he accordingly entered into service in the militia under the command of Captain William Lucas, the name of the Lieutenant he does not now recollect, the Ensign of the company was by the name of Achillis Jeffries [sic: Achilles Jeffries], and Robert Munford was the Colonel, that they rendezvoused at Mecklinburg Courthouse and from there they set out on their march for Norfolk but they had not proceeded far until information was received that the British had left Norfolk, that their Col. Munford countermanded his orders and they returned to Mecklinberg Courthouse and there this applicant received a discharge from Col. Munford for 3 months service the time for which he had been drafted, though the time he was in actual service from the time of Rendezvousing was Eleven days – that said discharge has long since been lost or mislaid.

that in the fall of the year 1778 or 1779 the year not recollected with certainty he was drafted for a tour of 3 months in Mecklinberg County Virginia and entered into Service in the militia under the command of Captain Thomas Shipp, that he marched from his residence to what was then called Bank's Old Store-houses where the Magazine was then kept; these store houses (as they were called) were situated in Mecklinberg County about half a mile from Taylor's ferry which was kept on the River Roan Oak [sic: on Roanoke River S of present Boydton] – that he was there stationed in Captain Shipp's company for the purpose of guarding the Magazine, that one James Anderson was issuing and receiving commissary during this applicant's stay at the Magazine and that arms, amunition, provisions &c for the use of the army were received and sent from there in large quantities during his service – that he served out the tour of 3 months guarding the Magazine as aforesaid, and received a discharge for 3 months service and returned home, the said discharge to the best of his recollection was given him by Captain Shipp but it has long since been lost –

that in the year 1781 while the siege at York was going on [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct]he was drafted for a tour of 3 months in Mecklinberg County Virginia, and entered into service in the militia under the command of Captain Elijah Graves, they rendezvoused at Mecklinberg Courthouse, and from there set out on their march for York Town, that 2 other Captain's companies, marched from Mecklinberg Courthouse with capt. Grave's company; that after they had marched about 30 miles from Mecklinberg Courthouse one Henry Deloney [Henry Delony], the Bullock master or commander of those who were engaged in collecting & driving beef Cattle for the use of the army, applied to the officers under whom this applicant served for one of their men to supply the place of one Simeon Roach who had been serving under the orders of said Deloney in collecting & driving beeves but who had deserted or absented himself from the service that this applicant was permitted and ordered by the officers to leave the company of Captain Graves and serve in the room of said Roach under the orders of said Deloney, that this applicant was from that time until the expiration of his term of service under the orders of said Deloney collecting and driving beef cattle for the use of the army, that he served out his tour of 3 months the time for which he had been drafted and returned home, he does not now recollect whether he received a written discharge or not, if he did it has long since been lost.

that he has no record of his age but from the information he has received he was born in Faquire [sic: Fauquire] County Virginia on the 6th day of May 1752. that when called into Service he resided in

Mecklinberg County Virginia where he lived until 1789 at which time he moved to Kentucky where he has lived ever since and for near 40 years past in Green County Kentucky where he now lives – that his service was entirely in the militia and he does not recollect that any regular officers served with the troops with whom he served, that he does not know of any person living by whom he can prove any thing farther in relation to his services than he has proven by William Taylor [pension application S31407] of Mercer County Ky, whose affidavit is hereto attached – that he is well acquainted with many persons in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution, and amongst them he names Henry Sanders, Charles Samples, William Buckner, Fantleroy Dye, Samuel Sanders & James Durham

he further states that from bodily infirmity he is unable to attend court at Greensburg (the County seat of his County) for the purpose of making out his Declaration in open court and that owing to bodily infirmity he has not been one mile from his residence for a number of years past – he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above written

Samuel hisXmark Durham

NOTE: Although Durham was actively engaged in the militia when he served as a cattle driver, the Pension Commission, James L. Edwards, decided it was not military service. The total time of Durham's service therefore fell below the six-months minimum required for a pension.