

the same. said Letter has the Post Master's Endorsement thus Belville Ten. 23 March 1839

To the Hon'l. J. P. Walds Commissioner of Pentions.

Pention office Washington City D. C

Gen The undersigned citizen of Madison County State of Mississippi most respectfully represents to our honor that he is the son of David Haley late of Roane County State of Tennessee and that the said David Haley was a soldier in the War of the Revilution and Indian wars as set forth in his letter dated the 19th of March in the year 1839 a true copy of said letter is made a part of this application and is a letter of my father David Haley addressed to me and mailed at a post office known by the name of Belfield Roan County Tennessee and bears post mark the 23 March 1839 and directed to Majr David Haley Madisonville Post Office Mississippi. (my father hear omits the letter W in my name which he almost universially did in his letters to me from the fact that the men of his day did not approve of double names)

I am not certain as to the County (in the State of Virginia my father was born in. I believe it was Halifax or some of the adjoining Counties. I have a letter from him written in the year 1839 in which he says his grandfather Edward Haley lived and raised his family in Orange County Virginia and had seven Sons and his father David was the second Son, and my father David was the only son of his father David so you see I bear the Christian name of my grandfather and father. I make this explination so that you may not be miss led as to names I know the facts set forth in my fathers letter dated 19th March 1839 as pr Copy to be correct and true having often in his life time while I was a youth heard him and those that knew the facts converse on the subject. I will hear mention the father of Gen'l. Robert Armstrong and the father of the late H L. White both of the State of Tennessee also the late Judge Cock the father of Gen'l. John Cock of Tennessee and the Hon'l. Stephen Cock of Mississippi late Chancellor of the State, and many others who I suppose have all long since passed to the grave.

I have no knowledge that my fathers name have ever been on any pention list State or National nor do I believe it ever was from a conversation I had with him not many years before his death as he did not need any money or means but what I supplied him with.

My father was born I believe in the year 1760 or there abouts in the State of Virginia, and died on the 20th September 1839 in Roan County Tennessee where he had been a citizen for many years

The undersigned is one of severl heirs of the said David Haley and prays that your honor will examin as to the services of my father as set forth in his letter to me dated the 19th March 1839, and your petitioner will for ever be a constitutional subject &c.

This 28th day of January 1854

David W. Haley

State of Mississippi Madison County

At home January 31 1854

Dear Alfred

You will hear find the true copy of my fathers letter and the endorsement of Judge Gholson on the back of each page so that the rule requiring a tape and seal over it is obviated. I have no doubt but the pension will be obtained. The question arises whether it will be as a private or an officer. he was the Capt. of a light horse company for many years that fought the Cherokee Indians and protected the front tier settlements in Grainger County East Tennessee while he was Capt. of the light horse Company he was the Commander of two stations within three miles of each other and was often engaged in persuing hostile parties of Indians that would come in the settlements near the posts and kill the people and after the guards that was placed on sentinal while others were working in the fields. I have often heard my mother in her lift time tell of the horride seans from the slaughter of the whites by the Indians, and my fathers trip to the Hanging Maws Vilage put a stop to it as that Vilage had been for a time considered as holey ground from the deceitfull friendship shown by the Chiefs to the Whites, of which treachery the Cherokees have all ways been selabrated.

I hope you will give this business your laisure attention and write to me from time to time on this and other subjects. I will in the mean time get the powers of the other heirs on this subject.

We are all well and getting on as usual [usual?]. James & the children at school are all in good health.

I have not applied for my grand father's pension but may hereafter.

Your father

D. M. Haley

PS Please see my old friend Gen'l. Robert Armstrong and get his statement as to his understanding of my father's war services

DWH

NOTES:

Patrick O'Kelley has suggested that the first engagement described by Haley was the battle at the Black Hole of Coweeco River NC, 19 Sep 1776. See O'Kelley's *Nothing but Blood and Slaughter*, Vol. 1.

David Haley appears on an account in the company of Capt. Scott with the following notation: "To Cash paid to me from the Beginning of my Inlistment to the 25 of May 1777. it being 3 months & 26 days the total sum £15.1.5"

He is also on a document as follows:

April 29, 1778

Sundry Soldiers To No 2

Capt Samuel Scott D'r. For Horses

Their Ballance Due is as Follows

David Haley to 1 Horse £7/1/3

Haley is apparently named in the following notice in the *Virginia Gazette* of 14 Nov 1777, p. 3: "DESERTED from Capt. Samuel Scott's company in the Georgia service, the following soldiers, viz.... David Haley... of Pittsylvania.... Any of the above deserters who come to Prince Edward courthouse, and deliver themselves to an officer there that will be appointed to receive them, shall be kindly received, and meet with a free pardon."

In his 31 Jan 1854 letter, David W. Haley implies that a pension might be obtained for his grandfather's service. If this grandfather was the David Haley mentioned in the letter of 28 Jan 1854, then he may have been the David Haley mentioned as follows in the pension application of Henry Marsh (W9531): "... [Marsh] went to Henry County Virginia where his mother then resided. After remaining with his mother a short time he again volunteered his services for three months [summer 1780] under Captain Cunnigam - his lieutenant's name was David Haley." In late 1778 or early 1779 David Haley, Sr. of Henry County VA (formed from Pittsylvania County in 1777) gave to David Haley, Jr. a tract of land on the south side of Smith (also called Irvine) River in Henry County. On 30 Mar 1783 David Haley, Sr. or Jr. not stated, sold the land on Irvine River where he then lived. On 25 Sep 1783 David Haley sold 600 acres then in Henry County (in Franklin County since 1786) on the north side of Smith River opposite the mouth of Bowen Creek, with his wife Ester relinquishing dower rights. On 17 Nov 1783 Davy Haley, Jr. sold 50 acres on the south side of Smith River.

In a letter dated 10 Apr 1854 David W. Haley wrote, "By reference to my family register of marriages and deaths it appears that he was married to my mother Elizabeth Graves of the State of Virginia on the 18 day of December seventeen hundred and eighty three (1783) that he died on the 20th day of September 1839 in Roane County State of Tennessee, and his birth appears to have been on 5th day of October 1760. My mother was born on the 7th day of May 1767 and died on the 16th day of March 1815 in the same County and State that my father did. I have now living in Tusculumbia Alabama one brother Robert K Haley or was a live some months since. I have one sister living in the State of Texas Malinda G. Coffee the wife of General Thomas J. Coffee or was a live some months since. This brother and sister and my self are all the surviving children of my father David and my mother Elizabeth Haley"

The file contains letters by A. G. Haley referring to the application by his father, David W. Haley, for a pension for his grandfather's service.