

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Matthew Duke S1199 VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky

Clarke [sic: Clark] County Sct

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of May in the year 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Clarke County Court now sitting matthew Duke aged seventy five years next July a resident of Clarke County and State of Kentucky 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That sometime in the year 1777 he was drafted for the period of three months in a Company of Militia commanded by Captain Charles Morrow. Said company was raised in Berkley [sic: Berkeley] County Virginia where he then resided. He served said tour of three months and was discharged a few weeks before Christmas of said year. He was marched through Little york [York PA] and Lancaster, and Germantown. He joined the army commanded by General Washington. The regiment he was in was commanded by Col. [Philip] Pendleton. It was near Germantown that he joined Washington's army. He does not recollect whether or not he got a written discharge. If he did he has lost it.

The next tour he was drafted as a militia man in a company commanded by Captain Cuthbert Anderson – our major was named Stubblefield. The Company was raised in the same County in Virginia. And we were marched to South Carolina, we joined Green's [sic: Nathanael Greene's] army at a place called the Cheraw hills [SC]. It was in the latter part of the year 1780 that he was marched towards the Carolinas, and he remained with Green's army near the Cheraw Hill, during a considerable part of the winter. He was comanded by General [Edward] Stevens, that is the militia to which he belonged was commanded by him. After the battle of the Cowpens in the Beginning of the year 1781 in which battle the enemy under Tarlton were defeated by Morgan [defeat of Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton by Gen. Daniel Morgan, 17 Jan 1781], he was employed to guard part of the prisoners to Albemarle Barracks [4 mi NNE of Charlottesville VA], and he was there dismissed by his captain he thinks he got no discharge. If he did he has lost it. He served that time three months.


Afterwards in the year 1781 he volunteered in a company of horsemen raised by Captain Anderson. the Lieutenant was named Robert Throgmorton. We were practiced and drilled six weeks, and were about to march to the army at little York [Yorktown VA], but hearing that Cornwallis surrendered [19 Oct] we were dismissed and returned home – without any discharge in writing

He states that his whole service during the revolutionary war was seven months and one half. He states that he recollects Captain John Lemmon [probably John Lemon whose company was from West Augusta District] of the regular service during the time he was in Washingtons army, he does not recollect any of the other regular officers. He recollects Col [Henry] Lee being a short time with Greens army at the Cheraw hill. He has no documentary evidence of his service, and he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service

He states that he was born in the year 1758 in Berkley County [formed from Frederick County in 1772] Virginia. He has no record of his age, though he has seen one that his father had. He lived in Berkley County Virginia as well as he recollects in the year 1792 and has lived in Clarke County Kentucky ever since. He is known in his present neighborhood to Daniel Lary John Rennin, James Rennin, and Isaac Cunningham who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution

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.

Sworn to and subscribed, the day and year aforesaid

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Matthew Duke". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some loops and flourishes characteristic of the late 18th or early 19th century.