

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of James Davenport S12725

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

Fayette County    }

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court before the worshipful justices of the County Court of Fayette now sitting James Davenport, a resident of said county, aged 90 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 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he was born in Louisa County Virginia and is now 90 years old, that he had a record of his age in an old pocket book, which he lost not long since, whilst living on Eagle creek; that he resided in Spottsylvania [sic: Spotsylvania] county Virginia, at one time when he was called into the service, and in nearly all his tours he went from that county; also once from Hanover county. That since the Revolution he has resided in Kentucky, where he now lives in Fayette County.

He entered the Service in the Revolutionary war from Spottsylvania county as a volunteer minute man in 1775 and marched to the Rappahannock seven miles below Fredericksburg. Col. William Washington he thinks was there. He served two months then. He served a tour of three months under Capt. [John] Craig at Williamsburg and afterwards a six months tour commanded by Col [Sampson] Matthews, during which time he was in a skirmish with the British guard. Major Armistead beat up for 100 volunteers for that purpose, and I was one. We had two men killed and one wounded, and he believes the British lost 7 or 8 killed. This was as he thinks in 1776.

In 1777 & 1778 he served eight months, part of the time under Col [William] Dandridge, in Capt Andersons company from Hanover. They were called the relief men, and were relieved every forty days. He served two years at a time, and all together 3 or 4 tours; he served also at Norfolk & Portsmouth under Capt. Dozel [sic: James Doswell] of Hanover during that time.

In the year in which [Gen. Horatio] Gates was defeated at Camden, S. C. [Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780] he marched from Spottsylvania in Capt. Thos. Minors [Thomas Minor's] company who resigned at Hillsborough N.C. and returned home, when Capt. John Holladay took command. The company was in Col. George Stubblefields regiment, and crossed James river at Richmond and marched to the South, and was in Gates' defeat, in which his captain, Holladay was killed. He returned home he thinks about October in that year.

In 1781 he served a tour of three months at Williamsburg, and after returning home, he thinks about June he joined General Lafayette's army under Capt. Minor, and marched under his command until finally it arrived before York, where he remained in service until the surrender of the British army, which was on the 17<sup>th</sup> of october 1781 [formally the 19<sup>th</sup>]. He served in all two years and about eleven months, as he believes. In all his services, he was either a volunteer or draft, and never received a discharge, nor has he any documents to prove his service, nor does he know of any living witnesses who are within reach, except the testimony of John [John Graves, pension application W3014] & James Graves [S13212], annexed hereto.

For his character and standing he refers to William Fisher, Henry James and Martin Sidnor, who are his near neighbours. There is no minister of the gospel living in his vicinity.

He was acquainted with many officers during his Service by sight, among others General Washington, Lafayette, and Cols. Dark [William Darke], [Burgess] Ball, [Thomas] Gaskins, & [James] Innis, & General Gates, besides those whom he has already named.

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                      [signed] James Davenport