

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Josiah Dickson S16765 VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 May 2015.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Kentucky Counties]

To the Honorable the Assembly of Virginia The Petition of Joseph Dixon Humbly Sheweth  
That your Petitioner was engaged in the Public service in the fall of the year 1776 in Guarding a Quantity of Public Powder from Fort Pitt to Harrodsburgh [sic: Harrodsburg KY]. That on the 25<sup>th</sup> December in said year and while on said Duty he was taken prisoner by the Shawnese [Shawnee] Indians, in which Captivity he suffered incredible hardships and underwent a variety of Cruelties as will appear by the Certificates which accompany this [not found]. That he was not released nor returned to his friends and fellow Citizens 'till the 13<sup>th</sup> March last past, during all which time no proviswion was made for his subsistance, nor has he ever received any pay or other recompence for his services and sufferings, but the charity of the humane.

Your Petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Honorable body would take his Distressed Situation into your wise consideration and order him such redress of other Recompense as to your Honors may seem meet and your Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever Pray &ca. &ca.  
Jefferson County/ October 10<sup>th</sup> 1785 Josiah Dixon

Engaged 25<sup>th</sup> Novem. 1776 – made Prisoner 25 Dec'r. follow'g.} ret'd. Mar 13<sup>th</sup> 1785.

dec'r 7<sup>th</sup> 1786 ref'd to Claims/ Allowed soldier from the time made a prisoner 'til the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 1785.

[The following are from the federal pension file.]

State of Missouri } Ss  
County of Cooper }

On this [blank] day of [blank] in the year A.D. 1832 personally appeared before the Judge of the Circuit Court within and for the County of Cooper aforesaid now sitting, Josiah Dickson a resident of Boonville Township in the County of Cooper and State of Missouri aforesaid aged eighty years in the month of April last who being duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress, passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1775 with Capt. Butler and served in Col. Neville's [John Nevill's] Regiment under the following named officers, towit, Captain Pressley Neville [sic: Presley Nevill] and Colo. Neville, the others I have forgotten, having been exchanged from Capt. Butlers to Capt Neville's Company and that he entered the service in westmoreland County State of Virginia from whence he marched to Pittsburgh then in the State of Virginia – where he remained untill the fall season of the year 1776, when he engaged with General George R. Clark [George Rogers Clark, VAS269] to descend the Ohio River in order to guard Powder and safely convey the same to the settlers of Kentucky and while engaged in this expedition that he together with Joseph Rogers was taken prisoner by the Shawnee Indians by whom he was kept upwards of twelve months and by them taken afterwards to Detroit where he remained a prisoner about six months when he together with others on account of suspicion being entertained against them of making their escape and carrying intelligence to General Clark of Governor Hamiltons [Henry Hamilton's] expedition, they were sent bound in Irons and sent to Montreal and from thence Quebeck [sic: Quebec] and there continued a prisoner with the British During the Revolutionary War and was discharged at the close of the war at Liverpool in England in the year 1783 of which captivity this applicant has in his possession Certificates signed by Dan'l. Boone [Daniel Boone] and General George R. Clark and he says that said certificates were each signed to his own knowledge by said persons in words & figures following, towit "Feyatt [sic: Fayette] County Sep't. the 20<sup>th</sup> 1785.

this is to certify that on Februry the 7<sup>th</sup> 1778 I was taken prisoner by a party of Shawnee Indians who conducted me to detroit where was a certen Josiah Dixson who was taken at the time John Gabriel Jones was kild in the year 1776 and had purchased his freedom from the Indians, and then in Detroit a prisoner with the British and was afterwards informed by three prisoners of note that left that Post at different time to wit Wm Brook [William Brooks] Bartlatt Searcy [sic: Bartlet Searcy] and Nathaniel Bullock, that the said Dickson and James Callaway [pension application W9771] a young man taken with me was taken on suspicion of making their escape and bringing us intelligence of Governor Hamiltans expedition against Opost [Fort Sackville at Vincennes IN] & Kentucky Country, confined with Irons and sent down to Quebeck and remained in captivity during the war, Given under my hand this day and date above written.

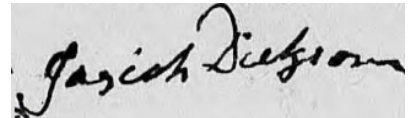
Dan'l. Boon C. Lt. [County Lieutenant]

I certify that Josiah Dickson was employed by me in the fall of the year 1776 to assist in conducting & guarding a quantity of public powder belonging to the State of Virginia from Fort Pitt to Harradsburgh while in this service he was taken prisoner that he not received any pay from me for his service and as it appears he suffered considerably and continued a long time a prisoner I therefore recommend him to Government as a person worthy to be paid for his services &c Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 1785

G R Clark

He annexes hereto, his copy in his possession [see endnote], the originals have been lost to him by placing them in an agents hands to procure some pay for his services which he never received

That applicant 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 any agency or state

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Josiah Dickson". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a small flourish at the end of the name.

NOTE: A transcription of Dickson's copy of certificates by Boone and Clark is in my transcription of the pension application W9771 of James Callaway.