

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Jesse (Jessee) Duncan S16774

f77NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 9/23/09 & 10/5/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[Note: The following document (in italics) is found in Law Order Book 6, page 31 of the Russell County Virginia court records and is not contained in the federal pension file relating to this veteran. All other documents transcribed herein do come from the federal pension files.]

May 5, 1818

Jessee Duncan who resides in the County of Russell in the State of Virginia, wishing to become a pensioner pursuant to the Provisions of an Act of Congress of the United States, passed on the 18th day of March, 1818, entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War," personally appeared in Court, and declared on oath that he enlisted with the Troops of the State of North Carolina as a private soldier in the United States service about the year 1778 under Colo. James Sanders and Captain Robert Moore, he was enlisted for nine months, but served about eleven. He was in the service and at the battle fought on Briar Creek [March 3, 1779], General Ash [John Ashe] commanded. He was at the siege of Charleston [May 12, 1780, Charleston was surrendered to the British under the command of Sir Henry Clinton] where General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] sometimes commanded. He was discharged in the state of South Carolina, but, by what officer he did not recollect.

The said Jessee Duncan also produced in Court, and which was read as evidence to his claim for a pension under the act aforesaid an affidavit of an aged and infirm person, who was unable personally to come into Court, in the following words and figures, to-wit: "Russell County, Virginia, May the 5, 1818, came William Paskel before me Francis Browning a justice for said County, and made oath that Jessee Duncan enlisted in the service of the United States in the Troops of North Carolina for the term of nine months, and was in the service the year that the battle was at Briar Creek in Georgia, and did serve his time out, and that said Duncan is in low circumstances and has no living to support him, and further saith not. Given under my hand this 5th day of May, 1818, Francis Browning", which said affiant the Court believes to be a person of truth. And from the knowledge which some of the members of the Court themselves have, as well as from the satisfactory evidence, the Court are unanimously of opinion, and do hereby certify, that the said Jessee Duncan is a person of credit as a witness; that it was generally understood in the neighbourhood of the residence of the said Jessee Duncan previous to the passage of the said Act of Congress that the said Jessee Duncan had served in the Revolutionary War, and that the said Jessee Duncan is in

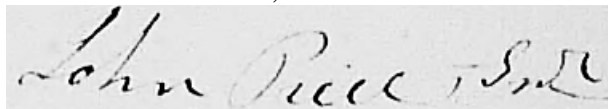
such reduced circumstances in life, as to need assistance from his country for support. All which is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of the Department of War.]

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State of Tennessee Greene County

This day personally appeared before me Hugh Malony an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid John Price Senior¹ of said County who being of lawful age and first duly sworn on the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, deposes and saith that he has been acquainted with one Jesse Duncan formerly of the State of North Carolina, but who many years ago removed to Virginia, that the said Jesse Duncan enlisted in the North Carolina Line of 9 months new Levies during the Revolutionary War, he thinks in the year 1778 under Captain William Lytle in the 7th Regiment commanded by Colonel Thaxton and Lieutenant [Colonel] Archibald Lytle, that the said Duncan serve for the space of 9 months and longer as this Deponent thinks, that he saw the said Duncan be it and Honorable Discharge signed by Colonel Lytle which Discharge was given him some part of the State of South Carolina, at where this Deponent does not at present recollect.

S/ John Price, Senior

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Price, Senior". The ink is dark and the paper appears slightly aged.

[Attested February 28, 1828]

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Virginia Washington County

On this first day of February 1829 personally appeared in open Court, being a court of record for the said County of Washington in the State of Virginia, Jesse Duncan now a resident of said County, aged seventy-four years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of Congress of the 18th March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820, that he the said Jesse Duncan enlisted for the term of nine months -- in the month of April 1778 in the State of North Carolina in a Company commanded by Captain William Lytle in the 7th Regiment of the North Carolina line commanded by Colonel Thaxton [sic, James Thackston] on Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in the said Corps and in the other Corps until sometime in 1779 when he was discharged by Colonel Lytle in the State of South Carolina, from service, that he was in the battle of Stono and in sundry skirmishes in South Carolina: that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State, except North Carolina; and that the following all the reasons for his application for a pension at this late period: -- Until within about 4 years past he was able to labor, and although extremely poor was enabled by that labor to obtain a support. When he became unable to support himself by labor he made various attempts to procure proof of his service and to make such a declaration in form as the wall required, but from his own ignorance and the want of skill in those to whom he applied he has hitherto been unable to succeed. After walking many hundreds of miles he at last found John Price the Sergeant who commanded him and from him obtain the affidavit which accompanies this declaration. And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I

¹ This is probably [John Price R8474](#)

was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income income whatsoever; That since the 18th of March 1818 no change has taken place in my circumstances having had been no property except my little wearing apparel and all I have been able to make sense has been sufficient to clothed me.

S/ Jesse Duncan, X his mark

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State of North Carolina Secretary's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid do hereby certify, that, it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State that Jesse Duncan a private in Captain Reed's company of the 1st Regiment enlisted on the ___ day of May 1776 for 2 1/2 years, and was discharged on the 28th day of May 1779. This is the only place where the name of Jesse Duncan is found on said Rolls.

Given under my hand at Office in Raleigh this 31st May 1826

S/ Wm Hill

Thomas Donoho was Commissioned Captain on the 10th September 1776, Major 13th of October 1781, and deranged 1st January 1783.

I do not find the name of Robert Moore as an officer of the revolutionary Army on the rolls -- Dempsey Moore was Lieutenant in Captain Donoho's company of the 6th Regiment commission 28th of October 1776. John Moore Lieutenant 7th Regiment 28th of November 1776 in Captain Eli's Company -- Elijah Moore was Lieutenant 12 October 1777 Captain 13th of October 1781, Deranged 1st January 1783. -- Gillon 31st May 1826.

S/ Wm Hill

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Raleigh North Carolina 4th of April 1829

Sir

I have carefully examined the muster rolls in the Office of Secretary of State for the name of Jesse Duncan a revolutionary Soldier, and find a Soldier of that name enlisted in May 1776 for 2 1/2 years and was discharged in May 1779. He was of Captain Reid's company of the 1st Regiment.

This differs very materially from the Declaration of Jesse Duncan accompanying your letter of the 31st Ultimo, but from his having sold and conveyed the Warrant issued for his services to Colonel Charles Robeson of Washington City then in this State, but now of the State of Tennessee, and which I believe joined to Washington County in Virginia, I am induced to think that he is the same person, and that his memory being bad he has been dead and era by the Deposition of John Price.

The name of Jesse Duncan is found but once on the rolls in this Office.

Very respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

S/ Wm Hill

[p 10]

State of Indiana, Rush County: In the Rush Circuit Court September term A. D. 1832

On this 2nd day of September A. D. 1832, personally appeared before the Judges of the said Rush Circuit Court now sitting in & for the County aforesaid in the sixth Judicial Circuit of the state aforesaid, Jesse Duncan, a resident of Noble Township in the said County of Rush and State of Indiana, aged about seventy eight 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 provision made by the act of congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1778 as he thinks in the month of April in the company commanded by Capt. Robert Moore; and served in the seventh Regiment of the North Carolina line under the following named officers to wit: after he was enlisted by the said Capt Moore, he (Moore) marched the company to South Carolina, to the main army commanded by Genl. Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. That Col. Saunders, he thinks, commanded the regiment in North Carolina; he however thinks Col. Saunders, was only a militia officer, or at least took no further command than to superintend the enlistments. That Major (afterwards Col) Donouho [sic, Thomas Donoho?] was Major of the regiment to which this applicant was attached in South Carolina. That the Colonel was Archibald Lytle. That Capt. Moore as soon as he marched their company to the army under the command of Genl. Lincoln, returned and this applicant states that according to the best of his recollection, the company was put under the command of a Capt. Moore, not however the Capt. Moore under whom he enlisted, and that Rutherford was the Lieutenant of said company. That he enlisted in Caswell County in the state of North Carolina. That he was marched into Halifax, Virginia for the purpose of joining the Northern Army under the command of Genl. Washington, but were ordered back to South Carolina, and marched thither by the way of Caswell County, to the Widow Fifer's mill on Deep River, North Carolina to what was called the ten mile house, ten miles from Charleston, South Carolina, from thence to Augusta, and crossed the Savannah River. That he was in the Battle of Brier [sic, Briar] Creek under the command of Genl. Ash [sic, John Ashe] in Georgia. That afterwards he returned to South Carolina, and was in the battle of Stono under the command of Genl. Lincoln. That he enlisted for nine months, but served according to the best of his recollection about two months over his time. That he was discharged in South Carolina – Col. Lytle discharged the Regiment. He hereby relinquishes any claim whatever to pension or an annuity, accept 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. \ Sworn and subscribed to in open court before me,

S/ Jesse Duncan, X his mark

Robert Thompson, Clerk

[p 25: Application for a transfer of pension benefits filed December 29, 1835 in Russell County Virginia in which the veteran request the transfer of his pension benefits to the Virginia agency from the Indiana agency saying that he is now a resident of Virginia and intends to remain because he prefers living in Virginia to living in Indiana and that he has children in both states. He signed this document with his mark.]

[p 12]

Application for a Transfer

State of Kentucky, Floyd County: to wit

On this 13th day of April 1839 before me the Subscriber, a Justice of the peace for the said County of Floyd, Personally appeared Jessie Duncan, who on his oath declared – That he is the same person who formerly belonged to a company Commanded by Captain ___ Moore, in the Regiment Commanded by Colonel Archibald Litell [sic, Archibald Lytle] in the service of the United States, that his name was placed on the Pension roll of the State of Indiana, from whence he removed to the State of Virginia, he produces a transfer to that office, bearing date 27th of February 1833 – to take effect from and after the 4th September 1835, that he now resides in the State of Kentucky, where he intends to remain, and wishes his pension to be there payable in future, the following are his reasons for removing from Indiana to Virginia, his children residing there and wishing to be with them.

The following are his reasons for removing from Virginia to Kentucky, that he has grandchildren in Kentucky with whom he wishes to live, that he has removed to Kentucky where he now resides, and intends to remain during his natural life, that he has not Drawn any money due since 4 March 1837.

S/Jessie Duncan, X. his mark

Sworn to and subscribed to before me the day and year above written.

S/John B. Burnett, JPFC

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the North Carolina militia.]

[p 3: last pension pay voucher:

Madison, *Jan 21* 18*38*.

RECEIVED of J. F. D. LANIER, Agent for paying Pensions, *Twelve 78/100*

Dollars, being for *5 5/30* months' Pension due to *Jessie Duncan, deced*

from the *4* day of *Sept* 18*47* to the *9* day of *February* 18*48*.

for which I have signed Duplicate Receipts.

WITNESS:

William J. Roache
Attor. of Jessie Duncan decd
by W. Hendricks to his atty

12 DOLLARS *78*. CENTS.