

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Dalton S1755
Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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.]

State of Tennessee, Bledsoe, County

On this eleventh day of February 1833 personally appeared in open court before the worshipful Justices & the County Court of Bledsoe County, now setting John Dalton a resident of Bledsoe County and State of Tennessee, 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 benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of this United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated -- That he entered the service of the United States in the spring of the year 1778 as a drafted militia man in Albemarle County State of Virginia in the Company commanded by Captain William Simms, Lieutenant William Flint & William Dowell ensign -- He was stationed at the Albemarle Barracks to guard Burgoyne's prisoners -- He remained there a tour of two months under the above officers & was then discharged -- Captain Garland Burley [Garland Burnley] had the command at the Barracks -- In the latter part of the year 1778 or 1779 -- he again entered the service in Albemarle County commanded by the same officers as above -- The Captain (Simms) being this declarant's father in law under whom he served another term of two months at Albemarle barracks guarding the prisoners -- and was again at the end of the two months discharged. During the second tour declarant was a drafted militia man having been called out according to his number in the company --

After this second tour declarant cannot recollect the year -- a call was made upon the militia to go to Norfolk where the British had just landed -- (which occurrence to wit the landing of the British at Norfolk will fix the period of the third tour-) Declarant again entered the service in Albemarle under the same officers to wit Captain Simms, Lieutenant Flint and Ensign Dowell -- He marched from Albemarle to Richmond -- from Richmond to Mooney's Fort on James River -- From Mooney's Fort to Cabin Point -- & was there stationed -- Col. Quarles [probably Col. James Quarles] having the command -- until the British left Norfolk as he understood -- from Cabin Point he was marched back to Richmond where he was discharged -- having this tour served three months-

In June 1781 he again entered the service in Albemarle County under the same officers as before -- to wit Capt. Simms - Lieutenant Flint and Ensign Dowell & marched through Louisa, Goochland, Richmond & Hanover Counties -- in the latter county he was in a slight skirmish with Tarleton [Banastre Tarleton] at Wash's long lane -- thence he marched through Spotsylvania & Orange Counties crossing the Rapid Dan [sic, Rapidan] River into Culpeper County where he was stationed about two & a half weeks --. Cornwallis having then turned his course south -- declarant with those with him marched after him, to wit Cornwallis, through Orange, Albemarle, Louisa, Goochland & Richmond Counties from thence through the different counties to old James Town on the south side of James River, there declarant was in another skirmish with the British in which three of declarant's messmates were taken prisoner -- not much damage was done on either side the skirmish being with a scouting party of the British -- Declarant then was marched towards Little York -- but in a few days the

relief came and he was discharged having served three months this tour as a Sergeant in Captain Simm's company -- during this latter tour declarant was attached to a company of four hundred privates besides the officers -- who formed a company or detachment of light infantry under the command of Col. Duvall - Major Bass & Major Allen who was placed as a rear guard marching between the American and British Armies -- this was the rear guard to Lafayette's Army, and in which declarant acted as a Sergeant as above stated,

The last above tour terminated declarant's services. He omitted to state that in the last tour but one mentioned before -- which was a three months tour, he was a sergeant in Captain Simm's company - He served four months as a private & six months as a Sergeant -- making his service in all ten months -- He mentions the fact of his having been a sergeant not knowing whether it will vary the amount of his pension should he be found entitled to one -- He has no documentary evidence of his service nor does he know of any person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to it.

He states that he was born in Albemarle County State of Virginia on the 3rd day of October 1758 -- That he has no record of his age -- but has the account given by his parents & believe it true -- He has seen a record of his age kept by his Uncle William Grant, but which he understands was destroyed or carried off by the Indians who killed two of Grant's family & plundered his home in North Carolina about the year 1782.

He lived in Albemarle County, Virginia when called into service & continued to reside there during the whole war -- in the same company of men and under the same officers -- from there he moved to Rutherford County North Carolina sometime after the war, how long he does not recollect -- where he resided about twenty years -- from Rutherford County North Carolina he moved to this (Bledsoe) county State of Tennessee where he has resided over sixteen years and still resides--

He supposed he was drafted -- the men of his company were classed & numbered and called out in turn -- He was the first man in the first division which the list will show if it can be found -

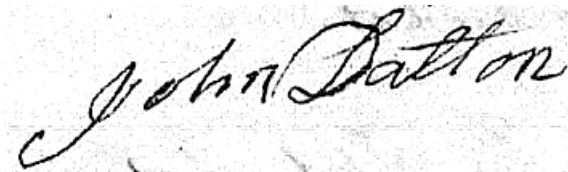
He has given the names of his officers & the guard circumstances of his services.

He never received a written discharge from the service -- when his tours were out he was told he was dismissed & went home.

He states that he is known in his present neighbourhood to George Real, a clergyman, Eli Thurman, Esquire sheriff of Bledsoe County, John Bridgmon a merchant of Pikeville and James A. Whiteside ~~attorney at law~~ who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

He hereby relinquishes any 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.

S/ John Dalton

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Dalton". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored, slightly textured paper.

Sworn to & Subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[George Real, a clergyman, Eli Thurman and James A. Whiteside gave the standard supporting affidavit]

[Veteran died September 15, 1836.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$43.33 Per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private for 4 months and as a Sgt. for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]