

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Richard Davenport S17914

VA

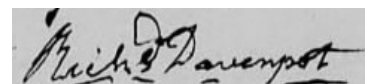
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 27 June 2013.

Virginia – County of Charlotte to wit:

On this 11th day of October 1832, personally appeared before me Edwin Price a Justice of the peace for the County aforesaid, Richard Davenport, a resident of the County of Charlotte and State of Virginia, aged 82 years and nearly nine months, 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 was born in the County of Hanover on the 14th of January 1750 according to a register in his possession. He removed to the county of Buckingham and afterwards to the County of Charlotte, where he has resided ever since. that he thinks he was about 20 years of age when he settled in the county of Charlotte. He was drafted in the militia in the month of June 1780, and was made a Serjeant in the company of Capt Thomas Williams and first marched to Hillsborough in North Carolina, where he remained for some time. Orders were there received that the Troops stationed at Hillsborough should be marched in the direction of Camden [South Carolina], and accordingly the Company of Capt Williams to which he was attached, by forced marches were enabled to reach the neighborhood of Camden just before the battle was fought [16 Aug 1780]. He was engaged in the battle at Camden, and was under the command of General [Edward] Stevens, but received no personal injury. Several balls passed through his cloathing and his knapsack was cut from his back by a ball and finally lost. He recollects very distinctly that General [Horatio] Gates, Baron de Kalb, and General Stevens were commanding officers on that occasion. He was discharged sometime in December following, and received a regular discharge. His discharge was retained by him for a number of years and shown to a number of his friends and acquaintances, but supposing it would never be of service to him, at last committed it and a number of other papers relating to the service, to the flames. As evidence of his service in the South, he refers to the certificate of Benjamin Marshall herewith enclosed, who was with him in the battle of Camden. On his return from the South after the defeat of General Gates, he was promoted and made ensign, and was drafted again in the militia. He does not recollect the day or month at this time. He knows he received a commission and retained it for many years, but thinks it was destroyed with his other papers relating to the Revolutionary War. Capt Gideon Spencer was Captain of the Company to which he was attached. He then marched directly on to Little York [Yorktown VA] and was engaged in active service and witnessed the firing of the first Cannon from the American batteries [9 Oct 1781]. He received no wound, but had his hat knocked off by the balls several times. He was present on the occasion of the surrender of the British forces and witnessed their marching out and grounding their arms [19 Oct 1781]. He knows Gov'r [Thomas] Nelson, and saw the Marquis De la Fayette [Lafayette] and Gen'l. Washington as officers commanding on that occasion. After the surrender of Cornwallis, he marched to Williamsburg and was stationed as guard over prisoners where he remained some time. Upon leaving Williamsburg, he received a regular discharge, which discharge he retained for some years, but unfortunately was destroyed with his other papers relating to the service. As evidence of his service as Ensign in the Revolutionary War, he refers to the Certificate of Thomas North who was with him in the service and which certificate is herewith enclosed. In conclusion he thinks his whole term of service during the Revolutionary War exceeds twelve months, but the exact term of service he is not able to determine.

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.



NOTES:

On 6 Aug 1832 Benjamin Marshall, pension application S5728, certified that he had served with Sgt. Richard Davenport at the time of the Battle of Camden. On 4 Oct 1833 Thomas North, pension application S9442, certified that he had been a Sergeant under Ensign Richard Davenport at the siege of Yorktown.

On 11 Sep 1833 Reuben Harris stated that Richard Davenport had died on 7 May 1833 leaving a widow, Rebecca Davenport, and several children, some living in Virginia and some believed to be living in Kentucky. Two of Richard Davenport's Executors were Martin W. davenport and Putnam North.