

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Griffeth Dickenson S20896

GA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 29 Aug 2014.

State of Virginia }
Pittsylvania County } Sct.

On this 15th day of April 1833 personally appeared in open Court of said County and State of Virginia now sitting Griffeth Dickenson Sen'r. a resident of said County aged 75 years the 8 day of August 1832 (agreeable to the register of said deponent's Father) 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 7th 1832

That he enlisted the Army of the United States as a Musician for three years on the 26th day of October in the year 1776 under Capt. Tho's. Scott [Thomas Scott], Wm Scott [William Scott] Lieut. & Nathan Abbot Ensign in the County of Hanover and State of Virginia in the first Company of the 3rd. Battallion of the troops enlisted in Virginia whose destination was to March to the South. the said Company not being completed till about the 1st of Jany 1777 – He then marched to the South by Hillsburg [sic: Hillsborough] N. Carolina, Camden S Carolina and then to Savannah town Georgia where he joined the other Companies of said Battalion. Colo. [Samuel] Elbert, Lieut. Colo. Ray [sic: Robert Rae], and Maj'r. J. [Joseph] Lane commanded said Battalion. He with a detachment marched to the Altamaha River to Garrison a Fort [Fort Howe]. there he was detached down said River to Frederica Island [18 Apr 1778] which lies at the confluence of said River under the command of Maj'r. Lane. he with said detachment captured three British Vessels [the *Hinchinbrook*, *Rebecca*, and *Galatea*] which was said to richly Laden with Articles for the fort at St. Augustine (he never rec'd. a cent of the Prize Money) – Some time after this he with others was garrisoning a fort near Sunbury town [Fort Morris, early Jan 1779] in Georgia at the Confluence of Ogeeche [sic: Ogeechee] River (Maj'r. Lane in command), where he was drafted by lot to go on board one of the American Gallies and continued on board about four Months. Capt [illegible] commanded the vessel[?] he was on board when the British fleet came up to Savannah Town. After firing on them one time the Gallies retreated up the River carrying a French Schooner before us Laden with ammunition & landed at a village in S. Carolina called Purisburg [sic: Purysburg] from thence he was marched up the Country in South Carolina till he arrived opposite Augusta Towne in Georgia. the British Army occupied the Towne [since 3 Feb 1779] there he with others volunteered under the command of Colo. [John] McIntosh and captured a fort the Tories and British were building 20 or 30 Miles below Augusta in Georgia [see endnote]. he was on the Baggage Guard when the Battle was fought at Brier Creek [sic: Briar Creek GA, 3 Mar 1779]. in this Battle Gen'l. Nash [sic: John Ashe] of the Militia of N. Carolina commanded, then the British Army crossed Savanna River and marched toward Charlestown in S. Carolina and halted at Stono River, Gen'l [Benjamin] Lincoln in Command with a reinforcement from Virginia a battle was there fought [Battle of Stono Ferry, 20 Jun 1779]. He was not in the Battle being in Camp sick. from thence he was marched to Augusta Town in Georgia to guard a number of Tory Prisoners. While at that place his time of enlistment expired and he was discharged by Lieut. Colo. Joseph Pannill on the 3rd day of November 1779 as a Corporal in which Capacity he acted the most of the time while in the Services, towit, three Months as a Fifer & 33 Months as a Corporal. he sent his original discharge and the affidavit of Terry McHaney [pension application S38185] who served with him the whole three years to Richmond Virginia in order to obtain a certificate for the Land promised him by his Country. Coppies both of his discharges and affidavit certified by Wm. H. Richardson Clerk of the Council of Virginia are herewith annexed, the original being filed in the proper Department at Richmond Virginia. He having obtained a warrant for 200 acres of Land No. 7304 signed by Wm. Seldon Register of the Land Office of Virginia and dated 12 of Febr 1838. He served as a volunteer in the Militia in the Guilford expedition about 4 weeks [presumably including the time of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] and he served in the Militia at York Town Virginia till

Cornwallis and the British Army surrendered [19 Oct 1781]. He further states he has been a resident of Pittsylvania County Virginia more than forty years and is acquainted in this section of Country with Nath'l Claiborne, Thomas Davenport members of Congress, Wm. Swanson & Vincent Witcher Delegates from Pittsylvania County to the Legislature, also to his near neighbours Walter Coles, Jno Coles, William Smith, Tho. H. Wooding &c. &c. all of who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. Terry McHaney is the only living Witness he knows of to testify as to his services in the Revolutionary War. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency in any State except the present. Sworn to and Subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

Griffeth Dickenson Sen'r

[The following are in [bounty-land records of the Library of Virginia](#). The online images of the first two documents are illegible. The transcriptions are from clearer copies in the federal pension file.]

I certifie that Griffeth Dickenson a Corporal in the 3rd Regiment has Delivered up his arms &c Viz't one Gun, 1 Catrige box

Augusta Nov'r 3^d 1779/ John Knight Serg't in the 1st G.B. [Georgia Brigade]

Griffeth Dickenson a Corporal in the 3^d Georgia Continental Regiment is hereby Discharged the service he having served his Country faithfully During the time of his Inlistment and therefor is Intitled to all the bounty and Imoluments promised by his Country.

Given under my hand at Augusta in Georgia the 5th Day of November 1779

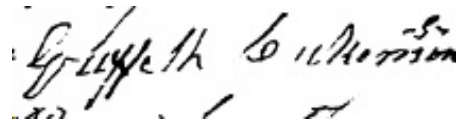
Jos Pannill Lieut Colo.

To all whom it may Concern Jan'y 23rd 1833

I Griffeth Dickenson Sen'r of Pitts'a. County Virg'a. doth hereby Solemnly testify that he Inlisted in the Revolutionary Army for three years in the County of Hanover and State of Virg'a on the 26th day of Octo in the year 1776 under Capt. Thos. Scott & in the year 1777 in February or March was transfer'd to the South and was march to Savana Town in Georgia and in that State & in South Carolina he serv'd dureing the term of his Inlistment

Sworn to before me a Justice of the Peace for the Pittsylvania Co. Va. this 23rd January 1833

Wm. L. Pannill



I Terry McHaney of the County of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia do hereby Certify and Solemnly Swear that I enlisted with Lieut Gideon Booker and served Three years as a Soldier in the Revolutionary War, that I am now on the Pension Roll of the United States, and that Griffeth Dickenson was a Regular Soldier with me and attached to the 3rd Regiment for three years the whole Term for which he enlisted and I believe that the said Griffeth Dickenson now a resident of the County aforesaid was honorably discharged.

Given under my hand & seal this 26th day of July 1832 Terry hisXmark McHaney

NOTES:

Daniel Battle suggests that the "fort" captured while under construction was at Parris Mills on Brier Creek. "My understanding is around the time of Campbell's withdraw out of Augusta (about the 16th -20th of Feb) the tories had constructed a wooden enclosure with mud/earthen walls at this bridge crossing. Several Tories were killed and captured and it appeared the bridge was taken up? and not burned." Mr. Battle notes that the same incident is referred to by Benjamin Hatcher W21275: "This force

in its retreat was followed by the Detachment above mentioned under Col. Hammond, including Captain Hatcher and his Command; which said Detachment attacked and captured a body of British and Tories, and a Stockade Fort at Paris's Mills on Brier Creek, between forty and fifty miles below Augusta.”

Terry McHaney’s pension application refers to “Rev. Griffith Dickenson.” A note in the federal file requests that the pension certificate be forwarded to Griffeth Dickenson at Chalk Level in Pittsylvania County.