

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Hezekiah Davis S32211

f26SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/29/10: rev'd 4/9/20

[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 Illinois Jackson County } SS

On this 5th day of September A.D. 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before the County Commissioners Court of Jackson County now sitting Hezekiah Davis Senior a resident of Jackson County in the State of Illinois of seventy-two years of age 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 in the year 1779 according to the best of this Deponent's recollection he was a resident in Newberry County in the State of South Carolina and in the summer of that year there was a call for Militia man to go and defend the frontiers of Georgia against the Indians he believes the Creeks and this Deponent was drafted and served in a company commanded by Captain James Waddleton [this MAY be a mistaken attempt to name Capt. James Wadlington of the Spartan Regiment of SC militia] a three months tour under the command of Colonel Robert McRaray [sic, Robert McCrary?]. Under the General command of General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] a Scotchman. Were marched to the frontiers of Georgia he recollects that it was said when going out they were going to a place called the Standing Peach tree -- was employed during the tour on the said frontiers served out the tour were marched back to somewhere in the neighborhood of Ninety Six and were Discharged but received no written Discharge never called for one as it would be very easy to prove at that time that he had served the tour. This Deponent says that the call was for a tour of three months but that the troops were detained over that time before they were discharged as he verily believes. --

As soon as this Deponent returned from the tour he went to live with one James Townsend to learn the trade of a Blacksmith and during the time he worked at that trade there was Constant calls for short expeditions against the Tories &c and those who were called were horsemen and required much work of Smiths and required the regular places where work such as horseshoes could be in readiness and the Smiths bound to perform jobs for the those in service or preparing for it at any moment when called on. For this reason Colonel Brannon or Brandon [Thomas Brandon] (which was his name this deponent does not recollect) who had the command as a militia Colonel ordered that this Deponent was to have in readiness such work and be always of the place and whenever called on for work for those in service to perform it immediately and ordered that this service should be received as regular tours of Duty in actual service he was not allowed to leave the place to visit his father's family or go elsewhere without a permit from the Colonel any more than those in actual service in the field. And he remained in this condition and under these restrictions about eight months performing all duties as above specified required of

him which were very numerous.

In the fall of the year 1781 as this deponent believes there was a call for one company to range upon the frontiers against the Indians and this deponent volunteered his services in such company. It was commanded by Captain Thomas Stark [Thomas Starke]. It was a company of Mounted volunteer Rangers -- And the call was for a tour of three months. They went out through the extreme Western part of South Carolina and as he is Deponent is not much acquainted with the geography of the Country he cannot speak with certainty but believes they ranged on the most Western part of South Carolina but mostly beyond on the frontiers of Georgia & although the call was for three months this deponent believes they were not out the whole three months but was discharged before that time expired as it was thought by the Captain that their further services were not required.

Not long after he returned from the last above mentioned expedition there was a call for men to go and search out the Edisto Swamps as it was reported that a party of Tories made these their hiding places from which they would come commit depredations and retreat there again. This deponent volunteered in the Party which was commanded by Major Farrow [probably Thomas Farrar]. A call was for no certain term of time but to go down to the said swamps and scour them in search of the said Tories. This Deponent went down and performed the tour as long as it lasted but how long that was it is impossible for this deponent to say with certainty and believes that he served at least one month or more.

After this for divers times this deponent was called out by his Captain Stark to perform short trips in the neighborhood against small wandering parties of Tories and to prevent them from doing mischief -- these last were called for no certain term of time but a call by the Captain to accomplish a particular object and then return home again. These though small were of much use to the Country and indispensably necessary and attended with much trouble and inconvenience to those that turned out as they were sometimes called out of their fields when at work.

These are all the services this deponent has performed and as accurately stated as he at this time is able to do owing to the length of time since they were performed and his age. The above and foregoing statements are all made according to the best of his recollection at present but in some of these things stated such as Dates etc. -- he may possibly be mistaken -- but as to the fact of his having performed the services he certainly is not. He has not stated precisely the length of time he was in service. He has honestly stated that in the second tour he believes he was discharged for the time expired but it did not lack much of the term of three months, and he is equally honest in saying that he verily believes that the said tour to the Edisto Swamps added to his said second trip would make up and more a full three months tour and then there are other services as above stated in addition.

He says he has no documentary evidence to produce and there are no persons living now in his reach that he knows of by whom he can prove his aforesaid Services --

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.

Interrogatories put by the Court --

Question 1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer -- in the State of North Carolina near the Moravian town on a Creek called Abbots Creek in the year 1760

2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer -- My father kept a record of his children's ages in his family Bible from this I

copied my age into my own Bible which I now have --

3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer. The first part of this question I have answered in the former part of my declaration to which I refer. I lived some time after the war in Winton County South Carolina, thence moved to Pendleton County, thence to Kentucky Livingston County -- thence to Illinois (the Territory) now State Jackson County where I now reside

4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer. I refer to my former Statement in this very declaration in answer -- to this question --

5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer -- In all my services we never acted when conjunction with any of the Continental troops and I believe I have stated all the important circumstances relating thereto that I can recollect --

6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it given and what has become of it?

Answer. I never received any written discharges I recollect and I never applied for any as to the principal object of written discharges at that time was thought to be to use coming home in case one should be suspected to be a deserter and afterwards to prove that he had performed a tour of duty. I was always discharged near home or not far from home and my officers lived in the same neighborhood I could easily prove my service without any written discharge. --

7th State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer -- I give the names of Green Lindsey a clergyman and George Creath [?] both well acquainted with me.

S/ Hezekiah Davis

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hezekiah Davis". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Sworn to and subscribed in open Court the Day & year aforesaid

Attest: S/ J. Manning, Clerk

[Green Lindsey, a clergyman and George Creath gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

At a special term of the Court of Probate of Jackson County held at the Courthouse in the said County on Monday the 8th day of September A.D. 1834 -- present Joel Manning Judge of the said Court

This day was produced in open Court the Certificates hereunto annexed the pension certificate of Hezekiah Davis and proof was made by the testimony of Polly Philips and Jefferson Allen two legal and credible witnesses that the said Hezekiah Davis departed this life on the 29th day of January A.D. 1834. That he left no widow and that Van Davis, Eliphas Davis, Hezekiah Davis Junior, Jesse Davis and Nancy Fifer formally Nancy Davis are his children and his only

children all of which is proved to the full satisfaction of the Court.

Also this day the said Eliphaz Davis, Jesse Davis and Nancy Fifer formally Nancy Davis came personally into open court and by their voluntary declarations made in open Court relinquished all their claims respectively to their shares of the pension due their father Hezekiah Davis under the said pension Certificate, unto Hezekiah Davis Junior one of the children of the said Pensioner.

Given under my hand and the official seal of the said Court at Brownsville in the said County this 8th day of September A.D. 1834.

S/ Joel Manning, Judge of Probate

[signature of Hezekiah Davis Junior

Hezekiah Davis Junior]

In this case it was made to appear to my satisfaction that Van Davis, one of the sons of the deceased resides in the State of Georgia. I have paid the proportion due to those of the heirs who reside in this State, and the above named Van Davis part is retained -- Mr Thornton will recollect that I inquired of him when at Washington last fall how I should proceed in such cases as the above, and I have been governed by his instruction. The heirs of this case are all of age.

S/ Daniel Hay, Agent 1 October 1834

[Power of attorney dated September 29, 1835 given in Jackson County Illinois by Eliphaz Davis, Jesse Davis and Nancy Fifer using her mark.

Eliphaz Davis
Jesse Davis
Nancy Fifer
mark]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$25.83 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia.]

[The following may apply to the veteran named above]

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to Hezekiah Davis

AA 5

Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1791

Transcribed by Will Graves

4/9/20

¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

[p 4: only a partial image of the following document]

No. 55

No. 400 Book X

Hezekiah Davis for 4? [last digit unclear] days duty in militia Amounting to £ [image of the document cut off at this point]

Gentlemen please to Deliver to John Paisley any Indents that may be in the Treasury for Militia Duty as I have sold them to him for a Consideration the 17 Day of August 1791

S/ Hezekiah Davis



To the Commissioners of the
Treasury an Charleston
[illegible text and signatures]

400 X