

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Davis S37878 VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Kentucky } Sct
Henry County }

Be it known that on this 6th day of February 1834 personally appeared before William McCrackin a Justice of the Peace in and for said County and a member of the Henry County Court Kentucky Samuel Davis a resident of Henry County Ky. aged 68 years & upwards who being duly sworn according to law upon his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

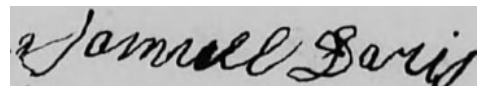
That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated that is to say In the year 1779 his father was a resident of Buckingham county Va and in the fall of that year (1779) he moved his family including this declarant to Kentucky and sometime in the month of October of that year they landed at Riddle's Station on Huckston in the now County of Bourbon [sic: Ruddle Station on Hinkston Creek in present Harrison County] that about the first of January 1780 this declarant was enrolled in the militia at that place for the purpose of aiding in the defence of the station and the frontier – that he immediately that is to say about the 1st of January 1780 volunteered and entered the service of the United States as a private volunteer soldier for six months in the company of Captain Isaac Riddle [sic: Isaac Ruddle] – that John Davis the brother of this declarant was the lieutenant of the company – that he was kept at the said station or fort as a part of the garrison thereof under the command of his said Captain – that on the 10th day of march 1780 the Indians attacked the fort at the said Station and kept up a warm fire during the day and most of the succeeding night – that there was but one man wounded who was in the fort but there was several killed who were caught by the Indians out of it. He states that sometime afterward he thinks on the [blank: 24th] day of June a large body of Indians British & Canadians under the command of one Col. or Capt Bird invested the fort and after a sharp conflict the fort was surrendered to them and the declarant together with all who were in the fort became prisoners and were given up as such to the Indians – that he the declarant was taken by the Indians (who were of the Shawanee [Shawnee] tribe) to the Indian towns on the little Miami and was afterwards carried by them high up the Big Miami [probably to Piqua] – that whilst he was with them there were two expeditions sent against them upon the first of which [8 Aug] 1780 their corn was destroyed in its green state and upon the second it was destroyed when dry which took place he thinks in [10 Nov] 1782 both which events brought great distress upon the Indians. He states that he was kept by the Indians as a prisoner for about three years for it was not until the month of June 1783 that he was purchased through the agency of his brother John Davis from them and carried to the British Post at Detroit which place he reached about the 20th of that month. He states that he was then set at liberty and remained in that country until the year 1785 for the purpose of procuring the liberty of his sister who had been taken prisoner at the same time that he was which object he effected and then returned to Kentucky.

He states that he served in the fort at Riddles Station upon his said engagement actively and actually from the period of his entry upon it about the 1st January 1780 till he was captured as above set forth and that he remained as a prison[er] amongst the Indians until sometime in June 1783 and for this services and suffering he claims a pension

He states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person living whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service

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

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid



Interrogatories put to the above named applicant by the said Justice

1st Where and in what year were you born?

Answer I was born in Pennsylvania in the year 1765

2^d Have you any record of your age; and if so where is it?

Answer. I have none – it has been destroyed

3^d. Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer I was living at Riddles Station in Ky. when I entered the service and after I was released from my captivity with the Indians I remained at Detroit until I procured the release of my sister who was a prisoner with them which I effected in 1785 and then I returned to Kentucky and went to Danville in the present county of Mercer in the neighbourhood of which I settled and continued to live until after the death of my wife and I broke up housekeeping and have been living amongst my children for 5 years past some of whom live in Mercer county some in Todd county & some in Henry County Ky. where I have spent the last Eighteen Months

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

Answer. I was a volunteer.

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

Answer. There was no officer of higher grade than Captain with the troops where I served and he was not a regular officer I believe – there was no Continental or Militia regiments at the place of my service. I volunteered under Captain Riddle for six months service and was kept by him at the fort at Riddles Station as a part of the garrison of that place and served as a private soldier accordingly until the fort was surrendered to the Indians British & Canadians in June 1780 and I was then carried by the Indians into Captivity and remained a prisoner with them until sometime in June 1783 and was then purchased of them carried to detroit and liberated

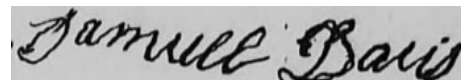
6th Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Answer. I never did.

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

Answer. I will name Will. Peek and Kanard Younger

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid



Nicholas County Ky Sct

On this 2nd day of May 1834 personally appeared before me John McClintock a justice of the peace in and for Nicholas County, John Conway [pension application W8622] aged seventy five years, who being duly sworn according to law, and states on oath that he and Samuel Davis were living in Capt. Isaac Ruddles Station on the South fork of licking River in June 24th 1780 and he and the said Davis were taken prisoners and marched on the way to Detroit and he the said Conway was taken on to Detroit and the said Davis being detained by the Indians in some of their towns untill some time in the winter of 1783 at which time he the said Conway saw him in Detroit after he the said Davis was liberated by the Brittish and Indians and further this deponant saith not.