

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Davis S37880

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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. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

Territory of Alabama

On this 15th day of February 1819, before me the subscriber, one of the Judges of the Alabama Territory, personally appeared John Davis aged sixty years, resident in Mobile County in the Territory who being by me first duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress, entitled "An act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war:" That he, the said John Davis enlisted in Charleston in the state of South Carolina in the company commanded by Captain James McDonald of the Second South Carolina Regiment on the Continental establishment on the 18th July 1775 & was discharged on the 18th of July 1778 and reenlisted in said Regiment 9th October [?] 1778 in Captain Wm Charnock company during the war and he continued to serve in the said corps, or in the service of the United States until the 28th of September 1780, when he was disabled from active service by a wound but continued in the discharge of occasional military services till the end of the war, and that he was in the battles of Fort Moultrie 28th June 1776, on the repulse of the enemy at Charleston 1779, at Savannah on the 9th October 1779, in the siege of Charleston in May 1780 and in several others of less moment and that he is in reduced circumstances, and stands in need of the assistance of his country for support; and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services, excepting that which is in the War office & on which he has received a pension.

Sworn to and declared before me, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ J. Davis

S/ Harry Toulmin [?], Judge

I John Davis late a pensioner on the roll of Virginia but now transferred to that of the Alabama Territory do, (in order to entitle me to the provisions of the act "to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war") hereby relinquish my claim to every pension heretofore allowed me by the laws of the United States.

S/ J. Davis

State of Alabama Baldwin County (to wit)

On this 15th day of November 1821 came into open Court it being a Circuit Court for said County and Constituted a Court of Record according to an act passed in this said State 1820 having the Power of Try & Determines all suits of said state and having the power of fine and imprisonment John Davis of the age of sixty-three years and resident from his youth in the

United States and for the last eight years in the County of Mobile of the above State in that part of which is now Baldwin County, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary war, viz., that he did on the 15th of July to the best of his knowledge, 1775 enlisted himself in the Second Regiment of Infantry commanded by Colonel William Moultrie and in the Company of Captain James McDonald for the Term of three years that he was discharged in July 1778 and volunteered on Board the United States Sloop of war *General Moultrie* where he served till October of the same year and on his return to Charleston he enlisted in the said Second Regiment of Infantry on Continental Establishment in the Company of Captain William Charnock at that time commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Commandant Marion afterward General Marion as a Sergeant for during the war and that he served in that station till the 9th of April[?] 1779 at which time he was promoted to the office of Quarter Master Sergeant, on the mortal wound received by the former second Sergeant on that day at the Repulse of the Americans & French Troops at Savannah in Georgia and that he served in that Capacity till April 1780 when he was appointed Quarter Master in place of the Quarter Master Resignation which duty he performed till the 12th of May same year when Charleston fell into the hands of the enemy by capitulation in consequence of his having no commission was made close Prisoner but by some address made his escape from Present and joined General Marion in the month of August on the Pedee [River], and he General Marion Brevetted [him?] to a Captain and served with him till the 28th September 1780 in an action at Black Mingo¹ South Carolina received a wound in the knee by which wound he is rendered entirely unable to get any sort of livelihood by labor that during the time of the war he was engaged in nearly all the memorable Battles in the Southern Section of the States and taken into retrospect the character of the Second Regiment of South Carolina it will appear obvious that he has seen considerable service the Battles of most note was the battle of Fort Moultrie the Repulse of Savannah, Stono & the Siege of Charleston that he has been in the engagements and skirmishes fourteen and received five wounds that he received a pension by a Certificate from General Marion & Major Vanderhorst in Charleston from that State from October 1784 till 1788 at which time there passed an act for Continental Pensioners to be paid by the United States that he received a Certificate agreeable to the law of 1818 No. 15233 that he was paid at Mobile till the 4th of September 1820 and not since he further Swears that he was a Resident citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that he has not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of his property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring himself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that h has not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to him nor has he any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by him subscribed that is to say the service of a Negro boy of about sixteen years old for during the life of said Davis value for that time of \$250, three vacant lots in the town of Blakeley \$170 that he has a debt due him in South Carolina of about 3000 But from his situation the Distance the laws of the State and other Circumstances he calculates nothing on but it he has a family but this on the Courtesy of a son-in-law who married his daughter he has no trade but when able to attend to it was considered first rate [?] Planter but from his Crippled state he is unable to attend to that Business nor has he any other way of procuring a living without the aid of his Country.

S/ J. Davis

¹ September 28, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/blackmingo.htm>

Sworn to & declared on the 16th day of November 1821 before me S/ R. Saffold, one of the The judges of the Circuit Courts of Alabama

[fn p. 10: Catharine R. Byrne filed a petition in Baldwin County Alabama stating that she is the only child and heir at law of the late John Davis deceased, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution; that her father died in Baldwin County Alabama on the 6th day of July 1822; that her father left no widow or heir at law other than the petitioner; that she files the petition seeking whatever arrears may be due her as the heir and only child of the deceased pensioner. Her petition was filed August 31, 1854.]