

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Williams¹ S46517

A40VA²

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

9/19/11: rev'd 5/8/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[I (Ancestry.com image number) 508]

Mercer County 8th March 1806

Dear Sir/ [Addressed to Senator John Adair]³

I have this Day taken the liberty to write a power of attorney which is enclosed. Some years past Mr. Thomas G Davis who I applied to undertake to do this business about my Claim to land & I put in his hands my Certificate Signed by Major Abraham Hitet & also gave a power of attorney to Mr. Davis the papers he tells me he left in the War office until An Act did pass in favor of Such Claims as mine – I was a Lieutenant in the Eighth Virginia Regiment when I quit the Army. If you can find the Certificate which I gave Mr. Davis it will fully Explain the Business & then look at the law. There was another David Williams but not in the Same Regiment. He was also a Lieutenant. You will Excuse the freedom taken & by trying to do this business for me you will lay me under a lasting Obligation – I hope you are enjoying all the Blessings the Senate Can afford. We are all well in our Neighborhood as far as I know. Your lady & family I believe are Well

I Dear Genl. Yours with much Respect

S/ David Williams

¹ BLWt235-200

² As of 5/8/23, this file could not be found on Fold3.com. I used the version posted on Ancestry.com to revise the transcription.

³ ADAIR, John, a Senator and a Representative from Kentucky; born in Chester District, Chester County, S.C., January 9, 1757; attended the public schools in Charlotte, N.C.; served in the Revolutionary War; member of the South Carolina convention that ratified the Constitution of the United States; moved to Kentucky in 1788; major of volunteers in an expedition against the Indians under General Wilkinson in 1791 and 1792; was a lieutenant colonel under General Scott in 1793; member of the Kentucky constitutional convention in 1792; member of the State house of representatives 1793-1795, 1798, and 1800-1803, serving as speaker in 1802 and 1803; register of the United States land office in 1805; elected as a Democratic Republican to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of John Breckinridge and served from November 8, 1805, to November 18, 1806, when he resigned, having been an unsuccessful candidate for reelection; aide to Governor Isaac Shelby in the Battle of the Thames in 1813; commander of the Kentucky rifle brigade which served under General Andrew Jackson in 1814 and 1815; again a member of the State house of representatives in 1817; appointed adjutant general with the brevet rank of brigadier general; Governor of Kentucky 1820-1824; elected as a Jacksonian to the Twenty-second Congress (March 4, 1831-March 3, 1833); was not a candidate for reelection in 1832; died in Harrodsburg, Ky., May 19, 1840; interment in State Cemetery, Frankfort, Ky., where a monument to his memory was erected by the State. <https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/A000026>



[I 511]

State of Kentucky November 12th 1800

I hereby Certify that David Williams of Mercer County State aforesaid who has informed me that he had made a Power of Attorney to Thomas Davis & drew a military land warrant was a Lieutenant in Colonel Woods 8th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment.

Abra. Hite, Late [Abraham Hite]

A Capt. in the 8th Virgt. Regt.

*State of Kentucky November 12th 1800
I hereby certify that David Williams
of Mercer County State aforesaid who
has informed me that he had made
a Power of Attorney to Tho. Davis
& drew a military land warrant
was a Lieutenant in Colo. Woods
Eighth Virginia Regiment on
Continental Establishment.
Abra. Hite
Capt. in the 8th Virgt. Regt.*

[I 491]

Commission from Congress No. 7, dated the 20th of March 1779, to rank from 9 March 1778, to David Williams as Lieutenant 8th Virginia Regiment. [undated document]

[I 492]

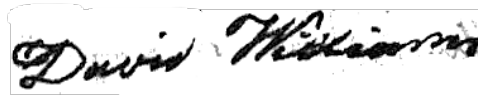
State of Kentucky Mercer County viz. }

For the purpose of obtaining the Benefit of an act of Congress entitled "an act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution" approved the 15th day of May 1828 I David Williams of Shawanoe Run in the County of Mercer and the State of Kentucky, do hereby declare that I was an officer of the Continental line of the Army of the Revolution and served as such to the time when the arrangement of the Army provided by the resolves of Congress of the 3rd and 21st of October 1780 was carried into effect in the year 1781

by which I was reduced at which period I was a Lieutenant in the 8th Virginia Regiment in the Continental line and was entitled to half pay for life under the resolve of Congress of the 20th of October 1780 – but never applied for or received any commutation certificate for five years full pay which was given by the resolve of Congress of the 22nd day of March 1783 – being at that time out of the State of Virginia – I also further declare that at the time the arrangement aforesaid took place I was the 1st Lieutenant of the Regiment as will appear by my commission bearing date the 20th of March 1779 – having been promoted from 2nd Lieutenant to 1st Lieutenant having entered the Army on the 8th day of January 1777 for & during the war. I also further state that I am not a pensioner of the United States neither have I ever been a pensioner nor received either half pay or full pay from the Congress of the United States as provided by there several resolves as above.

Witness my hand this ___ day of February 1830.

S/ David Williams



State of Kentucky Mercer County: this day David Williams subscribed & swore to the truth of the above statement before me a Justice of the Peace for said County February 15th 1830.

S/ George W Thompson, JP

[William Higgins and General James Ray gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[I 490]

Revolutionary Claims

Treasury Department,
4 March 1830

David Williams of ___ in the County of Mercer in the State of Kentucky has applied to the Secretary of the Treasury for the benefits of the act, entitled "An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Revolution," approved the 15th of May, 1828. He states that was an officer in the Continental line, and served as such until the Reduction in 1781, at which period he was a Lieutenant in the 8th regiment of the Virginia line; and that he ^{never} received commutation certificates for the five years full pay granted by the resolve of 22 March, 1783; and, further, that he has received as a pensioner since the 3rd of March 1826, not stated dollars, paid to him by the agent in the State of ___

The Third Auditor is requested to report how far the several statements are corroborated by the records in his Office.

By order of the Secretary
S/ F. A. Dickins

Treasury Department,
Third Auditor's Office,
5th of March 1830

It appears by the records of this office, that final settlement certificates had been issued for the commutation of five years full pay to David Williams, Lieutenant in the Virginia line, amounting to Sixteen Hundred dollars.

It further appears that David Williams is ^{not} now on the pension list of any agency, and has ^{not} been so since the 3rd March 1826 at the rate of ___ per month.

S/ Peter Hagner, Aud.

See page 235 Virginia Book

[I 14]

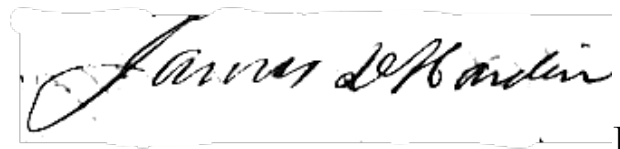
Mercer County Sct. March County Court 1832

Satisfactory Proof was this day made to the Court that David Williams a Pensioner of the United States under an Act of Congress of 1828 Departed this life on the 8th day of November 1831 last past which is ordered to be Certified to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

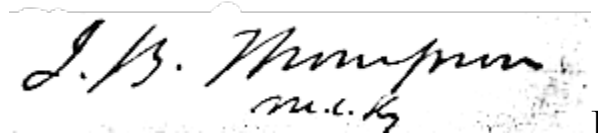
A Copy

S/ Tho. Allin, Clerk

[Facts in file: Veteran died leaving no children but leaving the following grandchildren: David W Thompson of Mercer County, Kentucky, in 1858; Isaac W Thompson; Joseph W Thompson, and Lucy Jane Arnold; the file does not contain the name of the veteran's wife or any of his children; James D. Hardin of Harrisburg Kentucky in 1858 stated that the grandson, David W Thompson, was his brother-in-law.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James D. Hardin". The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[I 515 Letter dated January 6, 1849 addressed to JL Edwards, Commissioner of Pensions, from J B Thompson,⁴ Congressman from Kentucky inquiring about the land warrant issued to Lieutenant David Williams. Could he be the grandson of Lt. Williams?

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "J.B. Thompson". Below the name, "m.c. Ky" is written in smaller cursive. The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

⁴ THOMPSON, John Burton, a Representative and a Senator from Kentucky; born near Harrodsburg, Ky., December 14, 1810; completed preparatory studies; studied law; admitted to the bar and practiced in Harrodsburg, Ky.; Commonwealth attorney; member, State senate 1829-1833; member, State house of representatives 1835, 1837; elected as a Whig to the Twenty-sixth Congress to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Simeon H. Anderson; reelected to the Twenty-seventh Congress and served from December 7, 1840, to March 3, 1843; elected to the Thirtieth and Thirty-first Congresses (March 4, 1847-March 3, 1851); chairman, Committee on the Militia (Thirtieth Congress); lieutenant governor of Kentucky 1852; elected by the American party to the United States Senate and served from March 4, 1853, to March 3, 1859; died in Harrodsburg, Mercer County, Ky., January 7, 1874; interment in Spring Hill Cemetery. <https://bioguide.congress.gov/search/bio/T000208>

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Addendum to David Williams S46517

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 7 May 2023.

[From [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I Abraham Hite [S46385] a Capt. in the late Revolutionary War do Certify that David Williams was in the year One thousand seven hundred and seventy seven Commissioned and served as a Second Lieut. in Capt. William Vause's [VAS4813] Company of the then 12th Virginia Regiment, Commanded by Colo. James Wood [BLWt2419-500], which said Regiment was annexed to the 8th Regim't. in the year One thousand seven hundred and seventy eight. The said David Williams Receiv'd. his appointment as a second Lieut. I think in the Latter part of December 1776. I well Remember he was Recruiting his quota of men at the same time with myself, and Receiv'd. his appointment as a Second Lieut. at the same time I Receiv'd. an appointm't. as first Lieut. in s'd. Vauses Company, and I find from the date of Enlistment of the men Recruited by myself that I was Recruiting as Early as the Eleventh day of January One thousand seven hundred and seventy seven; he was either sent out on the Recruiting Service or went out as a Supernumary Officer, but whether in the year 1778 or in the year 1779 I cannot be Certain. I marched with the Virg'a. line in the Winter of Seventy Nine Eighty southwardly. I know, Lieut. Williams was not then in the the Army, and I have reason to beleive he never Joined the Army after that time. There was another Leiut. David Williams [VAS5008] belonging to the Virginia Line, who was frequently distinguished by the name of Indian David Williams. I do not now Recollect to which Regiment he belonged

Abr. Hite late
a Capt. in the 8th Virgin'a
Reg't on Continental Establishmt
in Revo'y War



I have no doubt but that Lieutenant David Williams was appointed to the 12th Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, the latter end of December 1776. at the reduction of the Virginia line which took place in September or October 1778 [at White Plains NY, 14 Sep 1778] I was appointed President of a Board of Officers for making the arrangement; and I think I am correct in saying that Mr. Williams became Supernumerary at that time. he was a Junior Lieutenant and was therefore obliged to retire. there was another Lieutenant of the same name who belonged to the 11th Regiment, and is, I am persuaded, the person who received his Land bounty on the 18th June 1783, which was obtained on the Certificate of General [Daniel] Morgan who was Colonel of the 11th Regiment. I think it my duty to add, that the present Applicant was, while in Service, a Brave and Meritorious Officer.

Given under my hand at Richmond this 16th September 1809.

James Wood formerly B. Gen'l
Continental Army.

under 1000.

James Wood formerly B.
Continental Army.