

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Richard Dotson S5364

f19VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/24/07 rev'd 12/5/14

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia, Tyler County: to wit:

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833, personally appeared in open Court before Robert Gorrell; William Bond; John D. Wells; & James G. West, Justices of the Peace, constituting the County Court of Tyler County, now sitting, Richard Dotson, a resident of said County and State of Virginia, aged 81 years, who being first duly Sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832, that he was born in Frederick County now Shenandoah County State of Virginia and Continued to reside there until he was about 20 years of age, he then removed to Green [sic, Greene] County State of Pennsylvania, that in the year 1774 he served a tour of duty under Lord Dunmore [John Murray, Lord Dunmore, last Royal Gov. of the colony of Virginia] against the western Indians, that he marched to Fort Charlotte near the place where Chillicothe now stands, in the State of Ohio, from whence he returned to his place of residence in the State of Pennsylvania where he continued to live until after the close of the Revolutionary war, that in the spring of the year 1777 he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Indian Spy under Captain John Minor and served six months of that year, that in the years 1778 & 79, he also served the United States six months each year as an Indian Spy under Captain John Minor entering the service in the spring and leaving in the fall, making in all he served as an Indian Spy the term of eighteen months or more that services consisted in watching movements of the Indians examining their trails and giving information of their approach to the settlements that he principally served in Greene and adjoining Counties, that his headquarters were at Jenkins's Fort in said County of Greene and Jarard Fort about 3 miles from the former that the said Captain John Minor was the commandant of these Stations, that in the summer of 1777 or 8 he and four of his companions had a skirmish with about the same number of Indians, that one of his party (to wit) John Nichols was killed and one of the Indians was also killed by Richard Hall. This skirmish took place near Jarard Fort on Big Whiteley and that he has no recollection of having received a discharge. He further says that after the close of the Revolution he returned to Shenandoah County, Virginia after remaining there a few years (the precise number he cannot recollect) he removed to Loudon [sic, Loudoun] County, Virginia and continued there about two years, from Loudoun he removed to Hampshire County Virginia where he lived about six years from thence he removed to Wood County Virginia since which time he has continued to reside alternately in Wood and Tyler Counties until the present time that he now lives in said County of Tyler. He further says he has a record of his age and that he was born on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of October 1752.

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 and year aforesaid.

S/ Richard Dotson, X his mark

[John Ripley, a clergyman, and William Wells gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Tyler County State of Virginia To Wit

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County Ann Reddick aged 95 years old the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of last September (who I certify to be a credible witness) and made oath that she lived during the year 1777, 1778 and 9 in Greene County State of Pennsylvania during all which time she was well acquainted with Richard Dotson, and knows that he Served the United States as an Indian Spy in the year 1777, 1778 & 9 and that she believes he Served six months in each of Said years and that deponent and Said Dotson were frequently inmates at Jenkins Fort at the same time, and further this deponent Saith not.

Given under my hand and seal [word and figures obliterated) day of May 1833

S/ James Stealey {Seal}

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as an Indian spy for 18 months in the Virginia service.]