

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Simon Davis S6784

f60SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

1/31/10: rev'd 4/16/20

[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.]

[Note: the following application was written largely as one continuous sentence: punctuation has been added (with initial capitalization of the first word in the ensuing sentence in order to facilitate reading it with understanding.)

[p 6: pages out of sequence]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County

On this 29th day of April 1835 personally appeared before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions held for said County Simon Davis a resident of the United States in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina aged 76 years 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 the 7th of June 1832. That before and during the Revolutionary war he was living in Union District South Carolina that he belonged to Captain Grant's Company of Militia. That the Companies was called together and drawn in 3 classes. I drew the 3rd class. We was all ordered to be in readiness for our term. We was all called out for a few days at several times to keep Cunningham [probably a reference to William Cunningham also known as "Bloody Bill Cunningham"] and his party off from doing much mischief. I done a good deal of this kind of business but cannot put it together so as to be certain of what length of Time I was out. My first Tower [tour] of three months was the year the Battle was fought at Stono [June 20, 1779]. I am not able to give the date I served this tour under Captain William Grant and Major Jolley [sic, Benjamin Jolly]. We was ordered on to Charleston South Carolina. We passed on through Granby, Orangeburg, four holes, Dorchester to the White House above Charleston. At that place we joined the Main Army under General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] & Colonel Washington [William Washington].¹ We from that place we was marched to the Stono where the Battle was fought. It was Close Cutting with me to see my comrades falling on both sides of me. I escaped without a wound. From that place we was sent on to Bacon's Bridge where we was stationed a few days, our 3 months was out and we returned home under our officers who lived in the same neighborhood. When my turn came around I served a tour of three months under Captain Cromer [Daniel Cromer] & Colonel or General Brandon [probably Thomas Brandon] Commanded, we was sometimes at a Fort on Fairforest. We was kept out much of our time

¹ The Battle of Stono was fought June 20, 1779. At that time Benjamin Lincoln was the commander of the Southern Department of the Continental Army. Nathanael Greene did not also in command of the Southern Department until December 2, 1780. William Washington was not at the battle of Stono. Consequently, the veteran is mistaken as to the officers in command at the battle of Stono. See <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/stonoferry.htm>

sometimes we was after Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] to keep him from spreading too much through the Country. We was several times in close chase after Cunningham and his gang who was really Desperados. They spread death where ever they passed. They had no respect of persons. We pursued them twice as far as the Savannah River and they would be back in the neighborhood nearly as soon as we would. When our three months was out we returned home. My next tour must have been in 1781 I was ordered out by Captain William Grant and Major Jolly for a tour of 3 months. We was marched down Broad River to the mouth of Sandy River where we joined some other forces from there we marched down the River to where Columbia now stands, where we met with more forces. From that place we was marched down the River within twenty-five miles of the Eutaw Springs where we joined the Main Army under the Command of General Greene & Colonel Washington. From that point we went to the Battle of the Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781]. There I saw more men slaughtered then I ever saw before or since. In the Wing I was in the ground was almost covered with the dead and dying. After the battle we was sent in charge of the prisoners. Before we got to Camden they had no further use for us and our time was out. We in company with offices made the best of our way for home. [p 5] When we got home at the Request of General Brandon, Major Jolly & Captain Grant called on us who had been out with them to volunteer for one month to keep Lee [William Lee]² & Girth [sic, Daniel McGirt] from plundering and killing the women and children. We went and served the month. Our Station was at the Fort at Fairforest. Before we left that place the news of peace came to us and we all returned home. This makes my service ten months which I knew I served faithfully and for which Service I claim a pension. Here it is necessary for me to make a statement of the Reasons of my Delaying in making application for a pension. I am old and very infirm and in the spring of the year 1832 I went to Tenessee [sic, Tennessee]. In [the] latter part of that year I heard of the provisions of the Act of Congress. I was a Stranger in that Country. I went to a lawyer. He told what was necessary for me to do before I could obtain a pension. I was not able to Travel in the winter but I thank Almighty God for his Aid in assisting me to where I have lived for many [years] and hope to be able to give Satisfactory evidence of my Character. He hereby Relinquishes every claim whatsoever to a pension or Annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State whatsoever. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court.

S/ T. F. Birchett, Clk

S/ Simon Davis, X his mark

Question 1st by the Court: Where and in what year were you born?

Answer: From Information I was born in Brunswick County State of Virginia in the year 1759

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

Answer: I have no Record of my [age] only from Circumstances.

Question 3rd 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 in Union District South Carolina where I remained until after peace was declared. I then married and settled myself in Rutherford County North Carolina where I have

² See, Robert Stansbury Lambert. *South Carolina Loyalists in the American Revolution*. Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1987 p 296. Lambert says Lee was listed as an outlaw by Gov. Guerard in 1783 and a reward offered for his arrest. This may be the same William Lee as served as a Captain in Col. Plummer's regiment of loyalist militia from Fair Forest at the Battle of Kings Mountain. See Bobby Gilmer Moss, *The Loyalists in the Siege of Fort Ninety Six*. Blacksburg, SC: Scotia-Hibernia Press, 1999

remained until the year 1832. I then went to Tennessee State where I remained for about 2 years. I then came back to Rutherford County North Carolina where I expect to continue as long as I live.

Question 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: The Militia where I then resided were classed in three classes and I served three tours of three months each in my turn. My last I volunteered for one month and served the time.

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: I served under General Greene & Colonel Washington in two battles I served one tour under Colonel Brandon each of my tours I served under Major Jolly. I have given above a history of my General Service as my memory will Justify. I have no recollection of number of any of the regiments that I served.

Question 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 have no recollection that I ever had a written Discharge. I at all times returned with my Captain and we did not think it necessary.

Question 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.

Alfred Webb & Thomas Wilson

[Alfred Webb, a clergyman, and Thomas Wilson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 58]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County:

On this 22nd day of April 1835, personally appeared before me William Davis an acting Justice of the peace for the said County and State aforesaid Robert Haney Senior³ Revolutionary pensioner and after being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Statements, that Simon Davis and myself the said Robert Haney went on a 3 months tour to Eutaw Springs from South Carolina Union District under Captain William Grant and Major Jolly, and General Greene commander in chief at the Eutaw battle and the said Robert Haney says that the said Simon Davis was there at the Eutaw Springs for he saw him there rendering service and soon after the battle was over that myself, Robert Haney and Simon Davis got together and came home in company together the above sworn to and subscribed this the 22nd day of April 1835.

S/ William Davis, JP

S/ Robert Haney, X his mark

[p 55: Certificate dated September 10, 1835 given by the Comptroller Generals Office in Columbia South Carolina showing payments made to Simon Davis during the revolution for services under Captain Thomas Price and Colonel Thomas Brandon.]

[p 19]

Amended declaration of Simon Davis

Simon Davis the declarant, applicant for a pension states that he forgot and omitted to

³ [Robert Haney R4563](#)

mention part of his revolutionary services at the time he procured his declaration to be drawn up or else the gentleman who wrote it out for him omitted part. Upon reading the original declaration, he finds that several tours which he served under Captain Price [Thomas Price] are not mentioned. I find it stated that at the battle of Stono I was under Captain Grant which is incorrect. The militia were classed and upon coming of my turn to go out I was attached to a company of Horse under Captain Thomas Price (or William Price, I think the former) and was with him & under his Command at the battle of Stono. My next tour with the Horse was for three months, out on Enoree [River], and pending this tour we had a smart fight with the British and Tories at Blackstocks [November 20, 1780] in which I providentially escaped unhurt. The third was out on Fairforest in opposition to the Tories under Cunningham, Lee & others, with occasionally a few British soldiers.

I am unable at this day to state precisely the service I rendered or the history of our marches or rendezvous in each successive tour, or the exact year in which they were rendered; I am confident never the less that I served under Captain Price of the Horse Troops, five tours of three months each, except that in one of them I was sent home at the end of one month, there being no immediate occasion for continuing in actual service at that time -- perhaps peace had been made, but I do not distinctly remember if that was the cause.

My service as a horseman therefore, must be about 13 months, which was omitted in my Original declaration.

Sworn & subscribed before me the 2nd day of October 1835
S/ Martin Beam, JP

S/ Simon Davis, X his mark

[p 52]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County:

On this 22nd day of June 1836 personally appeared before me William Davis one of the acting Justices of the peace for the County and State aforesaid Micajah Morris⁴ Revolutionary Pensioner and after being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Statements viz. First that he the said Micajah Morris did join Captain Price at Ninety Six and went with him the said Captain Price to the Block house at Fairforest in South Carolina and Simon Davis was with Captain Price at Ninety Six and went with him to the said Block house at Fairforest and I the said Micajah Morris do know that the said Simon Davis did serve and do duty under Captain Price in the Cavalry or horse troops and that the said Simon Davis is now a resident of Rutherford County North Carolina and that he is the Identical Simon Davis that performed Military Duty in South Carolina under Captain Price. The above Sworn to and subscribed this the 22nd day of June 1836

Witnesseth: S/ William Davis, JP

S/ Micajah Morris, S his mark

[pp 49-51: Yet another application, this one dated November 6, 1844 and given in Cleveland County North Carolina in which Simon Davis is referred to as Simeon Davis aged 82. He largely restates (but in much more confused fashion) his prior statements regarding his services in the revolution.]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County:

⁴ [Micajah Morris W4038](#)

Personally came Margaret Horton before me William Davies one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid and after being duly sworn according to law, Saith on her oath that she was well acquainted with Simon Davis before and at the time of the Revolutionary War and that she lived near neighbor to his mother and also near neighbor to Colonel Brannon [sic, Thomas Brandon] and that she knew of Simon Davis going into the service under or with Colonel Brandon 2 or 3 different trips or tours: that she heard Colonel Brandon tell Mrs. Davis at one time on his return from the Army that he had left Simon Davis at or near Columbia or Orangeburg in South Carolina. She believes with General Greene's Army and that he Simon Davis was well; -- this Deponent further saith, that she saw Simon Davis after he had returned home from that tour -- and that he went again, and that it was understood that Colonel Brandon and his men was stationed at a place called the Block House on Fairforest in Union District near the frontiers at that time. She further saith that she was personally acquainted with Simon Davis after peace was made and that she always heard him spoken of as a true Whig in time of the war. She further saith that she was frequently present when Mrs. Davis, Simon Davis's mother, heard from Simon her son: During his stay at the Block House she believes frequently by Colonel Brandon himself for she and Mrs. Davis both lived near to Colonel Brandon.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21st day of November 1845

S/ William Davies, JP

S/ Margaret Horton, X her mark

[p 30]

State of South Carolina Chester District:

Personally appeared before me one of the acting Justices of the peace for said District Mr. George Dye⁵ & made oath in due form of law, that he knew one Simon Davis who resided he thinks in Union District South Carolina that he the said Simon Davis was with him at the battle at the Eutaw & fought the enemy at said Battle & that his name was called after the Battle was over & he heard him answer.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 12th day of January 1846.

S/ William Thomas, Magistrate

S/ George Dye, X his mark

[p 26]

State of North Carolina Cleveland County:

Personally appeared before me J. R. Logan one of the acting Justices of the peace in and for said County: Simon Davis a resident of North Carolina in the County of Cleveland and after being duly sworn according to law he makes the following Statements: Deposeth and saith on his oath: that from age and loss of memory, and having no education: that he omitted many important facts when he made his declaration in claiming the benefit of the Act of Congress: passed June 7th 1832: that he now makes this affidavit: as an Amendment and explanation to his former Declaration: that in his former Declaration he only claimed three tours of service of three months, each: which tours of service he did perform by orders from Colonel Brandon: who Dispatched two Captains' companies consolidated: on horseback Captain Grant and Captain Price to go on an express expedition against the Tories down to a place called Ninety Six and during that tour he was at the Siege of Ninety Six [May 21-June 19, 1781]: with Captain Grant

⁵ [George Dye R13919](#)

and Captain Price: whose Companies was consolidated, both having command: Colonel Brandon had his Regiment or Army for he got all he called to join him: stationed at a place called the Block House on fareforest [sic, Fairforest] in Union District South Carolina: and had made a special agreement with his officers and soldiers to divide the whole Army: of which [one or more words written over and rendered illegible] president into three Dispatches or Divisions: and that he sent them out by turns against the Tories and otherwise and that Deponent was at the station on Fairforest for more than twelve months, before he went his first tour by turn which was when he was at the siege of Ninety Six, and the reason why he did not claim only three tours of three months each: was that he thought, that he was only entitled to claim when he was actually out by turn on some expedition, although he remained at the Station awaiting the orders of his officers: and this Deponent further declares, that he has been informed that he should have claimed the whole time while at the Station. That he was and is justly entitled to that time, as he was while on some expedition. This Deponent further declares that his second term or tour of service one march: from the station with Colonel Brandon himself in company: Captain Grant or Captain Price, he does not recollect: which when they marched down somewhere near Columbia and joined General Greene's Army: and after we joined General Greene this Deponent believes Colonel Brandon returned back to the station himself leaving his men with General Greene and that we continued with General Greene and was at the Battle of Eutaw Springs, when and where General Greene, Colonel Washington and Colonel Lee [Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee] was the officers of the day -- and a short time after the battle at the Eutaw, we returned to our Station at Fairforest, though while on our return to the station, we had a small scrimmage with the Tories on the Enoree River, and after we returned to the Station, this Deponent went home, and stayed there a short time, and was called out again and went his third term court tour, he believes with Captain Grant over on the Georgia line on an expedition after the Tories who had come over from Georgia murdering and plundering and stealing horses: this last term or tour, he believes was not long before the close of the war. This Deponent has not the recollection to give the exact Date, when he entered the service first nor when he left the same, but including the time of his being at the station, together with terms or tours an expedition from the station he issue war, that it was about twenty or twenty-one months inclusive, he believes in the year 1780 and 1781 for he was about Eighteen years of age when he first went into the service -- this Deponent Knows that he did serve the United States in the war of the revolution against the Common enemy as herein stated. Sworn to and subscribed this 24th day of March 1746.

Before S/ J. R. Logan, JP

S/ Simon Davis, X his mark

[p 9: On April 3, 1855 in Rutherford County North Carolina Simon Davis, 95 or 97 years of age, filed for his bounty land entitlement.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$54.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private in the South Carolina militia for one-year 4 months and 12 days.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts⁶ relating to Simon Davis

AA10

⁶ 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. The "SC" file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

[p 2]

No. 44

No. 73 Book R

Mr. Simon Davis his Account of 477 days Militia Duty in 1780 & 1781

Amounting to £68.2.10 Stg. [Sterling]

Ex^d. W. G. [Examined by William Galvan]

J. M^c. A. G. [approved by] John McCall, Adjutant General]

[p 3]

The State of South Carolina

To Simon Davis

Dr. £ S d

1780

To 477 days service as a private on Horse back in Captain
[text too faint to discern] Company commencing June 1st 1780
and ending [text too faint to discern] 20th 1781 both days
included at 20/ [20 shillings old SC currency] per day

Currency £477.00.0
Sterling £68.2.10

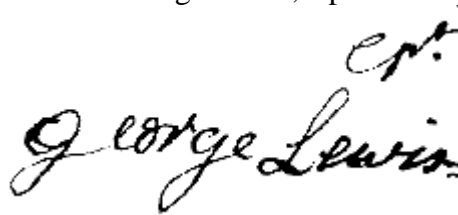
Ninety Six District } Before me [text too faint to discern] Esquire personally appeared Simon
Davis who being duly Sworn, Saith the above account as it Stands Stated is Just and True
Sworn before me this 25th day of June 1784

[illegibly faint signature of the JP]

I do Certify that Simon Davis above charged Duty [word too faint to discern] account as stands
stated is Just and true

Certified – this 25th day of June 1784

S/ George Lewis, Cpt.



[p 4]

Received [text too faint to discern] 1785 full satisfaction in the within Indent No. 73 Lib R for
£68.2.10 [text too faint to discern]

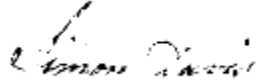
S/ R. Winn [this is the signature of Colonel Richard Winn]



[p 5]

June the 28th 1784} I have this Day received from General Richard Winn the Value of my Account against the Public now lying in the Auditor's office for Auditing and afterwards to get an indent for the same from the Treasury and I do Request the Commissioners of the Treasury of the State of South Carolina to make out the Indent for the Same with the Interest pursuant to the Resolve of the Legislature in that Case to him, the said Richard Winn, and to accept this as a receipt in full against public for the Account.

S/ Simon Davis

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Simon Davis", written over a horizontal line.

Witness

S/ Wm Wood, JP

[p 7: Printed form of Indent No. 73 Book R dated May 9th, 1785]

[p 8: reverse of the above Indent]