

[Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters](#)

Pension Application of Daniel Davis S8287

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 4 Apr 2015.

[From [Library of Virginia Legislative Petitions Digital Collection](#)/ Cabell County]

The Honourable,

The speaker and house of Delegates. Your petitioner an inhabitant of the County of Cabell, and State of Virginia Begs leave to represent, that he served three months under Capt. [William] Renfro of the Virg'a. Militia, in the year 1777 or 8. And at the expiration of his service under Capt. Renfro he enlisted under Gen'l. [Lachlan] McIntosh, and continued in the service of his Country, untill the close of the Revolutionary War – Subject to all the dangers, and suffering all the hardships, and toils, common to a soldier in that day. And your petitioner would suggest that he has never received any compensation for his services, except a few dollars in Continental money, which by the depreciation of that currency proved to be of no service to your petitioner.

And your petitioner further represents that he has been lame for the last twenty-three or four years, during the greater part of which time, he has continued to support himself, and his partner in life, by labour – but unfortunately for your petitioner, as his years increased in number, his lameness became more distressing; and for the last six or seven years, has rendered him entirely unable to labour during which period your petitioner has been obliged to live entirely on the money arising from the sale of a small tract of Land and unfortunate as it may be for your petitioner, in the very evening of life, he finds this last resource entirely exhausted. – And himself and the aged Companion of his last days, reduced to extreme poverty & want, in that very Country he has so long served, and so often risked his life to defend.

Now that your petitioner knows no other respect means, by which he can any longer gain a support, he finds him self compelled to solicit an interest in that liberality, your Honourable body has so often extended to the relief of the old Soldier. – And humbly prays that your Honourable body pass a Law granting your petitioner such a pension, as your better judgements may think his former services deserve, and present necessities require.

And in duty bound will ever pray &c

Daniel Davis Sn'r.

November 9th 1830

This day came John Stephenson, sen. [pension application W6204] before me the undersigned a justice of the peace for the County of Cabell and State of Virginia who saith upon oath that he knew Daniel Davis sen. to serve a tower of duty under Capt. William Renfro in the old Revolutionary war in the year 1777 or 1778 and that he knew the sd Daniel Davis to enlist in the year 1777 or 1778 under General Mckintosh and that he knew him to continue in the service until the Expiration of that war. Given under my hand the day and year above written Benjamin Davis JP

Dec'r 13th 1830 ref'd to Rev'y Claims

Postponed for the present

January 4th 1821 [sic] Rejected by the Committee

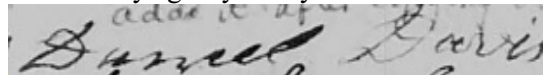
[The following are from the federal pension file.]

Cabell County Virginia to wit,

On this 23rd day of September 1833 personally appeared before the county Court of said County Daniel Davis a resident of said County aged seventy four years the 11th day of Febuary last, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June the the 7th 1832. That in the year 1777 he entered

into the Army of the United States as a militia man under the command of Capt John Henderson as a volunteer & as a private soldier and on the first of Aprile they marched from the little levels [sic: Little Levels] in the County of Greenbrier then the County of Augusta and from thence we marched through a wilderness tract of Country to the mouth of the Great Kanawha. this declarant understood that the object of Col. Hendersons march to that place was to take possession of the Garrison at point pleasant in the place of Capt Westfalls [Abel Westfall's] Company who immediately marched from said Garrison Eastwardly with a company of regular troops. This declarant further states that himself and ten or fifteen others were sent by Capt [Mathew] Arbuckle with crafts to meet Col. [John] Dickenson at the confluence of Elk and Kanawha rivers and their aided Col. Dickenson and Col. Skillion [sic: George Skilleren] to cross Elk river and then they brought their bagage down the Kanawha to point pleasant while the two Cols. aforesaid marched about five hundred miles more by land to point pleasant this declarant further states that he marched in company with the officers and soldiers from the mouth of Elk river to the Mud Camps[?] at which time eighty men went into a hollow sycamore at one time and this declarant constituted one of that number at that place this declarant left the troops aforesaid and returned to the Fort at point pleasant and some short time afterward the aforesaid troops arrived at said Fort and soon after their arrival Robert Gilmore one of their Leuteants was Killed by the Indians on the Lower and Westside of Kanawha River which circumstance led to the wanton and cruel murder of King Cornstock and his son Nipsico and then other Indians over whome this declarant was one of the Guard [see endnote] and this declarant further states that in a few days from that time he with thirty four or five men volunteered upon a scouting parties under the command of Leutenants Estill & McNut and descended the Ohio River to the mouth of the Sciota [sic: Scioto] river and returned to the mouth of Big Guyandotte where they remained from six to ten days and from thence to the Fort where they remained untill the 20th of december of the same year at which time he was discharged by Capt Henderson having served seven months and twenty days. this declarant states that the Fort at point pleasant was under the command of Capt Matthu Arbuckle and this declarant further states on the fourth day of June in the year 1878 [sic] he volunteered into the service of the united states as a substitute for William Davis and as a private and marched from the County of Bedford in the State of Virginia under the command of Capt William Renfrow up the Roanoke to Kings Fort and from thence to potts Fort on sinking creek and on the fourth day of September this declarant was discharged by Capt Renfrow which said term of service was for the term of three months, and this declarant further states that immediately after he was discharged by Capt Renfrow as aforesaid, he volunteered as a private soldier under the command of Capt William Thompson to Guard the frontiers and the next day marched from Fincastle [in Botetourt County] through Stanton [sic: Staunton] to Runney by Lonill Hill and crossed the Monongalia [sic: Monongahela] River and from thence to the mouth of big beaver [at present Beaver PA] there he entered into McIntoushes Fort [sic: Fort McIntosh] and there joined McIntoushs Army and from thence we marched to Tuscoroa [sic: Tuscarawas] River and their we built a fort [Fort Laurens, begun 10 Nov 1778] at which time Capt Thomson received orders from Gen'l. McIntoush to march back to Mackentoush Fort at which place he received a discharge from Capt Thompson on the 20th of december which completed a term of service of three months and twenty days He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares, that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid



Interogatories Put by the Court

1 Where and in what year was you born

Answer I was born in the County of Chester in the State of Pennsylvania on the 11th of Febuary 1759

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

Answer I have a record of my age taken from my Fathers Bible

3 Where was you liveing when called into service; where have you lived since the revolutionary war and where do you now live?

Answer When called into service I lived in the County of Greenbrier, then the county of Augusta in the

State of Virginia and since the war I have lived in the Counties of Kanawha Greenbrier and Cabell, and am at this time a resident of Cabell County

4 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 volunteered the first term of service The second term of service I was a substitute for William Davis and the third term of service I volunteered.

5 State some of the names of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect; and the general circumstance of your services
Answer at Point Pleasant the Fort was commanded by Capt Arbuckle Col Skillen and Col. Dickenson Commanded men there but not the Fort the 2nd tour I guarded Gen's Andrew Lewis's house [at present Salem] four weeks and the balance of the term I was engaged in guarding Kings Fort on Roanoke and Potts Fort on Sinking creek under the Command of Capt William Rintfrow

6 did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given

Answer I received three discharges one from Capt Henderson and one from Capt Rintfrow & one from Capt Thompson but have lost them all

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

Answer John Samuels Edmund McGinnis James McGinnes and William McComas

Pocahontas County Virginia to wit

This is to certify that on this day Jacob Kinnison [S16905] of said County personally appeared before me one of the acting justices of the peace for the County aforesaid in the State aforesaid and made oath that Daniel Davis of the County of Cabell then of the County of Greenbrier served with him the said Jacob Kinnison in time of the revolutionary war as a soldier Ten months at Point Pleasant at the mouth of the Kanaway River under Captain Mathew Arbuckle a regular officer and that the said Service was performed in the year 1776 or 1777 but rather believed to be in 1777 and that he believes that the said Daniel Davis further served as an Indian Spy but has no recollection of but one tower and that but for a short period Given under my hand and seal this 27th day of August 1833 Thomas Hill

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111.]

Daniel Davis – alleges to have served 14 ½ mo in the Va. Militia Col Henderson Col. Dickerson &c. I the undersigned Daniel Davis in pursuance of the requisition of the Secretary of War make the following re declaration of my Revolutionary Services to wit.

I am a native of Pennsylvania was born February 11th 1759. when a child my Father moved to Maryland and then to Virginia at the commencement of the war I lived in Greenbrier county then West Augusty [sic: Western District of Augusta County].

in the year 1777 there was a draft in my company for men to go into service at Point Pleasant. Jacob Kennison Jacob McNeil [S5745] and myself all members of the same company for the purpose of relieving our company from the draft volunteered ourselves. the company rendezvoused on Muddy creek & marched from there to the Point under Capt. Henderson and joined Capt Arbuckle, commandant of that station. whilst at the Point in service Cornstalk the Indian warrior & other Indians of distinction then Prisoners to Capt Arbuckle were murdered in cold blood by some of Col. Dickenson's men. I went into this service on the first of April & remained in it until the 20th of December following and was then discharged –

In the spring of 1778 I went to Bedford county to visit my Brother & his family. Shortly after my getting there the Indians murdered some of the settlers on the head of Rhoanoke river. Genl Andrew Lewis who lived in that region called a company of Militia out some to Beat off the Indians & protect the

settlers – my Brother William was drafted on this service 3 months I took his place. we marched from Bedford county under William Rentfrow Capt. to Kings Fort and from there to Potts Fort on Sincking creek at the latter place our term expired. our company consisted of some 50 or 60 men. our Lieuf tenants name was Skelton. our company was divided and subdivided into parties of 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 and stationed up and down the river for the purpose of more efectually protecting the settlers. I was in this service 3 mo. got a written discharge which is lost – on the 4th day of September 1778 I volunteered for Genl. McIntosh campaign in company under the command of Capt. William Thompson rendezvoused at Fincastle in Botetort county. We marched down the vally [Shenandoah Valley] by the way of Staunton &c then through Hampshire and across the Alleghania [sic: Allegheny] Mountains pursuing the Bradock [sic: Braddock] road and thence to the mouth of Big Beaver and joined Genl. McIntosh at that place the army was marched to Tuscarawah and there built Fort Lawrence then returned to Fort McIntosh where on or about the 20th of December in same year I was discharged. – & thus ended my services – The statement now given is in substance the same as given to Mr. McComas who wrote my Declaration. he charged me nothing. – I herewith annex the affidavit of Jacob Kennison procured since I was placed on the Pension roll, in reference to which it proper for me to remark that he is mistaken as to the length of service refered to in his affidavit. In Witness of all which I hereto subscribe my name august 26, 1835.

Danl. Davis

Witness J. M. McComas

a true copy W G Singleton.

this old Gentleman sustains a good character – he gave his statement with composure & frankness – I believe him to be entitled to [what] he draws – W. G Singleton

NOTE: In the fall of 1777 Chief Cornstalk, his son Ellinipsico, Red Hawk, and Petalla were being held hostage near Point Pleasant to ensure good behavior by the Indians. They were murdered by soldiers enraged by the killing of a Lieutenant whose name is usually given as James Gilmer or Gilmore.