

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Davenport W19155 Mary Davis VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia County of Mathus [sic: Mathews]} SS.

On this 29th day of may 1837 personally appeared before us Mary Davis a resident of the county of mathews and State of Virginia and in the county and state aforesaid aged Eighty five years, who, being first duly sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benifit of the Provision made by the Act of congress, passed July 4th 1836 and the Act explanatory of the said act passed March 3rd 1837 That she was married to William Davenport who was a Lieutenant & captain in the Revolutionary War

That the said Davenport enlisted in the continental line in about March 1776 [sic] under one Mathews [probably Richard Mathews] as a Lieutnt and whilst under the said Mathews he had a scrumage at the Great Bridge [Battle of Great Bridge, 9 Dec 1775] & some time after that Mathews was taken prisoner, then the said Davenport was captain & was sent to the East Ernshore [sic: Eastern Shore] to command a fort under one parker or Smith, but I dont know how long he stayed but after he returned home he went to the North & Stayed some time but I do not recollect how long he stayed, but whilst he was gone to the North the enemy Broke open our house & cut open our Beds & took some clothing from us &c but after the said Davenport returned home he was in and about Norfolk & Sowels point [sic: Sewells Point in present Norfolk City] & some of his time at York & on York River, at which Place just before the Seige of york [Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] he took a Large English schooner commanded by one Captain Ross, and that her husband Davinport still continued in sarvice til the seige of York to the best of her Recollection & belief and that her husband Davenport some time after the Revolutionary war, was to the best of her reollection appointed to make a treaty with the Indians. he & some others went out together & the last I heard of him was in Georgia & after that I heared that he was killed by the Indians, which was some time after he went out, to the best of my knowledge & belief – that she lived in Norfolk Virginia when she was married to the said Davenport & where he Enlisted, but after the war begun they moved two miles back of Norfolk and in 1776 or 77 moved to Smithfield in Isle of wight county and stayed thair about two years & from thair moved to Williams Burg [sic: Williamsburg] & stayed till the eney came & I had to move to King & qeen court House [sic: King and Queen Courthouse] but stayed but a short time at King & qeen court Hous and in or about March 1784 moved to Gloucester County Kingston parrish now mathews county whear I married Edward Davis my late husband who died withe Pleuracey on the 1st day of April 1819 in his Eighty first year of his age

She further declares that she was married to the said William Davenport in March 1770 by Parson Davis & that her bands [sic: banns] was cried in church three Sundays before she was married – and that her husband, the aforesaid William Davenport, was killed some time after the Revolutionary war and that she was afterwards married to Edward Davis who died on the 1st Day of april 1819, and that she was a widow on the 4th July 1836 and still remains a widow, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed,
Mary hirXmark Davis

Rec'd of Wm Davenport his Note for £6-18-0¼ which when paid will Be in full of his Booked acct with a de Graffenried @ Chester Court House Books & Sandy River Books for A de Graffenreed
May 7th 1794 Wm Hobson

Halifax 7 July 179[?] Rec'd of Wm Devenport Wm. Douglas's Bond for Nine pounds seventeen shillings & 9d which I agree to give him Credit for James Chalmers
Test/ Wm. Hamlet Jr [?]

I James Thomas [pension application S11548] a Revolutionary Pansioner of the County of Mathews & State of Virginia aged about 74 years I do here by certify that I was well acquainted with William Davenport of the town of Norfolk from 1774 to 1776 that the said Davenport Enlisted in 1775 or 1776 in the continental line of Virginia & he continued in survce till 1779 or I believe that he continued till the Siege of York to the best of my knowledge & beliefe & I do further surtify that the said Davenport was in a very sever scrumage at the Great Bridge in 1775 or 1776 & further that he was in a scrumage at Norfolk just before the said town was Burnt [1 Jan 1776] & at that time the said Davenport boarded his wife Mary Davenport who was Mary Hunley before he married her, at my fathers House just back of Norfolk to say 1½ or two miles from town, she Boarded there 6 or Eight months. During that time he was frequently there & that the said Davenport & Mary his wife cohabited as man & wife & that they had a child with them that was about 2 or three years old Named Elizabeth Davenport Daughter of William Davenport & his wife Mary who is now living in this County and the legitimate heir of sd Davenport at that time the said Davenport was under Genl [Edward] Stevens & Col [William] Woodford – and that some time after that the said Davinport, went to the North & stayed some time & after that he returned & caryed a parcel of soldiers to the North with him from portsmouth Virginia. And I do here by Certify that I allways understood that the said William Davenport went to the West some time after the revolutionary War & was killed by the Indians & that his wife Mary Davenport moved to this county some time after that & the said widow Mary Davenport has resided in the said County Eversince & that she married Edward Davis but I do not recollect the day or year, but I know that she married the said Edward Davis who Died on the 1st day of April 1819 with the Pluracy, in or about his 80 or 81st year of his age to the best of my knowledge and belief & that she has remained a widow Eversince that period. Given from under my hand & seal this 26th day of May 1837

James Thomas

[The following are from [bounty-warrant files in the Library of Virginia](#):]

Winchester July 24th 1783.

I do hereby Certify that William Davenport entred the Continental Service in the Virginia Line as a Lieutenant in february 1776 & continued in the Service to December 1779 when he resigned his Commission having served Three years & upwards successively as a Lieut. & Captain in the Virg'a. Line.

P. Muhlenberg B.G.



Colo. Thos. Meriwether/ Richmond.

Market Hill Novem'r 16th 1785

Dear Sir,/ This will be handed you by my Son he waites on you for a Order for Capt Devenports Land, with this will be also handed you a Leter from Mr Rich'd Mathews to home the Capt Sold & his Leter to Mr Mathews on the mator, [illegible word] I Flator myself will be of sofitiant athurity for your giving the Ordor and, I can assure you Devenport remaned in Sarvis on the Estreny Shore of Virginia to the time Gen'l Mehlenburg certifies, as I am now the Onor of the Land I must observe to you it will be a rail Loss to me If cannot get the warent, and should you be in eney Doutt of Capt Davenport having recourse to you for the warent I pledge my honor to you I will Indamenfy you

I am Dr. Sir with much respect/ your rail friend & Hu'l Sarv't./ Geo. Mathews

Augusta 17th Nov'r. 1785

Sir Sometime in august or September 1783 I delivered you a letter from a Capt Wm Davenport requesting that a warrant should Issue to me for the Land He was entitled to for his Services in the army.

that warrant I could not obtain for want of the necessary Proof of his services. I have since Transferred my right to Gen'l Geo Mathews. Should you not recollect the reception of the above ment'd Letter, There will be Handed you with this a letter from Davenport to Gen'l. Mulenburgh, which will evince the Justice of my claim. I am Sir/ Yr Very Hbl Sr't./ Rich'd. Mathews

NOTES:

The file includes a copy of a bond signed in Mathews County on 1 March 1797 by Edward Davis and John Patterson for the marriage of Davis to Mary Davenport.

On 30 May 1837 Frances Singleton, 67 or 68, stated that William Davenport married her half sister, Mary Hunley, and that she took her mother to visit William and Mary Davenport in Williamsburg late in the Revolutionary War. She also stated that she understood that after the Revolutionary War William Davenport was killed by Indians in "the Western country," and that the widow Mary Davenport in 1784 or 1785 moved to her (Singleton's) father's house in Mathews County.

On 31 May 1837 George W. Kirwan stated that he believe his grandmother, Mary Davis, the widow of William Davenport, was entitled to a pension. On 29 July 1837 William Davis of Norfolk certified that Mary Davis was the widow of William Davenport, who had one child, named Elizabeth Davenport.

The words transcribed below are on blank pages of *A Companion to the Altar: Shewing the Nature and Necessity of a Sacramental Preparation*, printed in 1771.

Latitia Singleton and Mary Mackie: Two Beautiful Young Ladies/ J. Will. B. Haynes

Latitia Singleton

Wm. Haynes ΦBK

Mary Davenport

[several illegible words]

Molly & Betsey Sisters and Efectionate Both

To Jesus Christ Amen

Chacy Jordan

[E]lizabeth deavenport

Mr Wm Davenport

Elizabeth Davenport daughter to William and Mary Davenport was Born November te 27th in the year of 1771

John Micheal

Davenport Capt. April the 13th

Chacy Jordan