

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Dobbins W25534¹

Catharine Dobbins f43SC²

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/10/10: rev'd 5/4/21

[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.]

To the Honorable William Widgery, one of the Associate Judges of the Circuit Court of Common Pleas for the first Eastern Circuit of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Respectfully shows

James Dobbins of Falmouth in the Maine District, that he served as a private soldier in the war of the revolution for the term of one year serving on the Continental Establishment, that he yet is a resident citizen of the United States at Falmouth aforesaid, and that by reason of your applicant's reduced circumstances in life, he is in need of assistance of his country for support being now sixty-five years of age.

And your applicant further represents, that in the service aforesaid, he belonged in his said capacity of a Private soldier to Captain Linnen's [sic, probably Charles Lining] Company of the first Regiment commanded by Colonel C. C. Pinckney [Charles Cotesworth Pinckney] of the South Carolina line, that he entered said service on or about the 15th day of April in the year 1779 and that he left said service on or about April 1780. He enlisted for 16 months at Puresburgh [sic, Purrysburg] on Savannah River & marched to Augusta & thence in pursuit of the enemy to Charlestown and fought them about 20 miles distant from that place,³ then marched to Savannah & besieged it with Count d'Estaing of the French fleet,⁴ were repulsed in attempt to storm it, then marched back to Charlestown, our Regiment were stationed in Fort Moultrie. In the spring we were besieged [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]⁵ & I was taken prisoner in General Lincoln's [Benjamin Lincoln's] Army having in the winter enlisted for the war. The militia was paroled & I was then disguised as a militia man, and after reported myself to Colonel Habersham [Joseph Habersham] of the Georgia line, but was never after called on for service.

Wherefore, inasmuch as your applicant, as he verily believes, comes under the provisions of the Act, entitled "An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war," he prays your honor to institute an inquiry into the circumstances of his case, and that such further proceedings may be had touching the premises as are prescribed by law, in order that your applicant may be placed on the Pension List of the

¹ As of 5/4/2021, this file was erroneously indexed under the Maine pension applications on Ancestry.com.

² BLWt31429-160-55

³ Applicant appears to be describing the battle fought at Stono Ferry.

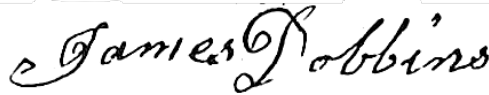
⁴ Siege of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

⁵ Battle of Charleston <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

United States.

Dated at Portland, this 29th day of April 1818

S/ James Dobbins



United States of America, District of Maine,

At a District Court of the United States begun and holden at Portland within and for the District of Maine, on the first Tuesday, being the 6th day of June and by adjournment from day-to-day, on the 8th day of June in the year of our Lord 1820, before the Honorable Albion K. Parris, Judge of said Court.

On this 8th day of June in the year above written, personally appeared in open Court, the same having "the power of fine and imprisonment," and being a Court of Record for said main district, James Dobbins -- aged sixty six -- years, resident in Falmouth in said District, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath declare that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows, viz., as a private in the company commanded by Captain Linnen in the Regiment commanded by Colonel C. C. Pinckney in the line of the State of South Carolina on the Continental Establishment, as is more particularly mentioned and described in his original declaration, made on the 29th day of April A.D. 1818, and on which said declaration his Certificate of Pension, numbered 10,372 was granted. And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war" passed on the 18th day of March 1818, and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property, or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed

S/ James Dobbins

S/ Albion K. Parris, US District Judge for the District of Maine

Schedule of real and personal property, (necessary clothing and bedding excepted) belonging to me the subscriber, viz.:

Real estate -- none

Personal estate -- a few cooking utensils, a chest, table and a few old chairs. I have no income

S/ James Dobbins

Schedule of the family residing with me James Dobbins who by occupation am a laborer which I am not able to pursue constantly on account of age

<u>Names</u>	<u>Ages</u>	<u>Capacity of each to contribute to their support</u>
wife, Catharine	48	a sickly woman, has the dropsy
Catharine	19	able to support herself
Joseph	14	a healthy boy
Jefferson	12	children not able to support themselves
Daniel	11	
Maria	8	
Martha	1	

S/ James Dobbins

[p 11: On October 1, 1853 in Falmouth, Cumberland County Maine, Catharine Dobbins, 82 filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of James Dobbins, a soldier and pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$96 per annum for his services in the revolution; that she married her husband in Halifax Nova Scotia; that her maiden name was Catharine Pitman; that her husband died August 24 1853; and that she remains his widow. She does not give the date of her marriage but states that she was married to her husband prior to January one 1794. She signed her application with her mark.]

[image 698 in Ancestry.com: On June 19, 1855 in Cumberland County Maine, the widow filed for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of James Dobbins, a Revolutionary war pensioner; that her husband died on August 21, 1853. She signed this document with her mark.

[Facts in file: The widow died January 14, 1856; Nathan Knight testified that he knew the veteran for more than 50 years and that the veteran worked for him building ships [Image 714 on Ancestry.com].]

[Veteran was pension at the rate of \$8 per month commencing April 29th, 1818, for service for one year in the South Carolina Continental line. He was placed on the Maine registry. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]