

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of William Dickson W328 Sarah Bayless (former widow) f79SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

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[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 Tennessee Monroe County: On this 11th day of December 1850 before me William Williams an acting Justice of the peace in and for the County & State aforesaid came Sarah Bayless aged eighty years a citizen of Monroe County & State of Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to law, doth upon her oath make the following Declaration for the purpose of obtaining a pension to which she may be entitled under existing laws of Congress. She declares that she is the widow of William Dickson who was engaged in the service of the United States in the war of the revolution, and that he served in said war about 6 or 7 years. That he served as commissary of issues for a time in Sumpter's [Thomas Sumter's] Brigade this appears in Book M No. 643 as filed or kept in the Comptroller's office in Columbia South Carolina of the War department also the following you will find by reference to the same office Book O. No. 381 shows that he performed duty as a private on Horse & foot from August 1779 -- 2 April 1782 by the pay rolls of Captain John Wilson & Captain Hugh Wardlow, and that he did duty in Captain Otterson's [Samuel Otterson's] Company, Colonel Brandon's [Thomas Brandon's] Regiment 111 days as a private Horseman as appears by an order signed by William Dickson before Charles Sims JP 1st November 1785 for 10 £Sterling, also in order No. 3471 32 £ Shillings, Militia duty as private and Lieutenant in Roebuck's Regiment before and since the fall of Charleston --viz., 250 days duty horseman Captain John Lawson's pay roll, Captain Benjamin Roebuck's Regiment -- the above you will find by examining the Books of the Comptroller's Office of the war department Columbia South Carolina,<sup>1</sup> my said husband was a resident of Spartanburg County South Carolina she further says that her husband was at engaged in the skirmishes of Kettle Creek<sup>2</sup> the battle of Ninety Six<sup>3</sup> and the Battles of the Cowpens,<sup>4</sup> and other services before and since the fall of Charlestown and that her said husband William Dickson was wounded by being shot in the mouth in one of the Battles that he was in while in the said revolutionary war and that he never afterwards was stout or enjoyed good health on the account of said wound. She further declares that the discharges and other papers of her said husband were destroyed by the accidental burning of affiant's House at the private record of their marriage was also destroyed in

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<sup>1</sup> This claimant claimed for her former husband all of the services reflected by the documents in the South Carolina Audited Accounts under the name of "William Dickson, Dixon". Even a cursory reading of those documents, however, reveals that they relate to more than one veteran as quite a few of the claims overlapped in periods served and were rendered under different officers. It is impossible to tell which of these claims actually relate to her former husband.

<sup>2</sup> Kettle Creek February 14, 1779 <https://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790214-kettle-creek/>

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/SC\\_Revolutionary\\_War\\_Known\\_Battles\\_Skirmishes.htm](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/SC_Revolutionary_War_Known_Battles_Skirmishes.htm)

<sup>4</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_cowpens.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html)

the same manner and she knows of no other record of their marriage. She further declares that she was married to her said husband William Dickson on or about the 6th of January 1777 that he died in July 1824 that he drew no pension nor did he ever make any application for one. That she has not applied for a pension on the account of the services of her said husband nor has she authorized anyone to make an application for a pension until the present time. She states that she be remained a widow from July 1824 until July 1826, when she intermarried with William Bayless who died December 5th 1845 and that she has since remained and is now a widow.

S/ Sarah Bayless, X her mark

S/ Wm Williams, JP

[p 15]

State of South Carolina district of Abbeville: Personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Magistrate within and for said District & State, Mrs. Grizzella Milford who being duly sworn according to law declares that she is now in her 84th year of age and was born, brought up and has ever lived in her present neighborhood: That she remembers perfectly well the war of the Revolution and at that time she was living with her grandmother Mrs. Margaret Dickson and distinctly recollects about her uncle William Dickson being compelled to keep himself concealed from the Tories & the enemy and of his going as a soldier under General Andrew Pickens to Georgia and he said when he returned that he had been in the battle of Kettle Creek in that State and that altogether at his intimate friends and comrades in said war was her said uncle & Edward Sharp of same neighborhood who was wounded in his arm: That the Whig captains of the neighborhood in the militia in said war were Captains John Wilson, Hugh Wardlaw and Samuel Reid: That after the while her said uncle was out in said war she remained with his mother her grandmother aforesaid and that after the war was over about one year and a half her said uncle William Dickson and Sarah Dickson his wife were married at a place then and still called Cambridge in this District and that Deponent acted as Bridesmaid and remembers joining their hands and that the marriage ceremony was performed by William Moore a Justice of the Peace who lived at said Cambridge in said District. That this Deponent is positive and certain as to the fact of the marriage not having taken place prior to the year in which the war closed -- that was after the war -- and that said uncle said William Dickson was not an officer in the said War: that he the said William and his said wife Sarah moved as they then declared to Tennessee about 43 years ago. That this Deponent's age she is enabled to state from her family Record in which the date of her birth is all this 15th 1768 and that she is in no way interested in any amount which said Sarah Dickson may recover for the services of her said uncle the said William Dickson. That the following families belonged to this neighborhood about the time of the war viz., those of the Agnews, McKees, Pruitts, Cowan's, Hawthornes, Seawrights, Bells, Wardlaws, Bowmans, Razor and Thomas Moore -- That John Dickson was a cousin of her said uncle William & lived here also -- and that from her earliest recollection which was before the war her said uncle with William never lived out of this District until he moved away as aforesaid. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24th day of September 1851

S/ Grizzella Milford, X her mark

State of South Carolina District of Abbeville: Personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Magistrate within and for said District & State Robert C. Sharp a citizen of said District & State aged 66 years on the 17th day of last June as appears by his family record duly examined, and being duly sworn according to law deposeseth: That he was born, and brought up and has ever

lived in his present neighborhood near the head of Long cane Creek in said District and not far from the old Hogskin Mills: That he was well acquainted with William Dickson and his wife Sarah Dickson living together as husband and wife from Deponent's earliest recollection when a boy. That said Dickson & wife were near neighbors of Deponent's father Edward Sharpe deceased and were on intimate terms of friendship: That this Deponent has as he clearly recollects heard his father and said Dickson speak of having been in the Revolutionary war together and of serving together as fellow soldiers: That in the same neighborhood of their (his father's & William Dickson's) we'd friends, as this Deponent learned from seeing them together & hearing their conversations as to their trials & difficulties in said war, were, Andrew Agnew, William Bell, James Wardlaw and his father Captain Hugh Wardlaw of the Whig side, Samuel Read, Major – Bowie [John Bowie], Andrew Cowan and John Dickson a relative of said William Dickson, and that there were also lived in the same neighborhood James Hawthorn whose daughter this Deponent married, William all who lived with said William Dickson, William Blair, James Pruet, Mr. Rapley and James Seawright another Whig friends. That this Deponent's father had his left arm badly cut with a sword as he said in that war and Deponent has heard his father speaking of said William Dickson's dressing his arm. That this Deponent does not recollect the particulars of their services as detailed by his father and his friends said Dickson, but that his father spoke of having been in the war at the battle of Cowpens. That since this Deponent's recollection John Dickson a relative of William Dickson as aforesaid married Nancy Franks, relative of Mrs. Sarah Dickson, wife of the said William Dickson: That this Deponent himself married in February 1808 and remembers that in the following fall when this Deponent was settling on his Place the said William Dickson and his wife the said Sarah Dickson moved, as they then declared their intention, to the State of Tennessee: That this Deponent remembers that said Dickson & wife had no children and that he has no doubt but that they had been married and further this Deponent swears he is in no way interested in any amount which said Sarah Dickson may recover on account of her said husband's services in said war.  
Sworn to and subscribed this 24th day of September 1851.

S/ R. C. Sharp

[p 19: Rev. Hugh Dickson gave testimony in Abbeville District, SC; that Sarah Dickson was a Miss Frank before her marriage to Wm Dickson.]

[p 25 SC Comptroller's General certificate dated Dec. 24, 1850.]

[The widow was pensioned at the rate of \$28.54 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1848, for her former husband service in the South Carolina Cavalry & Infantry militia as a private.]