

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Dempsey Stewart W3734

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Brunswick County Sc.

On this 25th day of May 1819 personally appeared before the court of Brunswick county Dempsey Stewart a free man of colour aged fifty four years resident in the said county who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the late 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. That he the said Stewart enlisted in Northampton County in the State of North Carolina but does not recollect the precise time in the company commanded by capt Rodes of the first regiment North Carolina line Commanded by Coll. Litle [see endnote].

That he continued to serve in the said corps or in the service of the United States untill the termination of the war being more than nine months when he was discharged from service at Wilmington in N. Carolina. that he was in no regular battles, that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country for a support and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services except the certificates hereto annexed Sworn to and declared in open court the day & year aforesaid -

On the 21st[?] day of Aug'st. being the third day of of the court personally appeared Dempsey Stewart and in order to amend his [illegible word] declaration on oath says that he enlisted in the Spring of the year 1782 and acted as one of the guard over the soldiers captured with Campbell [several illegible words] and was discharged in the month of August 1783 at Wilmington in the state of North Carolina

State of North Carolina Secretarys Office 28th Sept'r. 1819.

I William Hill Secretary of State in and for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears from the musterroll of the No. Carolina Continental line that Dempsey Stewart a private in Capt. Evans's Comp'y [see endnote]. of the 10th Reg't was mustered some time in the year 1782, for the term of 18 months, and was transfer'd in December 1782, but to what Company or Line the Roll does not state.

Given under my hand the date above.

Wm. Hill

District of Virginia Sct

On this twenty seventh day of January 1823 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of Record held in & for the County of Brunswick in the state and District of Virginia Dempsey Stewart at present an Inhabitant of the County aforesaid, an old Soldier now aged about fifty seven years, a resident in and of the said County and State, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows: he enlisted in the Continental line of the State of North Carolina for the term of eighteen months, was a private in the company commanded by Captain Evans in the tenth Regiment was mustered in the year 1782 for 18 months and transferred in December 1782. the date of his Original Declaration is 25th May 1819. The number of his pension Certificate 15311. 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 disposed of my property or any part thereof, with intent so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions 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 or property other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed; One Tract of poor land estimated at 60 acres, value 100 Dollars, Several pieces of earthen Pylap[?] ware 1.50 cents, one Cart, wheels, & gear 6 dollars, Cooking apparatus 1 dollar, an Old Loom 1 dollar, 3 old Chairs & 3 old Tables 1.50 cents, 2 axes, 2 hoes,

& one plough 2.50 6 Geese & 10 Chickens 2.50 = 115.50

Dempsey Stewart. The whole of the property in the above Schedule is conveyed away by deed of Trust to secure the payment of one hundred and fifty two dollars. no person owes me a Dollar, so that I am not worth one Cent. I am by occupation a planter but from bodily infirmities I am unable to attend to my business, the number of my family is two my wife about fifty six years old~

NOTES:

The 1st NC Continental Regiment was captured at Charleston on 12 May 1780. When it was finally reorganized in 1782 it was nominally commanded by Col. Thomas Clark, even though he remained a prisoner of war. Col. Archibald Lytle was also captured at Charleston and was exchanged on 9 Feb 1782, but there was no regiment for him to command. The muster roll cited by William Hill actually shows Demsy Stewart in the company of Capt. Rhodes.

On 17 Mar 1853 Lucy Stewart, 86, of Petersburg VA applied for a pension stating that she married Demsy Stewart on 10 Feb 1786, and he died in Jan 1849 in Brunswick County. Robert T. Stone and Murphey Stewart certified the application, and Murphey Stewart stated that he was present at the death of Demsy Stewart, and that Lucy Stewart had lived with him since then. The file includes a copy of a record of the marriage of "Demsy Stewart & Lucy Berry" in Greensville County VA by William Andrews on 10 Feb 1786.