

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Thomas Dickson (Dixon) W3963

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of North Carolina }
Orange County }

On this the 21st day of November, 1838, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace for the aforesaid County of Orange, James Dixon, a resident of the aforesaid County, in the 72nd year of his age; Who being first duly qualified according to law, maketh on oath the following statement towit:

That he is the younger brother of the late Thomas Dixon Dec'd. of the aforesaid County. This Deponent remembers very distinctly that in the summer of 1780, that there was a draft of the militia in the aforesaid County, for three months men, when the Deponent's brother the aforesaid Thomas Dixon was drafted and attached to Captain [Thomas] Farmer's Company, this Deponent thinks; was marched under Gen'l. [Horatio] Gates from Hillsboro' [sic: Hillsborough] to South Carolina, and has always understood, that a few days before Gen'l. Gates's defeat [at the Battle of Camden, 16 Aug 1780], that this affiants brother, with other militia was selected and put under Gen'l. Sumpter [sic: Thomas Sumter], and were under Sumpter at his defeat [Skirmish at Fishing Creek, 18 Aug], as this deponent has often heard his brother say: Said Thomas was not taken prisoner, but with some others made his escape. the troops to which said Thomas was attached met again in Hillsboro, where said Thomas served out his three months & was discharged & returned home.

2. This Deponent remembers very well, that some time in the next winter (1781) the said Thomas Dixon aforesaid was drafted for a three months tour of duty in the United States' Service, in the militia, and did serve as a private Soldier in all of said Tour; and in this tour was in the engagement at the Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781]. This Deponent remembers very well on that day of hearing the firing in said said engagement, and how anxious the family was to to hear the result of the Battle.

This Deponent's brother was in Captain George Hodges' Comny he thinks. [Gen. John] Butler was the Superior officer. after serving out his three months tour, was discharged & returned home.

This Deponent remembers very well of his brother's being drafted to serve the two tours aforesaid - remembers of his brother setting out from home on each of the aforesaid tours and of his serving them out and returning home.

That in both of the aforesaid tours, the said Thomas Dixon a private of militia, was in duly organized Corps and called into service by competent authority.

This Deponent further sets forth that he was present and saw his brother Thomas aforesaid, legally married to Anna Dixon, the present widow of the aforesaid Thomas Dixon, but does not remember the date.

That his brother the aforesaid Thomas Dixon, died about Twelve years ago.

That the said Anna Dixon has not married since his death, but still remains the widow of the aforesaid Thomas Dixon. [signed] James Dixon

State of North Carolina } S.S.
Orange County }

On this the 22nd day of February 1839, personally appeared before the undersigned an acting Justice of the peace and one of the Justices of the Courts of pleas and quarter sessions for the aforesaid County of Orange (at her own residence, she being from bodily infirmity, unable to attend Court to make this Declaration, and therefore is under the necessity of making it at her own residence) Ann Dixon of the aforesaid County in the 68th year of her age, who being first duly sworn according to Law, doth on her oath, make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7, 1838, entitled "An act granting half pay and pensions to Certain Widows:" That she is the widow of Thomas Dixon, Dec'd. who in the war of the Revolution as private soldier served the United States Six

months. To Wit.

1st. The Declarant the said Anna Dixon, stateth upon her oath that she has reason to believe & does believe, that in the year of 1780, her husband was drafted into the United States Service for a three months tour of duty and as private of Infantry was attached to Captain Farmers Co of militia Gen'l. Butler was the superior officer was marched from Hillsboro' to the South and was in Gen'l Sumpter's defeat at the Wateree [sic] and has heard her husband say how narrowly he escaped being made prisoner by Col. Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton]. That her Dec'd. husband served out all of his said three months tour and was duly discharged but what has become of his discharge this Deponent has no recollection.

This Tour this Declarant proves by the affiant James Dixon brother to her Dec'd husband - also by the affiant William Allen.

2. And the said Declarant further states upon her said oath, that she has reason to believe and does believe, that in the month of January or February 1781, her husband, the aforesaid Thomas Dixon, was a second time drafted into the United States Service for a three months tour of duty, in this tour was, as private of Infantry, attached to Capt. George Hodges' Co of militia. Butler was his superior officer.

In this tour this Deponents husband was in the Battle near the Guilford Court House - has repeatedly in her husband's life time heard him speak of these two tours and of the Dangers and hardships he had to encounter & that he had served in all six months.

This Tour this Declarant proves by the affiant James Dixon whose affidavit is hereto annexed as also that of William Allen Joseph Baker

That when her husband the aforesaid Thomas Dixon was in the United Service he was a resident of the aforesaid County of Orange.

That in both tours he served he was drafted

That he was in Sumpter's defeat & the Battle of Guilford Court House.

That she has no Documentary evidence of her husbands service.

That in both of the tours her deceased husband was in legally organized Corps and called into service by competent authority, as she has always understood & believes.

She further declares that she was married to the said Thomas Dixon on the last Thursday in May, one thousand seven hundred & Ninety-three, by the Rev'd William Hodge and that her husband the aforesaid Thomas Dixon died on the 9th day of April in the year of eighteen hundred & Twenty-six. that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the Service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January, seventeen hundred & Ninety-four viz at the time above stated.

The Declarant the said Ann Dixon, further stateth that the following memorandum is taken from her family Bible and is as follows to wit:

"Thomas Dixon (was born) on the — day of August 1761 and died 9th day of April, 1826. Ann Dixon was born Dec. 4th 1771 and was married 1793.

Thomas Dixon his book bought with his money, price £1 S10 A.D. 1793.

Matty Dixon was born the 27th January 1795.

Mary Dixon was born the 24 December 1796.

Anne Dixon was born the 23 January 1799.

James Dixon was born 4 March 1801

Died May 29th 1802.

Peggy Dixon born 16 January 1803.

Hannah Dixon was born 1st April 1805

Betsy Dixon was born 22 July 1807.

Edwin Reeves H. Dixon (Grandchild) was born 5 June, 1826."

The Declarant has extracted from her Bible the "family record" and has it annexed to this Declaration in compliance with the regulations of the Pension office, and further Declares upon her said oath, that said memorandum contains as it purports a true and correct family record.

[signed] Ann Dickson

NOTE: The file includes the original of the family record extracted above. Written above the extracted entries is the following line:

"Charles the Etheopian 15 year of May 1809"

The information on the extract is also included on another page but with the surname "Dickson" rather than "Dixon" and with the following two additional lines:

"John Dickson born 13th September 1809

Thomas Dixon born 20th May 1813"

Also in the file is a statement from the Court Clerk that a bond was executed 28 May 1793 for the marriage of Thomas Dixon to Anne Turner.