

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John Dent W4663

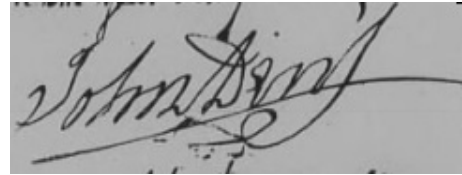
Margaret Dent

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 3 Sep 2019.

For the purpose of obtaining the benefits of an act, entitled “An act for the relief of certain surviving officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution “approved on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 1828 I John Dent of Monongalia county in the State of Virginia, do hereby declare that I was an officer in the Continental Line of the Army of the Revolution, and served as such, from the fall of 1777 or spring of 1778 untill the month of November 1781, at which latter period I was a Lieutenant in the ninth regiment of the Virginia line, under the command of Col. John Gibson [S41578], which regiment had been reduced from the thirteen regiment of the Virginia Line –

Witness my hand this 13<sup>th</sup> of February in the year 1829



Before me Nathan Goff, a Justice of the peace, in & for the county of Monongalia in the State of Virginia, personally appeared this day Col. John Evans [S8444] and Capt. John Evans Jr. of the said county, to me personally known, who did severally make oath that John Dent, by whom the foregoing declaration was subscribed, is generally reputed and believed to be an officer in the Army of the Revolution, in manner as therein stated.

Witness my hand and seal at the county aforesaid the 13<sup>th</sup> of February 1829 – Nathan Goff

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

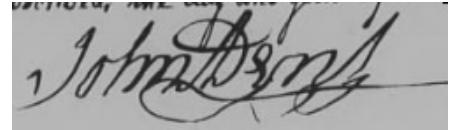
State of Virginia } SS.  
county of Monongalia }

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared before the County court of Monongalia, Capt. John Dent a resident of said county, aged seventy seven years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he enlisted as a private soldier for three years in the said county of Monongalia in the month of April in the year 1777 with Capt. David Scott [S25425] of the thirteenth Virginia regiment of Continental troops commanded by Col. John Gibson, Lieu’t. Col. Richard Campbell [BLWt347-450] and Major Taylor [Richard Taylor S46514] – that in the same month he marched to Fort Pitt, and from thence to Kittanning a fort on the east bank of the Allegheny river about fifty miles above Fort Pitt where he with his company remained about two months – that Capt. Scott’s company was releived and descended in bark canoes to Fort Pitt – that during the fall of 1777 Gen’l. [Edward] Hand with a part of the said regiment marched towards Sandusky. that he had written orders to go as a Sargeant with about twelve men under his command to a fort situated on the Ohio between the mouth of Big Beaver creek and Wheeling creek, the name of which fort he has forgotten, and directed to remain at that fort untill further orders, that he found people living in the fort – that before cold weather he was ordered back to Pittsburgh and found that Gen’l. Hand had left there and all the troops gone east of the mountains except two companies, one commanded by the said Capt. Scott and one commanded by Capt. Heath [Henry Heth VAS456] – that during the winter of 1777 he was employed as a sargent in taking deserters, many of the soldiers having deserted in consequence of the troops being ordered east of the mountains — that in the spring of 1778 Col. Gibson received intelligence that Gen’l. [Lachlan] McIntosh was marching to Fort Pitt, and sometime in the spring Gen’l. McIntosh arrived and in about three weeks afterwards he was presented with a Lieutenants commission, without any application on his part – that he was then attached to Capt. Jacobus

Sullivan's company – that during the summer or early part of the fall of 1778 he with the troops under Gen'l. McIntosh descended the Ohio river to Big Beaver creek, near to which the troops erected a fort and named it after the commanding officer [Fort McIntosh] – that during the fall of 1778 Gen'l. McIntosh with the said regiment the 8<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania regiment and several regiments of militia marched to Tuscarora [sic: Tuscarawas River], a tributary of the Muskingum river, where Fort Lawrence [sic: Fort Laurens] was built, where he remained untill about the first of February 1779 – that Gen'l. McIntosh at Fort Pitt in March 1779 proposed to give him the command of seventy five men to go out and harass the indians, that he and his men, painted and dressed like Indians, continued in that kind of service untill November 1779, that he then marched to and wintered at Fort McIntosh, where he was sometimes left commander, there being no field officer there, Gen'l. McIntosh having gone to Fort Pitt – that in the spring of 1780 he marched to Fort Pitt where he found Gen'l Brodhead [Daniel Brodhead VAS1812] in the command. Col. Gibson then gave him orders to take the command a captain of a company of Cavalry to pursue and bring in deserters, which service he was in untill November 1780, at which time he settled up his accounts with the army and resigned his commission, having been in the service about three years and seven months – that his commission was destroyed by being accidentally washed to pieces in his cloaths.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any state.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.



[The following are from [bounty-land records in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

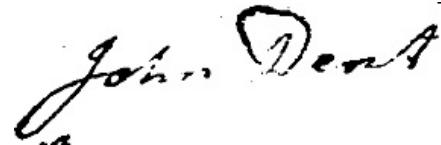
I do certify that John Dent enlisted into the service of the United States in the Virg'a. Line, in the month of May in year 1777 and was appointed an Officer in the 13<sup>th</sup> Virg. Reg't. in the year 1778, and continued in the same Reg't. until Nov'r. 1780, when he resigned, Being then a Lieutenant.

Given under my hand at Fort Pitt, May 25<sup>th</sup> 1780.

Jno. Gibson, Late  
Colo. Virg'a. Line

Sir/ please to bring my land warrant and you will oblige Sir/ your very Hum'l Ser't  
To Capt David Gray

John Dent  
12<sup>th</sup> July 1785



NOTE: On 27 Sep 1841 Margaret Dent, 78, applied for a pension stating that she married John Dent in June 1780, and he died 20 Sep 1840. Her brother, Col. Dudley Evans, 75, stated that he knew of Dent's service. Another brother, John Evans, stated that he knew of the marriage. As evidence of the marriage a family record was submitted said to have been written by John Dent in the leaves of a Bible used by his children as a school book:

Elizabeth Dent Daughter of John Dent and Margaret his Wife was born the 26<sup>th</sup> Decem'r 1780

John E. Dent son of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was born the 24<sup>th</sup> January 1783

George Dent Son of John Dent & Margaret his Wife Was born the 18<sup>th</sup> Novem'r. 1784 & Expired at New orlians the 3<sup>d</sup>. Day of July 1805

Dudley E. Dent Sone of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was Born the 1<sup>th</sup> Day of March 1787

Ann Dent Daughter of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was born the 23<sup>d</sup> Day of May 1789

Nimrod Dent Sone of John Dent & Margarit his Wife Was born the 18<sup>th</sup> Day of June 1792  
Margaret Higgs Dent Daughter of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was born the 1<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1794  
Enoch Dent sone of John Dent & Margaret his Wife was born the 21<sup>th</sup> Day of May 1796  
James Dent Sone of John Dent & Margaret his Wife Was born the 15<sup>th</sup> Day of August 1798  
Marmaduke Dent Sone of John Dent & Margaret his Wife Was born the 25<sup>th</sup> Day of February 1801 Analey  
Dent Daughter of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was born the 8<sup>th</sup> Day of April 1803  
Evans Dent sone of John Dent and Margaret his Wife Was born the 28<sup>th</sup> Day of February 1808