

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Dunkley W5267

Tabitha Dunkley

f59VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/09 rev'd 12/9/14

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 11]

Virginia, to wit

On this 23rd day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open Court, before the County Court of Halifax now sitting, John Dunkley a resident in the said County of Halifax and State aforesaid aged 73 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 Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, that he entered the service of the United States as a Militia-man under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that in the year 1780, as well as he remembers, he was drafted in the militia for three months and served his full time under the command of Capt. William Terry and was discharged at Watlington's old field that in the year 1781, he was again drafted for three months & served the time fully under the command of Capt. John Faulkner, and was at the siege of Little York, when Lord Cornwallis surrendered [October 19, 1781], when and where he was discharged from the service, that he has no proof of his service except the affidavits of Moses Epps¹ and Moses Dunkley,² he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension roll of the agency of any State.

S/ John Dunkley³

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

[William Buntin and William Childrey gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 39: On August 29, 1832, the applicant signed a power of attorney

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Dunkley" followed by a flourish. The signature is enclosed in a rectangular box with a dashed border. Below the signature, there are several dots and a closing bracket "]".

¹ [Moses Epps S6822](#)

² [Moses Dunkley S9331](#)

³ the handwriting of the signature is identical to the body of the document so I think it unlikely that it is the actual signature of the veteran even though it is not explicitly stated to be a copy

[p 43]

Virginia, Halifax County

Moses Epps a very respectable person, this day came before me one of the Commonwealth's Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid & made oath, that about the year 1780 that John Dunkley now of this County was drafted in the militia of this State to serve 3 months, & that he entered into the said service & returned home sometime afterwards. In the year 1781, the said John Dunkley & himself was drafted for 3 months in the militia & served their full time & was at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at the Siege of Lytle York and was there discharged. Given under my hand & seal this 28th of August 1832.

S/ Wm Faulkner

Virginia Halifax County, to wit -- Moses Dunkley a Credible person this day made oath before me that John Dunkley of this County was drafted in the militia of this State in the year 1781 before the surrender by Lord Cornwallis at little York & he believes he served the tour of 3 months -- given under my hand & seal this 22nd of October 1832.

S/ Wm Faulkner

[p 6: On September 18, 1844, Tabitha Dunkley, 70, filed in Halifax County, NC for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of John Dunkley, who resided in Halifax County, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution at the rate of \$20 per annum; that she married him in April 1792; that he died September 25, 1837; and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 7: On September 19, 1844 in Halifax County Virginia, Winney Morefield, aged about 85 years, gave testimony that she has known Tabitha Dunkley for about 60 years; that she, affiant, was at the wedding and witnessed the marriage of John Dunkley at the affiant's house some time in the month of April 1792; she remembers the date because one of her children was born on May 16, 1791 and was still "at the breast" at the time of the marriage. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 14: On February 1, 1845 in Halifax County Virginia, Winney Morefield gave further testimony authenticating a true register of the ages of her children kept by her husband the late John Morefield; the affiant further states that Tabitha Monday – the present Tabitha Dunkley – was legally married to John Dunkley; that the rites of marriage were performed by Parson Leonard Baker in the affiant's house in the month after the birth of her son John Ryall Morefield. The affiant states she is about 85 years old. She signed this document with her mark.

[Facts in file: Tabitha and John Dunkley never had any children; John Dunkley died September 25, 1837; married Tabitha in April 1792; Winney Morefield and her husband, John Morefield had the following children:

William Morefield born March 27, 1787 or 1788

Polley born April 6, 1788 or 1789

Ryall or Royal born May 16, 1791

Edmund born April 19, 1793

Coleman born August 31, 1795

Dickerson born April 7, 1798

William Morefield his wife, Nancy, was born November 2, 1793

William and Nancy Morefield had a daughter, Ann Eliza Morefield who was born August 22, 1812

the following "Moorefield" Family data is also shown

Sarah C. Moorefield born August 23, 1820

Mary A. born July 20, 1821

Nancy born September 14, 1822

Winnie B. born December 20, 1824

Martha L. born March 11 1826

[relationship, if any of the Morefields to the Dunkleys is not stated.]

[p 33: On April 28, 1845 in Halifax County Virginia, Thomas Mins [or Thomas Mims] gave testimony that he was born August 20, 1771 and will be 74 years old next August; he states that he was acquainted with John Dunkley and his wife Tabitha Dunkley previous to the year 1794 which fact is impressed upon his mind by the circumstance that he, affiant, worked for William Goley as a millwright when he, affiant, was a minor; that the affiant worked with Goley only up to his 21st birthday and knows that John and Tabitha are were married prior to the affiant leaving Goley.

Thomas Mins
]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]