

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of John O'Daniel (ODanel) W5441
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Sarah O'Daniel MD VA

State of Kentucky }
County of Hardin }

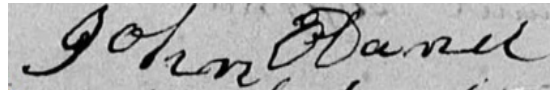
On this the 15th day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & thirty two, personally in open court before the Hon. Justices of the Hardin County Court now sitting, John ODaniel a resident of Hardin County and State of Kentucky, aged 75 years on last May, who being first duly sworn, 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, under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He enlisted for 4 months, in the summer season, the year he does not recollect, in what was called the "Flying Camp" He started from Hartford [sic: Harford] County in Maryland, unde Capt. Bennet Bussy [Bennett Bussey], and Col. Frank Holland [Francis Holland] and marched to Annapolis, then to Baltimore, thence to Philadelphia and from thence to Trenton. From Trenton he marched over into New York and was at the Battle of White plains [28 Oct 1776] – then he was marched back to Maryland & was discharged after having served the time of 4 months.

Also about the beginning of the next spring He enlisted for the three years in the fifteenth Virginia Regiment of Regulars [see endnote] He started from Hartford County Maryland under Lieutenant James Wilson and marched into Pennsylvania and joined the main Army near the White March [Whitemarsh] Mills. He was then placed under the command of Capt John Welsh, and Col. Allbright. He was at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777]. He was then marched about to many places, but as his recollection is bad & he being a man of very little learning he does not now distinctly remember through what places he first passed. From Brandywine he was marched through Philadelphia & German Town and was at the Battle at that place [Germantown, 4 Oct 1777]. He was marched then to different places and was in several little skirmishes but cant name the places. He serve out his term of three years and was discharged in Pennsylvania. He obtained written discharges but has lost them long since not knowing that they would ever be of any service to him.

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

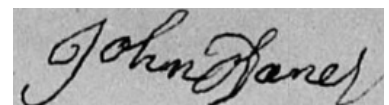
Sworn to and subscribed the day and date aforesaid
[signed] John ODanel



Hardin Circuit Sct

John ODaniel personally appears in Court this 17th day of Sept 1834 before the Honable Judge Churchill Circuit Judge, and amends his declaration heretofore made to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 to obtain a pension & being duly sworn he states that it still seems to him that Col. Allbright commanded the fifteenth Virginia Regiment. His recollection is not distinct, but he has been labouring under that impression for a long time –tho' he may be mistaken.

He states that in his first application he stated that he knew of no living witness to prove his service. This is true – he knew of none then, for he had heard & believed that Barnabas Carter [pension application W713] was dead. He lived in another County and a considerable distance off. But he heard last fall that s'd. Carter was not dead. He lived in a remote and unfrequented part of Nelson County and it was s'd. Carter Brother who had died which misled this declarant He states that said Carter was with him as stated in his affidavit and the facts therein stated are true as relates to this declarant He therefore prays that this be taken as a part of his first declaration.



I hereby certify I knew John ODaniel in the Revolutionary War in the 15th Virginia regiment – he served three years so far as I recollect – this 13th day of Febuey 1834
Barnibus hisXmark Carter

The affiant of Barnabas Carter taken before Abraham Miller a Justice of the peace for Hardin County Ky, to accompany the declaration of John ODaniel made in pursuance of the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832 to obtain a pension This affiant being duly sworn states that at the Battle of Brandywine he first met said John ODaniel and became acquainted with him after the battle was over – said ODaniel often told me after said acquaintance & while we were in said service that he had enlisted for three years His recollection is so bad and he is now 84 years of age that he does not now recollect that ODaniel at the time of said services ever told him where he had enlisted, though he has understood from s'd. ODaniel these facts since that time

[blank] Commanded at Brandywine said ODaniel belonged to the fifteenth Virginia regiment. This affiant belonged to the thirteenth Virginia Regiment which Regiment at said battle was so cut up and destroyed by said battle that after the battle, the thirteenth & ninth joined together & after that it was called the Ninth Virginia Regiment. [see endnote]

General Mughlenburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] commanded the thirteen Regiment. He does not recollect who commanded the Fifteenth Regiment. He saw ODaniel in the s'd. battle frequently. From Brandywine, this affiant & large of [words missing] army were ordered to retreat to a place called the Trap. He thinks the fifteenth Virginia Regiment went also but he has no recollection of seeing oDaniel at that place – it was about 8 miles from Brandywine The Retreat from Brandywine was made after dark – the balance of the army met us at the Trapp but did not come at same time The next time He saw ODaniel was a short time before we reached Germantown. He was in the Battle at Germantown; He thinks he saw ODaniel in said Battle. He saw ODaniel immediately after s'd. Battle. He thinks General Stevens [sic: Adam Stephen] commanded at Germantown. He recollects that there was a good deal of talk about the retreat from s'd. town & they blamed s'd. Stevens for it and that is the reason he believes Stevens commanded there. [see endnote] He was at & through a great many other places but his recollection is so bad that he can not detail them with clearness That was a great portion of the army who were soldier enlisted for three years and soon after said battle at German Town they were discharged

This affiant enlisted as a regular duing the war He recollects that those soldiers who had enlisted during the army made much talk of their being discharged as well as the men who enlisted for three years & for Captains.

This affirmant served six years & he and two Regiments went to Fort Pitt after s'd. Battle at German Town and the other part of the army went towards Philadelphia and he learned that Philadelphia was about that time [18 Jun 1778] retaken from the English. He understood that a good part of the army who were at German Town and among them said ODaniel were discharged about that time but it what place he does not recollect. He understood from ODaniel that his term did then expire He never saw ODaniel after he started to Fort Pitt till after the war, when he met him in Kentucky in Hardin about 26 years ago. He does not recollect the Captain of the Company in which ODaniel served. He understood though he did not see it, that ODaniel was discharged as afs'd – This 17^h Sept. 1834

Barnabas hisXmark Carter

John Odaniel amends his original declaration to obtain the benefit of the pension Law passed June 7th 1834 on oath

He states he can not recollect the precise time at which he entered the service the second time it was not long before the battle of Brandywine; but from his ignorance or want of learning and old age he does not remember the precise afs'd. battle. He was discharged in Philadelphia he thinks about the middle of the Spring season but he can not state the year He had come from Trenton to Philadelphia with a large company. He forgets whether Col. Albright was along or not. He states his recollection is too bad to give a more particular account of said service. He knows he was through many places but many of them he can not remember distintly. [15 Dec 1834]

NOTES:

The 15th Virginia Regiment was renumbered as the 11th Virginia Regiment at White Plains NY on 14 Sep 1778. There was no Capt John Welsh or Col. Allbright in that or any other regiment of the Continental Army. A letter by the Pension Commissioner dated 20 Oct 1834 suggests that O'Daniel actually served in a militia company, but from what state or county I have not been able to determine. Militia tours were typically for three months each. John O'Daniel eventually received a pension of \$23.33 per year only for serving in the militia for a total of seven months.

The 13th Virginia Regiment commanded by Col. William Russell remained in existence until 14 Sep 1778, when it was renumbered the 9th Virginia Regiment under the command of Col. John Gibson. The former 9th Virginia Regiment was essentially destroyed at the Battle of Germantown on 4 Oct 1777.

George Washington commanded at the Battle of Germantown. One proposed explanation for the defeat is that the troops under Stephen collided in the fog with those under Gen. Anthony Wayne, causing a panic.

On 10 April 1851 Sarah O'Daniel in Larue County KY applied for a pension stating that as Sarah Rude she was married by Josiah Dodge, a Baptist minister, in Nelson County KY on 10 April 1794 to John O'Daniel, who died on 15 Aug 1838.