

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Darius O'Neil (O'Niel) W5448

Mary

f54VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/13/12

[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. 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 fails 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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee County of Cocke: SS May Sessions 1834

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May 1824 personally appeared in Open Court before the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions of Cocke County and State aforesaid, Darius O'Neil, a resident Citizen of the County of Cocke and State of Tennessee, aged seventy 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That the Declarant Darius O'Neil was born on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 1764 in Culpeper County, State of Virginia. He lived in Culpeper County, Virginia for thirty-seven years with the exception of such time as he was engaged in the Revolutionary war, as herein after detailed. From Culpeper County, he moved to Shenandoah County, Virginia, where he lived one year. Thence he moved to Rockingham County, Virginia, where he lived three years. Thence he moved to Rock Bridge County Virginia where he lived for eight years. Thence he moved to Washington County Virginia, where he lived one year, when he moved to Cocke County, State of Tennessee, where he has lived for the past twenty years and where he now lives. In the month of April 1781 – day not recollected, This Declarant became a Substitute for John Hawkins in Captain James Hawkins Company of Militia, and repaired to Orange Court House, in Orange County (adjoining Culpeper County) the place of rendezvous. Captain George Waugh commanded another company that rendezvoused at the same place. James Jamison was the Lieutenant of our company. Lieutenant Riddle was the other Lieutenant, this Lieutenant returned before the expiration of the tour. – Thomas was the orderly Sergeant, \_\_ Perry was another Sergeant – other officers not recollected. Major Barbour was Major and took command of us at Orange Court House and under him we were marched from Orange Court House. The first night we encamped at Pine Stake Church in Orange County. We crossed Pamunkey River – at the Ground Squirrel Bridge marching on towards Richmond. The intermediate places of encampment are not recollected, except the little town called New Castle. In one week we reached Richmond on James River. There was a considerable body of men at Richmond, whom we joined. Colonel Mathews took command of us at Richmond. Major Naylor was the Adjutant. From Richmond we were marched under Colonel Mathews down the North side of James River to Williamsburg. The first day we were marched to the four mile Creek – in Henrico County, where we remained four days, when we were marched on to Williamsburg. The enemy it places of encampment are not recollected. We reached Williamsburg in a week, and remained there one night, when we were marched back by Hanover Court House – We crossed the Pamunkey River, two miles from the Court House, after passing through it. Thus to Pagee's [?] Ware house; Then to Bowling Green – then through Fredericksburg to Wilderness Bridge on the Wilderness Creek a branch of the Rapidan in Orange County. Thence to Raccoon Ford on

the Rapidan where we joined General Wayne's Forces the Raccoon Ford we were marched to the Poison fields in Orange County – where we encamped. At the Poison fields we remained for several days – when we were marched to a Creek in an adjoining County, where we remained for some time and where this Declarant's Company was discharged, having served out there tour of three months. And this Declarant was discharged in July 1781, date not recollected by his Captain James Hawkins, having served out his tour of three months. Our Company did not receive written discharges at this time. Our relief came to take our places and we were told I Captain Hawkins that he would give us written discharges on our personal application to him after his return home. This Declarant never applied to him and thus never got a written discharge for this tour. In the above mentioned tour Declarant was a Substitute and when he returned home he found that he had been drafted and his company had started on their march. This Declarant joined his company under Captain Grigsby at Ruffin's ferry on the River Rappahannock. At this place there was a considerable body of men. There were several companies of whom Declarant recollects Captain William Bird. The whole were commanded by Colonel John Slaughter. At Ruffin's ferry we were stationed until October, when the Declarant was discharged early in the month, day not recollected in the year 1781. Declarant received a written discharge from his Captain Grigsby for his tour of three months which discharge he lost in Culpeper County, Virginia, what, where and sand when he does not know. In the month of March 1782 day not recollected, this Declarant enlisted under Captain Frederick Timmerman in the Regular Service (whether of the State of Virginia or of the Continental Congress, declarant does not know not knowing the difference, always believing himself to be in the regular Continental Soldier) Captain Timmerman enlisted a whole company in Culpeper County for twelve months, for which time Declarant enlisted. Our Lieutenants were Lieutenant Crow and Lieutenant White. Our Ensign was Joseph Miller – He is not certain that his name was Joseph – but so believes. He believes that the Orderly Sergeant was \_\_ Tunsell. Another Sergeant was Thomas Jameson. The corporals are not recollected, except \_\_ Weatherall. I place of rendezvous was at our company muster ground, 9 miles from Culpeper Court House. All militia Captain at this time was Captain Robert Pollard, and at the muster ground of his Company we rendezvoused. From our muster ground, we were marched to Cunningham's, eight miles from Fredericksburg, where we encamped, the first night. On the second night we encamped four miles beyond the Bowling Green in Caroline County. We were marched on to Williamsburg which we reached in ten or twelve days – having passed through King George and King and Queen Counties, Hanover and HarmaRucca [sic??]<sup>1</sup> Counties and others not recollected – we crossed Pamunkey River and four mile Creek and others not recollected. At Williamsburg we joined the other companies of the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the State Troops of Virginia (as declarant believes) which troops were attached to the Continental Army, and were regular enlisted Soldiers. Our Regiment was commanded by Colonel Olcutt name so pronounced – The name of the Colonel might have been spelled Allcutt or Alcot. Major Pease was the Major of our Battalion and Major Campbell was the Major of the other Battalion. Captains James Smith, \_\_ Hathaway, White and Miller were captains of other companies. At Williamsburg we remained until June. While at Williamsburg we were regularly paraded, mustered and drilled we were encamped in I fell within sight of Williamsburg. From Williamsburg we were marched under Colonel Olcutt I Hanover Court House, by

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*and  
HarmaRucca*

Fredericksburg, to Falmouth, and by Dumfries on to Baltimore. We stopped two days at Falmouth. We arrived at Baltimore in July where we remained for six weeks encamped in a field adjoining the Town. From Baltimore, we marched in September to Philadelphia by Chester. We remained 2 days at Philadelphia, when we were marched from that city through New Jersey to Trenton, Princeton and Morris town on to King's Ferry on the Hudson River in the State of New York. At King's Ferry we crossed the River and encamped on the other side on the top of the Hill, where we remained three weeks. Thence we were marched to Providence Rhode Island, where we remained for several days. Thence, we were marched to the City of Boston, where we remained 2 days. From Boston we were marched to Chesterfield in the State of Massachusetts, 45 miles from the City of Boston. At Chesterfield we were discharged, having rested there one day. This Declarant received a written discharge from his Captain, which he has lost. He was discharged on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of December 1782, having served 10 months; and he returned to his home in Virginia in company with Stephen Shelton, Elijah Lynch, Jonathan Ireland and Jacob Haynes and Henry Rains, fellow Soldiers of declarant. The Declarant never received anything from Government for his tours as a drafted militia man or as a substitute. When he entered, he received \$8 as Bounty money from Captain Timmerman and was promised \$5 per month. When he was discharged, Declarant together with his company, received their pay in silver from Colonel Olcutt. Colonel Olcutt's Regiment was employed on this expedition and conveying the Artillery belonging to the French Army, that he had been used at the Siege of York, to the City of Boston, where we left it. There was a large quantity of Artillery though the Declarant is unable to say how much. The Declarant never received anything from government for his 2 first tours of three months each. For his last tour of ten months, he was paid, as heretofore related. The Declarant, not being certain whether he was enlisted into the State troop Service of Virginia or into the Service of the Continental Congress, would wish a reference to be had to the Rolls of Colonel Olcutt's Regiment employed at the time specified, and not to the number of the Regiment. Though he believes that it was the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the State Troops of Virginia, in which he served as an enlisted Soldier under Captain Timmerman. There were regular officers and Soldiers in service where Declarant served in his first tour. He joined General Wayne. In his second Tour there were none. In his third tour Colonel Olcutt's Regiment alone were employed in the conveyance of the French Artillery. The Declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and he declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of any State. The declarant has no documentary evidence in regard to his services nor does he know of any person living by whom he could prove his services.

S/ Darius O'Neil, X his mark

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Answer 1<sup>st</sup> I was born in Culpeper County, State of Virginia, on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of May 1864.

Question 2<sup>nd</sup>. Have you any record of your age, and if so, where is it?

Answer 2<sup>nd</sup>. I have no record of my age; but have kept the account of my age from the information given me by my Parents.

Question 3<sup>rd</sup>. Where were you living when called into Service; where have you lived since the Revolutionary War, and where do you now live?

Answer 3<sup>rd</sup>. When I entered the service, I was living in Culpeper County, State of Virginia. Since the Revolutionary War I have lived in different counties in Virginia and in the State of Tennessee, where I now live in Cocke County.

Question 4<sup>th</sup>. How were you called into Service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute? And if a Substitute, for whom? Answer to 4<sup>th</sup>. In my first tour of 3 months, I

was a Substitute under Captain Hawkins for John Hawkins. In my 2<sup>nd</sup> tour I was drafted & served under Captain Grigsby for 3 months. In my 3<sup>rd</sup> and last tour I enlisted in the Service of the State of Virginia in the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment under Colonel Ollcutt for 12 months and was discharged after a Service of 10 months. It may be met Colonel Ollcutt's Regiment was a Regiment raised by the Continental Congress; though I think it was raised by the State of Virginia.

Question 5<sup>th</sup>. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the General circumstances of your Service.

Answer 5<sup>th</sup>. There were regular officers and soldiers in service, where I served in my first tour of 3 months. We joined General Wayne at the Raccoon Ford on the Rapidan. But we were not long enough with General Wayne's Army for me to know, so as to now recollect any of the officers. In my 2<sup>nd</sup> tour, there was no Regulars. We were stationed and served out our tour of 3 months at Ruffin's ferry on the Rappahannock River. In my last tour of 10 months, I served in the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Virginia State troops, under Colonel Ollcutt. I believe it was the 8<sup>th</sup> Regiment of the Virginia State troops, though it may be that Colonel Ollcutt's Regiment was raised by the Continental Congress, and not body State of Virginia. I believe that their officers were commissioned by the State of Virginia and therefore that the Regiment was raised by that State. In all I served 16 months in the Revolutionary War. I have detailed in my declaration all the general circumstances of my Services.

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service, and if so, by whom was it given, and what has become of it?

Answer 6<sup>th</sup>. I received no written discharge my first tour, never having applied to my Captain 41, after his return home. I received written discharges at the end of my 2 other tours, which discharge is lost in Culpeper County, Virginia, when I do not know.

Question 7<sup>th</sup> State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity, and their belief of your services as a Soldier of the Revolution.

Answer 7<sup>th</sup>. I would refer to the Reverend Jacob McDaniel, Major William P Gillett & Lloyd Be Young, Esquire who are well acquainted with me and who can be examined as required by the War Department. The 2 latter have been long well and intimately acquainted with me and long lived in my neighborhood. The former is a Methodist clergyman who is now riding the circuit in which I live, and has been so for the last 6 months, and is well acquainted with me in the opinion of the neighborhood in regard to my Revolutionary Services.

S/ Darius O'Neil, X his mark

[Jacob McDaniel, a clergyman, and William P Gillett and Lloyd B Young gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[f p. 23: On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1853 in Bradley County Tennessee, Mary O'Neil, 67, made application for a widow's pension under the 1853 act stating that she is the widow of Darius O'Neil, a revolutionary war pensioner at the rate of \$20 per annum; that her name prior to her marriage was Mary Brackney; that she was married to Darius on the December 13, 1801 in Culpeper County Virginia; that her husband died in Cocke County Tennessee February 14, 1844 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[f p. On May 18, 1853 in Bradley County Tennessee, Calvin W. O'Neil, 31, and Darius B O'Neil, 24, gave testimony that Mary O'Neil is the widow of Darius O'Neil a revolutionary war

pensioner at the rate of \$20 per annum; that Darius died in Cocke County Tennessee February 14, 1844 and that Mary O'Neil remains his widow; that Mary O'Neil is their mother.

*Calvin W. O'Neil*  
*Darius B. O'Neil*

[f p. 4: Certificate of the Culpeper County Virginia clerk stating that records in his office show that Darius O'Neale and Polly Brackney were married December 9, 1801.]

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