

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension application of Thomas Dalton W6983

Elizabeth fn47NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/14/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber.]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: on this 16th day of July 1834 personally appeared in Open Court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now sitting, Thomas Dalton aged 71 years a resident of the United States in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina who being 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 the 7th of June 1832 Saith, that he entered the Service of the United States and served under the following named Officers and served as herein Stated.

In the year 1780, my Mother and family moved from Albemarle County State of Virginia to Rutherford County North Carolina I was then in my 17th year of age my Brothers all engaged in the War of the Revolution I soon after our landing joined a volunteer company under the command of Captain Adam Hampton early in the spring of 1780. I served a Tower of three months under Captain Adam Hampton & Colonel Andrew Hampton. I was kept out as one of the spies on the lines to guard the frontiers against the Indians. I was discharged and returned home but when I came there Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] and his Army was stationed within two miles of my mother's [house] the company was kept together to annoy his Army we followed his rear and cut off his stragglers on to the head of Cane Creek where they had a scrimmage with the Burke Troops they then from that place retreated back we was in the Rear but now changed to the front we parlayed [?] before them we annoyed them and scattered their out posts and forage in parties and took from them our Support. This Service lasted at least three months before I got home when I came in the neighborhood of my Mother's all was confusion Captain McClain was beating for volunteers to guard the Frontiers. I joined him and served three months we was kept on the out posts and frontiers and had much difficulty with the Indians and Tories. After our time was out we returned home. Soon after my return I was a volunteer under Captain McClain and served three months at Waddles' and Russell's forts and on the lines as an Indian Spy. I then returned home we was principally under the Orders of Colonel Hampton and Colonel McDowell the last Service Colonel Miller had the command. This Service was performed in the years of 1780 & 1781 I cannot state the precise months but I well remember the years. I know I did not serve less than the four tours mentioned above and not less than three months at each time which makes 12 months that I served during the revolutionary war and for which service I claim a pension. I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension except the present and Declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State whatsoever.

Question 1st by the court Where and in what year were you born?

Answer -- from Information I was born in Albemarle County State of Virginia in the year 1763

Question 2nd Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer -- The record of the Ages of the family was kept by one of my sisters after the death of my Mother

Question 3rd Where were you living when called into service: where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Answer -- I was living in Rutherford County North Carolina at the time I entered the service where I have resided ever since

Question 4th How were you called into service; were you drafted; did you volunteer or were you a substitute, and if in substitute, for whom?

Answer -- I was a Volunteer and served at every call as above Stated

Question 5th State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served, such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer -- I have given as full a Detail of my Service above as my Memory will justify.

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

Answer -- I do not recollect that I was ever Discharge from the Service I was attached to volunteer companies always ready and very seldom got leave to return home when we thought our time was out

Question 7th 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 in your services as a soldier in the revolution.

Answer -- the Reverend Hampton Patterson & Johnston Ledbetter Esquire
Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid

S/ Thomas Dalton, X his mark

[fn p. 26: Hampton Patterson, a clergyman, and Johnston Ledbetter gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 27]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: On this 16th day of July 1834 personally appeared in Open Court William Dalton¹ and after being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he is well acquainted with Thomas Dalton the within applicant that he served several Towers of three months each in the Company with him in the year 1780 & 1781 and thinks he served at least twelve months as he has stated in his application for a pension. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in Open Court.

S/ T. F. Birchitt, Clk

S/ William Dalton, X his mark

State of North Carolina Rutherford County: Personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace for the County and State aforesaid James Ownbey² and after being duly Sworn according to law saith that sometime in the year 1780 he became acquainted with Thomas Dalton the present applicant for a pension he saw him at Russell's Station under the command of Captain Andrew Hampton where he had a company stationed. I saw him at different places. I saw him at some time after in service under the command of Captain John McClain. I was in company with him for a considerable time in crossing the Mountains in pursuit of the Indians &

¹ [William Dalton S8295](#)

² [James Ownby \(Owenby\) W3712](#)

command of Colonel Andrew Hampton was stationed or garrisoned at Pott's Station, Russell's station and Waddleton's station, all in this County at the last of which I was at the time it was attacked by a body of Indians and Tories; we made good our defense and the enemy withdrew, but being of too superior force we did not dare to follow them out for battle. -- I served a tour of three months in this service and was discharged, without any written evidence of it however, and came home to my mother's. Upon arriving at home much confusion and alarm existed in the Country, occasioned by the arrival of Ferguson who was then encamped in 2 miles of my mother's with his Army. The Company of Captain Hampton was immediately raised & called on again to assist in the distraction of Ferguson's Army. We followed on his rear cutting off his scouts & foraging parties till information was received of the approach of the assistance from the West; we then passed Ferguson's Army & marched to meet our expected help which we did not do until we marched over the Yellow Mountain where we met a considerable force under command of Colonel Sevier [John Sevier], the Army then marched on towards this County to meet Ferguson who, in the meantime had been met near the borders of Burke County by probably some troops from that County, and after a sharp skirmish headed retired or retreated back towards South Carolina; upon reaching my neighborhood my time being expired I gave over the pursuit and stopped, after a service of three months, which as well as I can recollect was in the month of September 1780.

On reaching home I found much confusion produced by the energy of the Tories & Indians who had become bold on account of the presence & help which they relied upon from Ferguson & his Army. Captain John McClain and officer of this state & a valuable man & Whig, was endeavoring to raise a force under the command & order of his superior officer Colonel Robert Porter to attack and disperse them. I joined him as a volunteer and served a tour of three months at the stations above named and had much difficulty with the Indians -- this service terminated sometime in January or February 1781. I cannot distinctly give the day, but remember well of being in the Garrison at Wattleton's when information came of the defeat of Tarleton at Cowpens by Morgan.

Not being able to state the time when my last tour expired precisely I am unable to state at what day my fourth service or tour commenced, but am certain that it was very close upon the end of the third tour. The Indians, the open & known ally of the British, aided by the Tories yet seeking the mastery of the Country it was indispensable to prevent it, to keep constantly on foot, and adequate organized force. Captain McClain therefore, under command of Colonel James Miller was endeavoring to raise a company. I being young and ardent, and as in all my past service, disdaining to be called out by the compulsory process of a draft, and still more the loss of the freedom of my Country, again volunteered for three months, a large portion of which time I spent in Garrison at Wattleton's (this called Waddles Fort in my original declaration) and Russell's Stations, and was once marched to the line of South Carolina & back, the object of which if I then knew, I have now forgotten.

This service, four tours of three months each, makes altogether 12 months, though I served a longer time, for which I asked a pension -- it was performed in 1781 & 1782.

The Revolutionary warfare of this portion of the Country was peculiar in its circumstances. -- immediately in the vicinity of the British Indian ally having a large portion of the whites disaffected to the Whig cause, it was necessary to keep the Whigs in almost constant action, and gives to the history of their services something of a vagrant or desultory character -- owing as before stated to the fact that it was at home & amongst our own people that our services were performed: and required by the superior officers of the State, who were then in active

service –

S/ Thomas Dalton, X his mark

Sworn to & subscribed before me the 26th day of September 1835

S/ C. S. Schieffelin, JP

[fn p. 11: on August nine, 1843 in Rutherford County North Carolina Elizabeth Dalton, 73, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Thomas Dalton, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married him February 27, 1789; that her husband died on the [word obliterated] day of February 1841⁴; and that she remains his widow.]

[On August 10, 1843 in Rutherford County North Carolina, William Dalton, brother of Thomas Dalton stated that he his brother and Elizabeth Morris were married as stated in her application.]

⁴ according to a summary of the information in the file, the date of his death was February 19, 1841