

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Duncan W7052

Mary

fn19NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/14/10

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State of Tennessee Anderson County

On this 12th day of June 1841, personally appeared before me Richard Oliver an acting Justice of the peace for said County Mary Duncan a resident of the said County of Anderson and State aforesaid about eighty-five years of age who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on her oath, make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 4th 1836, that she is the widow of Benjamin Duncan who was a soldier in the Army of the Revolutionary War. Applicant is informed & believes that her said husband Benjamin Duncan entered the service of the United States a volunteer under Captain Cowin under the command of General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] for the period of three months the time he entered the Service or left the same she cannot now say. She heard her said husband say that he had served the term for which he volunteered. She heard him speak of being in the battle at Tiger [Tyger] River in South Carolina he resided in the County of Wilkes when he entered the service. She cannot tell through what section of the country he marched her said husband Benjamin Duncan entered the service a second time a volunteer for three months under Captain John Cleveland commanded by Colonel Malbedee [sic, Malmedy] & General Lee also General Morgan as she is informed & believes. She cannot tell through what section of the country he marched neither can she give the battles that he was in neither can she now give the time he entered or left the service but she states that her said husband entered the service as she has stated and served the term of six months.

She further declares that she was married to the said Benjamin Duncan in the month of December 1776 in the County of Wilkes North Carolina, the day of the month she does not recollect & that her said husband the said Benjamin Duncan died January 1803 and that she has remained a widow ever since that Period, and that her maiden name before she married the said Benjamin was Mary Davis by which name he was fully known as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed. She has no documentary evidence in support of her claim.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written.

S/ Richard Oliver, JP

S/ Mary Duncan, X her mark

State of Tennessee Anderson County

On this 13th day of September 1841 Personally appeared before me Richard Oliver an acting Justice of the Peace for said County, Mary Duncan Widow of Benjamin Duncan who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following amended declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Provision made by the act of Congress passed 4 July 1836. Applicant states that she has no Register of her marriage neither has she any Register

of the births of her children, she and Benjamin Duncan had twelve children birth to them the eldest will be 65 years of age next January to the best of applicant's Recollection and belief, She does not know of any person now in existence who knows anything about her marriage except her brother Thomas Davis, whose affidavit she is advised are already furnished.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written.

S/ Richard Oliver, JP

S/ Mary Duncan, X her mark

[fn p. 10: on May 27, 1842 in Anderson County Tennessee Thomas Davis, 83, gave testimony that Benjamin and Mary Duncan were married in the year 1776; that he was at the wedding in Wilkes County North Carolina and at the wedding occurred prior to Duncan's entering the service of the United States in the revolutionary war.]

[fn p. 13]

State of Tennessee Anderson County

Thomas Davis about eighty-two years of age personally appeared before me Richard Oliver one of the Acting Justices of the peace for said County of Anderson, a Resident of Anderson County, who being first duly sworn according to law depose and saith that he were acquainted with Benjamin Duncan and Mary Duncan while they resided in Wilkes County North Carolina, that they were legally married in the said County of Wilkes in the year 1776, I believe in the month of December, he further states that said Duncan and himself volunteered in the service of the United States in the Revolution War, for the Period of three months under Captain Cowan commanded by General Sumpter we were marched to King's mountain before the battle at that place we were marched from there down into South Carolina to the fish dam Ford on Broad River from there to Tiger River, where we had a battle with the British, our General were wounded and we were forced to retreat, we were marched from Tiger River and some time after the battle there we were discharged, our term of service having expired the name of the place where we were discharged he does not now recollect. This Tour of duty I think was performed sometime in 1780. We returned home after I discharge and Duncan left the neighborhood with his family and some time in the month of August 1781, I volunteered under Major Lewis marched and rendezvoused at Wilkes Court House, when at the same time and place Benjamin Duncan also rendezvous, we were in different Companies. I were commanded by Captain Alexander Gordon and Duncan by Captain John Cleveland. We marched from Wilkes to Mecklenburg from there to Camden from there to the High Hills of Santee thence to the Eutaw Springs, where we had an engagement with the British which I think were in the month of September 1781, under the command of Colonel Malbede [sic, Malmedy] & General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene], we were sent from there to guard the British Prisoners on wards near Salisbury, we were detained after we stopped with the prisoners on a Branch called Bell's branch, about three weeks and some time after that our term of service having expired we were discharged, in these two tours of duty Duncan served six months in the Revolutionary War. We were discharged in the month of November 1781. Affiant cannot say how long since the death of Benjamin Duncan precisely -- he believes it has been about 38 years since he died, and that Duncan his widow has remained a widow ever since the date of her said husband the aforesaid Benjamin Duncan.

Subscribed and sworn to before me the day and date above written.

S/ Richard Oliver, JP

S/ Thomas Davis, X his mark