

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Drake W8675                      Anna Drake                      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 15 Nov 2013.

Virginia Franklin County S.S.

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 1827. the following declaration and schedule of William Drake an applicant for a pension from the Government of the United States as a revolutionary soldier was exhibited into Court, being a Court of record, constituted such by the laws of this state; which declaration and schedule follow in these words and figures towit, “

State of Virginia

Franklin County Sct.

On this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October 1826 personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the Court of said County, William Drake resident in said County aged seventy years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818 and the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820; that he the said William Drake enlisted in the town of Fincastle in the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of April 1777 for the term of three years, in a company commanded by Captain Perkins in the 7<sup>th</sup> Regiment Commanded by Colonel Samuel Haws [sic: Samuel Hawes] in the line of the State of Virginia on the Virginia Continental establishment, that he continued to serve said Corps until the month of May 1780 that during said term he acted in the capacity of Sargeant and was discharged from the service in the state of South Carolina at Camden, that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any state except the State of Virginia, and that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application for a pension – First the declarant was ignorant of those provisions being granted; Secondly ignorant of the course to pursue in order to establish his claim Thirdly the great difficulty others met with in establishing their pensions; and fourthly he had resolved never to call upon his country for assistance until compelled by a failure of his bodily strength and a total inability to support himself and family. And in pursuance of the Act of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or other wise disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818, and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed.

Schedule of property

Twenty acres of land on Stanton [sic: Staunton] river, one horse, three head of sheep, three cows and calves and seven head of hogs. – And that no change has taken place in the applicants property since the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818. The declarant is a farmer by profession, but is by old age and a disease called the gravel rendered incapable of pursuing it so as to support himself and family without the aid of his country.

He has no family except his wife who is sixty years old and quite infirm – And I do further swear that I am not able to attend personally in Court in consequence of old age and a disease called the gravel.

William Drake

[Certified by John Thomasson, pension application S7713.]

State of virginia                      }  
Bedford County. Sct.                }                      [8 Mar 1827]

Johnathan Prater [Jonathan Prater, pension application S7340], aged seventy-two, being duly sworn, according to law, doth, on his oath, say, that william Drake enlisted at Fincastle, in the county of

botetourt & state of virginia, in the month of april, seventeen hundred and seventy seven, for the term of three years, into the company commanded by Capt Perkins, seventh regiment, on continental establishment, commanded by Col. Sam'l. Haws; and further sayeth, that said Drake served faithfully, in said company and regiment, until the Month of May, seventeen hundred and eighty, at which time, the said Drake was honorably discharged, at Camden, in the state of south Carolina. Deponent further sayeth, that he drove a baggage waggon, which was attached to said regiment, & that he knew said Drake, from the month of April, seventeen hundred and seventy seven, until the month of May, seventeen hundred and eighty. (Inclusive.)  
Johnathan hisXmark Prater

August Term 1851  
State of Kentucky  
Hardin County Sct.

Be it known that on this the 18<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. one thousand eight hundred and fifty one personally appeared in open Court, at the August term of the County Court for the County of Hardin and State of Kentucky, Abram Drake aged fifty years past, of the County and State aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law, makes the following declaration for the purpose of obtaining the benefit of the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of July A.D. 1838, and all other acts granting Pensions to the widows or heirs of Soldiers and Pensioners of the Revolution. That William Drake deceased late of Franklin County, & State of Virginia, died in said County & State on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of January A.D. 1829. That he was the identical William Drake who was a soldier of the Revolution, and drew a Pension at the rate of 96 dollars per annum. That at the time he drew said Pension he lived in the said County of Franklin and State of Virginia and drew his Pension at the city of Richmond Virginia. That he left a widow whose name was Anna Drake, who after her said husband's death, removed from the said County of Franklin and State of Virginia, to Hardin County, in the State of Kentucky, where on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of August A.D. 1847, she died, but never married again, remaining a widow from the time of the death of her husband to the said 15<sup>th</sup> of August 1847. That her maiden name was Anna Chappel and that she was married to the said William Drake in the county of Chesterfield in the State of Virginia on the [blank] day of June A.D. 1783, by Parson Blackgrave, a minister of the Protestant Religion. That the said Anna Drake never applied for and never received any pension as the widow of said William Drake deceased. That she left five children [sic: see note below] who are the only legitimate children, and the only lawful heirs of the said Anna and William Drake, and that their names are as follows, towit; James Drake, aged Sixty years; Ann Minter, aged 58 years; William Drake, aged 56 years and Abram Drake aged fifty years, all of the county of Hardin & state of Kentucky, and that they are all of lawful age.

That he the said Abram Drake who makes this Declaration is the identical Abram Drake above mentioned, being one of the five children, and one of the legal heirs above mentioned. That he has been employed and fully authorised by his said brothers and sisters above named to make this declaration for the purpose of obtaining whatever amount of Pension may be due them as the children and heirs of said Anna & William Drake deceased, which authority was exhibited to said Court signed sealed & delivered and was satisfactory.

That the original certificate under which the said William Drake drew his said Pension, was surrendered to the Pension agent at the city of Richmond in the State of Virginia, a short time after the death of the said William Drake.

That he has often heard his father the said William Drake deceased speak of his services, and he stated that his principal service in the Revolution was under Generals [Daniel] Morgan & Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and that he was at the battles of Cowpens [17 Jan 1781], Guilford [Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] and Hanging Rock [30 Jul 1780 or 6 Aug 1780]. [See endnote.]

[signed] Abram Drake

NOTES:

The engagements in the South referred to by Abram Drake occurred after his father said he was discharged from Continental service. If William Drake was in those engagements it was probably as a militiaman, and he may not have mentioned them in his own declaration because the pension acts of 1818 and 1820 covered only Continental service. Virginia troops are not thought to have been present at the skirmish of Hanging Rock or the later battle. The Battle of Waxhaws SC on 29 May 1780 is sometimes referred to as the Battle of Hanging Rock, but if Drake was discharged at Camden SC, he could not have been in that battle.

Among the [bounty-warrant applications in the Library of Virginia](#) is an application dated 27 Jan 1827 and supporting statements by Prater and Thomasson that are similar to those in the federal pension application.

On 30 October 1851 the brother of William Drake, Allen Drake, 84, of Hardin County, stated that William Drake and Anna Chappel were married in Chesterfield County VA in June 1783, and that their surviving children were all living in Hardin County. He stated that their daughter, Nancy, died at the age of 16. On 18 August 1851 Martin G. Wright, 54, of Hardin County, made a similar statement, and added that two of the first three children of William and Anna Drake died at birth, and one died a few days after birth.

On 10 Feb 1852 Abram Drake, 53, stated that his father had lived with him in Franklin County from Jan 1825 until his death, that his mother had moved with him to Hardin County in October 1836, where she continued to live with him until her death. He also stated that he had heard his uncle, Allen Drake, say that William and Anna Drake were married between the 20<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of June 1783. Abram Drake also certified that the family record transcribed below had been written by his father and inserted into a small Bible, and that after his death Anna Drake had given the Bible to her niece, Jane Drake, the daughter of William Drake. He also stated that the children on the family record who were not among the living had died unmarried and without heirs.

The following two letters were written by Abram Drake.

harden County kentucky/ November 27 1855

Dear Sur the this opitnty of riten to you to find out wether I get what war Comme to me and to my brothes and sister I wil tri in as good a maner as I Can to rat the sircamstnces to you in the fist plac 1827 my farther William Drake got a draft drue a panchen for his servses in the old Washont war three year got Eat dollars for month he drue that to his dath Janury 6 the 1829 then his wife his widdid did august the 14 1847 in 1851 E S Brown undertuck to git a panch for thar the ars [heirs] of thar lodes[?] he got too hondred and Eaty dollars and sed that wer all that he Cod git for aus from what others has got that wot what war a loud for aus I won ou to rit to me wether ther wil be anna Chanc for the ares to git anna more for the surves of the farthe i wel no that my farth nor non of his Cheldron never got no of land for all his surfes for his surves in the nunitid stats I wont you if you ples to Rit to me as quick as you Can if you git this and direct your letter to the big Sprenges harden County ky and let me no how to maneg to git it and I wil pay you for yor trubile if you wil see to it as i am a orhard[?] in riten to you I Ramen yor Abr[page torn] a sun of william Drake

Mr Waldo Comissien i hop this this wont be mad fon of as I remarked for it is the fis th [page may be missing]

harden County kentucky jauny 25 1856

Sur I resevd your letter but giv me but littel sadesfaction for as sun as I got it and red it I fond that thar had bin sum misstak mad sum way By Mr Brown or sum won alce for thar wont aplication mad in Mother life tim nor wont tel june 1851 then it war mad by Brown than he war inPoled [employed] by the fiv ares he a told the ares that he Cod not git but too hundred and eaty dollars for the Clam had not bin mad for taken bin of the old Penthen this is a fact and I Con Prov it for ther wont no Por teshons [petitions] sent in 1837 nor in 1841 this por teshe wor not mad by anna of the ares of William Drake and Nancy by that menes than most of bin a mastake by the letter you giv me by thes menes I Abram Drake

lay in Clam for take Car of the too old Peple from janary 29 1825 tel janary 6<sup>th</sup> 1829 the old man did he war hepls all the tim he dru a hundred and six dollar in that and it did not half pay his expences then the old lady tel 1847 august 14 when she did and she wore on my hands all that tim and she Con not be put on the County the resen war that she war the wife of Regler soger all this I Can Prove to be a fact by too or three wetnes and I dont no what is the resen that I Cant be a loud somthe as wel as others ounder the sam Clam at the sam depatment this I no has bin don by the lues vill [Louisville] Compney and by outer Penchen agncy and my farther never got no land nor non of his Cheldren and I want to no the resen of that I am acorked[?] in this this lin of beseness so for that resen I hop tha you all wil be onest as you ar all jantel men and i a por man I want you to rit me a ancer to this and you wil obleg yors  
[signed] Abram Drake

James Drake was Born november the 12 1789  
Ann Drake was Born august the 27 Day 1792  
William Darke Was Born June the 27 Day 1794  
CaD drake Was Born february the 15 Day 1796  
AnDe Drake Was Born aPril 11 Day 1798  
Abraham Drake Was Born January 12 Day 1799  
thomas Drake Was Born SeptemBer the 14 Day 1802  
nanCy Drake Was Born march 17 Day 1807  
martain Drake Was Born SePtemBer the 9 Day 1812  
William H Dent was born the 26 of September 1808  
This rit was mad january 22 day 1823 Of Thomas Dake  
I Susa Drake was born August the 22 the 1827  
lusa ann Drake Was born Aprel the 1828