

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Thomas Davis W539

Frances Davis

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

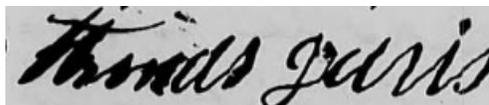
State of Virginia } to wit:

County of Mathews }

On this 15th day of August 1832 personally appeared in open court, before the Justices of the Court of Mathews County now sitting, Thomas Davis a resident of Mathews County and State of Virginia, aged sixty nine 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 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

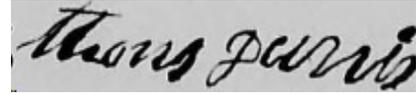
He was under John Billups Captain, George Billups was an officer whether Leutenant or Ensign he cannot recollect, Colo [Sir John] Peyton was the acting Colo at that time, he first went out as guard near Gwyn's Island [sic: Gwynn Island] and at other places, he does not recollect the exact time when he first entered the service he was not on the muster list when Lord Dunmore came to the Island [9 Dec 1775] but he was on shortly after and he was young when he was first called out & thinks he was called directly after being put upon the list and was out off and on until the seige at York, he left the service in October 1781 after Cornwallis was taken [19 Oct 1781], he down[?] upon the enemies lines several times but was in no set engagement – Colo Ennis [sic: James Innes] then commanded the regiment to which he was attached, he resided in what was called Kingston Parish a part of Gloucester County that part which now constitutes Mathews County and has been living there ever since. He went out once as a volunteer, some time before the seige at York; to go to Richmond but he went no further than Williamsburg, several companies went from Gloucester, John Billups then commanded the Company to which he belonged. He camped one night near Whiting's mill, he marched up in four miles of King & Queen Ct House, he marched over into Middlesex, his standing Barracks was at Hubbards Old field's [Hubbard's Old Field near dividing line of Gloucester and King and Queen counties] when he first went out, he came down to Weir[?] Church [sic: Ware Church near Gloucester] and from thence back to King & Queen. He was at the time of the seige of York on duty in King & Queen he thinks, he did not serve with any of the continental troops, he was acquainted with Colo [James] Baytop in the regular line also Joseph Billups and George Billups who went out with his brother. He has no documentary evidence to show when he entered or was discharged or that he served but he can prove that he served by Hugh Hudgins and William Morgan. He was born in Kingston Parish Gloucester County in the year 1762 He thinks he served upwards of two years in all during the revolutionary war, he acted as a private, he has no record of his age



Personally appeared before me, a Justice of the Peace in and for the county of Mathews in the state of Virginia, Thomas Davis, who being duly sworn, deposes and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot now swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection it was [not] less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grade to wit: For three months I served on guard at Gwynn's Island in 1777 under Capt. John Billups called out by order of the Colo. of the county. For three months I served on guard at Little Yorke in the same year under the same officer called out by like order. For two months and – days I served at Seawelle's old field [sic: Seawell's Old Field near Gloucester] under the same officer ordered on the enemy's line by the Colo of the regiment. For one months and — days I served at Williamsburg under Captain John Billups who made up some volunteers by direction of the Colo to go to Richmond. For

three months and — days I served at Hubbards Old field For [blank] months I served in King and Queen during those periods of service mentioned above I was engaged in no civil occupation what ever, I was on duty by order of the Colo of the regiment to which I belonged, the regiment of militia for Gloucester county

There is no clergyman in my neighbourhood whose certificate I could obtain – I was a private militiaman during the whole of my service. For such periods of service amounting in the whole to twelve months and [blank] days as a private militia man I claim a Pension

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Davis".

NOTE: On 13 June 1853 Frances Davis, 70, applied for a pension stating that she married Thomas Davis, Sr. on 4 Dec 1824, and he died 19 July 1845. On an application for bounty land dated 30 May 1855 Frances Davis was said to be 73. The file contains a letter from Thomas B. Davis inquiring about obtaining the pension of his father, Thomas Davis, which he had never collected.