Petition of Thomas Davidson
5th December 1799
Committee on pensions

To the Honorable John Ward President and the Honorable the members of the Senate of South Carolina
The Petition of Thomas Davidson
Humbly Sheweth –

That your petitioner served in the late American war under the command of Captain Stephen Buckner in Colonel William Heath’s [probably William Heth’s] Regiment and was wounded in this State in such a manner that he is unable to work for his livelihood and has Received his pay as Pensioner up to the year 1793 and not any part since. Your petitioner Humbly Begs that your Honors will take his Case into your Consideration and do as seems most Meet to you

And your petitioner as in Duty Bound will ever Pray

S/ Thomas Davidson

1 The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the Just take me to the search page link, then enter the person’s surname first in the “Full name” box followed by a comma and the person’s Christian name. The “SC” file number shown on this transcript has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

2 I could not identify an officer by this name. I believe, however, the veteran was mistakenly trying to name Captain Thomas Buckner of the Virginia Continental line who was taken prisoner at the fall of Charleston South Carolina on May 12, 1780 and remained a prisoner on parole until the end of the war.

3 Col. William Heth was an officer in the Virginia Continental Line. He was taken prisoner at the fall of Charleston on May 12, 1780. He remained a prisoner on parole until the end of the war.

4 In Samuel Johnson’s Dictionary of 1755, the first definition of the word “meet” he gives is “Fit; proper…..” Johnson noted that even at that time the word “meet” was rarely so used. It must have become fairly popular in South Carolina in the early 1800’s, however, as it appears in many petitions submitted to the SC Legislature.
We Certify Thomas Davidson is the person and entitled by Law to an annuity and resides in [undeciphered word]5 District St. George’s Parish
Given under our hands this 5th day of April 1800
S/ R Rumph, [??]
S/ John Shieder, JQ
S/ James P. Appleby, JP

Received April 14th 1800 of Daniel D’Oyley Treasurer the sum of £30 by the order on James R. Stewart Tax Collector of St. George’s Dorchester
S/ Thomas Davidson

State Treasury Office
Charleston the 14th of April 1800

Charles R Stewart Esquire
Tax Collector of St. George’s Parish
Sir

Pursuant to an act passed on the 21st day of December 1799 entitled “an Act to Authorized the Treasurer to pay certain persons therein mentioned their annuities and regulating payment to annuitants” you are hereby Authorized and required to pay out of any public monies in your hands unto Thomas Davidson (and unto no other person who may hold

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5 I can’t make this either “Dorchester” (the most likely district) or “Charleston”. St. George's Parish was in Dorchester County South Carolina.
this order) the sum of £30 and his receipt for that amount will passed for the same to Your credit
in this Office

        S/ Daniel D’Oyley
        Treasurer

[pp 9-17: Receipts signed by Thomas Davidson indicating receipt by him of $21.42 per annum
through May 15, 1808 (last voucher not signed)]

[p 18]
Petition from Rosana Davidson, praying that the pension her late husband Thomas Davidson was
entitled unto may be continued to her
Claims

[p 19]
To the Honorable the President and members of the Senate of the State of South Carolina

The petition of Rosana Davidson widow of Thomas Davidson late a soldier in the Army
of the State during the Revolution Sheweth that her husband Thomas Davidson was wounded
during the war in the Services of the State and were put on the pension list until November 1807
when he died that your petitioner his widow is in low Circumstances and has five Children to
Support. She therefore prayeth your Honorable body to Continue the pension to her and her
Children and as in duty bound She will ever pray
November 22nd, 1809        S/ Rosana Davidson

[p 21: identical petition addressed to the South Carolina House of Representatives but bearing a
cleaner signature by the widow as follows

        Rosana Davidson

[Note: her petition was not granted. The reasons for not granting the widow’s petition are not
stated.]