Petition of John Davis praying to be placed on the Pension List

To the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives in Session at Columbia

Gentlemen

Your petitioner by this his petition would show, that he enlisted in the service of his country some time in the year 1781 for the term of 10 months under the command of Captain James Giles, Colonel William Hill’s Regiment of State Troops and commanded by General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter]; that he marched into South Carolina where he performed the principal part of his service, that he served out his time faithfully and was regularly discharged at Orangeburg, that he has lost his discharge not thinking it would be of any use to him, that he is now sixty-nine years of age, and his wife is sixty-eight years of age, that their children are all gone from them and he is now old and poor.

Your petitioner scorned to ask for any help while he could support himself, but the combined effects of Poverty & old age compell him to ask for a support at your hand, believing that the State of South Carolina will not Suffer him to want who gave her a warm support in her struggle for Independence, he hopes you will grant him some Relief and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

20th March 1830

S/ John Davies

A Schedule of the Property belonging to the Petitioner John Davis

1 Mare worth $40.00
7 head of cattle great & small 30.00
7 head of sheep worth 10.00

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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 Missed filed in the South Carolina Audited accounts under the name "John Davis."
5 shoats worth ....5.00
Some farming utensils 5.00
$90.00

[p 71]
South Carolina
Abbeville District} Personally came before me John Davis the within petitioner and upon being duly sworn saith that the statements made in his petition (within) are true, and that the within Schedule is a correct Statement of all the property he possesses in this world
Sworn to and described this 30th of September 1830 before me
S/ James A Black, JQ S/ John Davis

John Davis

South Carolina Abbeville District} Personally came before me the Subscribing Justice Henry Livingston of this District aged sixty-eight years, and on being duly sworn on his oath does declare that he was well acquainted with the within petitioner John Davis during the Revolutionary War, that he became acquainted with him in the camps, that the [sic, he] Served in Captain Giles Co. of infantry Colonel Hill’s Regiment of ten months men under the command of General Sumpter, that he served out his time faithfully and was a good Soldier for his country that he served almost all his time in the State of South Carolina and that he does believe him to be a fit subject of the pension list.
Sworn to and subscribe this 29th day of March 1830
before me
S/ James A Black, JQ S/ Henry Livingston

[p 73]
The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of John Davis praying for a Pension
Report, That the petitioner having furnished the necessary proof of his claim, they recommend that the prayer of his Petition be granted
S/ Peter [surname too faint to discern]
Chairman

[Receipt dated May 23, 1831 showing the disbursement of $60 to John Davis as an annual annuity]
To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in Session at Columbia

Gentlemen your Petitioner by this her petition would show that She is the widow of John Davis, Deceased, late a pensioner of this State that her husband John Davis was placed on the pension list at your last Session drew his pension in February last and died on or about the first of September last leaving your petitioner in a very distressed situation having no children of her own, nor any Blood relation in this country to go to for the least assistance in her poverty and distress – your petitioner would further show that she is now sixty-seven years of age and not a very stout habits and that she is laboring under severe afflictions from a cancer on her breast which will in all human probabilities put a period to her existence ere long.

She would further show that when the debts of her deceased husband are paid out of what little he left there will remain nothing to support on your petitioner’s behalf that if everything be sold, as they will shortly be, to pay the debts there will be very trifling if anything left.

Thus situated she presents herself to the Honorable Legislature of South Carolina as her last resort, to save her from the horrors of a poor house which she thinks was never intended for a soldier’s wife, or widow, She therefore prays the Legislature to grant her the pension that was given to her deceased husband and place her on the pension list and allow her such Sum as in your wisdom you may see fit –

and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray.

7th November 1831

S/ Elizabeth Davis, X her mark

[The widow was granted a pension of $30 per annum. The last receipt in this file is dated May 30th 1833.]