Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Dale (Deel) W725
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]
State of Tennessee  |  Ss.
White County  |  

On this thirty first day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared before the Hon. the Circuit Court for White County, John Dale, (or as he thinks he was called while in the war of the revolution John Deel,) resident in the County of White aforesaid and State of Tennessee, aged sixty nine years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his corporal oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered in the service of the United States on the 27th day of February in the year 1779 and served in the Sixth Regiment of Virginia State troops as he now recollects under the following named officers: He entered the service as an 18 months man, and one Captain Wayles took command of the company in which he was, in Farquher [sic: Fauquier] county Virginia, where he then resided. From thence was marched by said Capt. Wayles to Alexandria Va. and from thence was marched to the southward, and at Petersburg Va. the company of Capt Wayles was joined to the Brigade of General [Charles] Scott. Col. Abraham Blueford [sic: Abraham Buford] commanded the Regiment of Va. state troops, to which said company of Capt Wayles was attached. While at Petersburg, Capt. Howard [sic: Thomas Hord] was place at the command of it – he thinks Wilson was the first lieutenant in the Company.

A part of Gen’l. Scott’s Brigade marched to Charleston South Carolina: – Col. Blueford’s Regiment remained at Petersburg until some time afterwards, and the said Regt. was marched for Charleston South Carolina, but did not go further to the South than Lanews Ferry [Leneud’s Ferry] on the Santee river. Charleston was taken by the enemy [12 May 1780] while, the said Regiment lay at Lanews ferry on Santee river. Col. Blueford, with his regiment retreated from the last named place & were pursued by the Enemy, and at the Waxaw Settlements on the Hanging Rock Creek [sic: Waxhaws Settlement about 10 mi N of Hanging Rock Creek], in Carolina the said Regiment was overtaken and entirely defeated and dispersed by the enemy [Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton’s Legion]; (this was on the 29th of May 1780.) After this defeat, Dale the present Applicant returned to Farquher County Va. and then went to Fredericksburg Va. and joined Col. Christian Febecker (as he thinks) [sic: Christian Febiger] and served out the time of eighteen months, for which he entered the service, and from the said Col. Febecker received his discharge in August 1780, which he has lost many years ago. He also states that he was appointed by Col. Febecker a recruiting Sergeant, & continued recruiting until discharged as aforesaid: He has no knowledge that there is any person living, by whom he can prove the above named service.

John Dale also entered the service as a militia man under the following named officers & served as herein after stated. After being discharged as aforesaid, he joined the army as a volunteer, under Captain Valentine Payton [sic: Valentine Peyton], of Prince William County Virginia, he served the full term of three months, the date of his entering this tour of service and the date of leaving or ending it, he does not recollect. He was marched by Capt. Payton, to Williamsburg Va. and thence to the Mobin Hills on James River [sic: Malvern Hill 15 mi SE of Richmond], retreated from thence to Orange County Va. – the enemy then in pursuit. He cannot recollect distinctly who was the commander, but thinks that General [Anthony] Wayne commanded. In Orange County Col. Elias Edmonds a continental officer joined our forces as I now recollect & we returned upon the enemy who, in their turn retreated, & were pursued by us to old Jamestown, where we had a skirmish with them as they took their boats. Major Armstead a continental officer he thinks was along, cannot recollect any other of the field or company officers further than above stated.
He further states, that he served a tour of three months, in the militia under Captain Coleman, an officer in the Artillery, & who had the command of two brass field pieces. He Dale entered this service as a volunteer. Capt. Coleman’s company was in the army in Virginia commanded by General Lafayette, whom he has seen & knew, – General Wayne he thinks was also in command in the same army – He cannot recollect any other officers or their names, – nor can he recollect the the time of his entering this service or the time when he was discharged, – he was discharged at Richmond Va. While engaged in the last named service, and while lying at Richmond Va. the enemy advanced to Manchester on the oposite side of the river & were fired on by one of Capt Coleman’s brass field pieces & some men killed. The enemy then marched down on the Manchester side of the river & set fire to some ware houses & destroyed a large quantity of tobacco.

He also states that he served another tour in the militia, of three months, in the same army commanded by General Lafayette – he entered the service as a substitute for one Michael Myars of Farquher County Va. and served the said tour of three months under Capt. William Frost of Frederick County Va. He cannot recollect the time of his entering this service, or of his leaving it, nor can he recollect any other of the company or field Officers – He states that the last mentioned tours of service in the militia were performed in the army while it was in the lower part of Virginia & under (as he thinks) the command of General Lafayette.

Said Dale also states that he again entered the service of the United States, as a militia man – was drafted on this occasion and resided in Prince William County Va. when drafted; – was marched to near Fredericksburg and returned to Fairfax & Prince William Counties, and was engaged as a pioneer, in opening roads for the bagage Waggons of General Washington then on the march to Yorktown [19 Aug - 14 Sep 1781] to the beseiging of Lord Cornwallis [sic: Cornwallis, 28 Sep - 19 Oct]. Col. Henry Lee of Prince William county had the command of the Pioneer or men with whom he was acting on this occasion Cannot recollect the exact time when he went out, or when he was dismissed from this service, Thinks he was in service on this tour about one month.

The services herein before stated to have been done in the Malitia, was performed in the year of 1780 and 1781. Said Dale cannot now recollect which of the three tours in the militia, before stated, (those he served under Capt Payton, or the one under Capt. Coleman, or the one under Capt. Frost) he first served, but from the best of his recollection, at present he is confident that he performed under the above named Captains the service and for the time herein before stated. He thinks he received a written discharge from Capt. Coleman, – if he did it was lost many years ago with the discharge he received from Colonel Febecker, – which was by having his pocket book stolen. He received no written discharge for either of the other services before stated, – he was mustered into service & mustered out, without a written discharge. He further states that he has no documentary evidence of his service, nor has he knowledge of any person now living, who can testify to any of the before named services.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any State. [signed] John Dale

The following interrogatories, prescribed by the War department, were propounded by the said Court.

1st. When and in what country were you born?
Answer. I was born in the year 1763.

2nd. Have you any record of your age; and if so, where is it?
Ans. I have a family register, now at my own house

3rd. Where were you living when called into service? where have you lived since the revolutionary war? And where do you now live?
Ans. I lived in the counties of Farquher and Prince William, Virginia at the times I entered the service of the United States, in the war of the revolution, and where I continued to reside until 1784, being then a single young man. I then removed to Wilks [sic: Wilkes] County in the State of Georgia, and lived in said county about three years, and then returned to Bedford County Virginia, where I lived until the year 1788,
and from thence I removed to Clark county state of Kentucky where I lived nineteen years; and from thence I came to Jackson County State of Tennessee where I lived nearly five years; and from thence I came to White County Tennessee, where I have lived ever since, and where I now reside.

4th. How were you called into the service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute? And if a substitute for whom?
Ans. I first entered the service as an 18 month man in the Virginia State troops. In the Malitia, I volunteered my services in two different tours, of three months each as my recollection now serves me – as before stated, I was once drafted & served but about 1 month as before stated; – and I substituted once for one Michael Myars & served three months as I think as herein before stated.

5th. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served, and such continental and malitia regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.
Ans. While I was in the Virginia State troops, Gen’l. Scott commanded the Brigade, – Col. Abraham Blueford commanded the regiment in which I served – I was under Capt Wayles & then under Capt Howard – Wilson was a Lieutenant in the company (as I think) – While I was in the Malitia, I think General Lafayette commanded – I recollect distinctly of seeing him once & now recollect his appearance. – General Wayne, Col. Edmonds, Major Armstead, and Capt Coleman were along and as I think were continental officers. I cannot recollect anything about the continental or malitia Regiments while I served in the malitia. My service in the State troops and malitia was as herein before stated. While in the malitia I served six months in the infantry and three months in the artillery, to the best of my recollection.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it?
Ans. I received a discharge from Col. Febecker for my service in the Virginia State troops. it was stolen from me with my pocket book shortly after the Revolutionary War. I think I received a discharge from Cap Coleman at Richmond Va for my service in the artillery which was also stolen with my pocket book as above stated. I received no other written discharges. I was mustered into service & mustered out or disbanded for my other services in the malitia.


State of Tennessee }  Ss.
White County }  

On this twenty seventh day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Circuit Court for said County now sitting, John Dale, a resident in the county and state aforesaid, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on oath make the following amended declaration. In addition to what has been stated in the original declaration, to which this is intended as an amendment, applicant states that while in the Virginia State Troops he was appointed a sergeant while under Col Blueford, and acted as such until he was taken sick and taken to the hospital, after his recovery he does not recollect of acting as a Sergeant, until after the defeat of Col Blueford (as stated in the original declaration,) when he joined Col. Febecker at Fredericksburg and was appointed by him a sergeant with the privilege of recruiting, and continued to act as a recruiting sergeant under said Col Febecker until discharged by him as before stated. Applicant states that while in the line of Virginia State Troops he is satisfied in his own mind that he served as a Sergeant not less than six months.

Applicant further states that while under Capt. Valentine Payton in the malitia, as stated in the declaration, he served during the whole of that tour of service, which was three months as a Sergeant. And whilst under the command of Captain Coleman in the Artillery as before stated, he served during the whole of that tour of service, which was three months as a Sergeant. In making the first declaration,
applicant did not deem it of importance in any way to state with precision when he acted or the length of
time he served as Sergeant.

Applicant again states as he has before stated in his original declaration, that he served the full
term of eighteen months while in the line of Virginia State troops, under the officers before stated. He also
states that he served four separate tours in the Virginia Mailitia, three of those tours of three months each,
and one of one month – making in the whole while in the malitia thirteen months.
He knows of no person living by whom he can prove his service as a Sergeant as above stated or as a
Soldier of the Revolution, nor has he any documentary evidence of those facts
[signed] John Dale

NOTE:
On 7 Mar 1853 Lucy Dale, 76, applied for a pension stating that as Lucy Britt she married John
Dale in Jackson County TN on 25 Feb 1813, and he died on 28 Aug 1833.
The file includes documents relating to a suit by Daniel Dale, Pleasant White, and his wife Jane
White against “Lucy Brit alias Lucy Rue alias Lucy Dale” and John H. Dale. One document is testimony by
Joseph Hawkins of Jackson County, witness for the plaintiffs, who stated that he performed the marriage
of John Dale and Lucy Brit “on the top of What is Called the Step Hill in the woods.” He stated that on
the date of the marriage a license was obtained, a copy of which is dated 25 Feb 1813. The suit was
decided in favor of Lucy Dale.