

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Richard Dotson S5364

fn19Va.

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Virginia, Tyler County: to wit:

On this 10th day of June 1833, personally appeared in open Court before Robert Gorrell; William Bond; John D. Wells; & James G. West, Justices of the Peace, constituting the County Court of Tyler County, now sitting, Richard Dotson, a resident of said County and State of Virginia, aged 81 years, who being first duly Sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefits of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, that he was born in Frederick County now Shenandoah County State of Virginia and Continued to reside there until he was about 20 years of age, he then removed to Green [sic, Greene] County State of Pennsylvania, that in the year 1774 he served a tour of duty under Lord Dunmore against the western Indians, that he marched to Fort Charlotte near the place where Chillicothe now stands, in the State of Ohio, from whence he returned to his place of residence in the State of Pennsylvania where he continued to live until after the close of the Revolutionary war, that in the spring of the year 1777 he entered the service of the United States as a volunteer Indian Spy under Captain John Minor and served six months of that year, that in the years 1778 & 79, he also served the United States six months each year as an Indian Spy under Captain John Minor entering the service in the spring and leaving in the fall, making in all he served as an Indian Spy the term of eighteen months or more that services consisted in watching movements of the Indians examining their trails and giving information of their approach to the settlements that he principally served in Greene and adjoining Counties, that his headquarters were at Jenkins's Fort in said County of Greene and Jarard Fort about 3 miles from the former that the said Captain John Minor was the commandant of these Stations, that in the summer of 1777 or 8 he and four of his companions had a skirmish with about the same number of Indians, that one of his party (to wit) John Nichols was killed and one of the Indians was also killed by Richard Hall. This skirmish took place near Jarard Fort on Big Whiteley and that he has no recollection of having received a discharge. He further says that after the close of the Revolution he returned to Shenandoah County, Virginia after remaining there a few years (the precise number he cannot recollect) he removed to Louden [sic, Loudoun] County, Virginia and continued there about two years, from Loudoun he removed to Hampshire County Virginia where he lived about six years from thence he removed to Wood County Virginia since which time he has continued to reside alternately in Wood and Tyler Counties until the present time that he now lives in said County of Tyler. He further says he has a record of his age and that he was born on the 23rd day of October 1752.

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 the agency of any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Richard Dotson, X his mark

[John Ripley, a clergyman, and William Wells gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Tyler County State of Virginia To Wit

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for said County Ann Reddick aged 95 years old the 23rd day of last September (who I certify to be a credible witness) and made oath that she lived during the year 1777, 1778 and 9 in Greene County State of Pennsylvania during all which time she was well acquainted with Richard Dotson, and knows that he Served the United States as an Indian Spy in the year 1777, 1778 & 9 and that she believes he Served six months in each of Said years and that deponent and Said Dotson were frequently inmates at Jenkins Fort at the same time, and further this deponent Saith not.

Given under my hand and seal [word and figures obliterated) day of May 1833
S/ James Stealey {Seal}