

CITATION: Email Correspondence entitled "Re: Douglass Family Website", from Lee [mailto:lbb100@charter.net], November 11, 2013 (Author provided copies of the following Revolutionary War Pension Applications from which Michael Dickson's war service record was extracted: R11833; S21288; S21550; S34246; W7436; S8995; S22864; S17847; S7342; and S8624.)

Summary of Major Michael Dickson's Military Service During the Revolutionary War

Summary: Michael Dickson of SC raised a GA militia company, but recruited his troops from SC and NC. As a captain, his company served in the defense of GA under Col. Samuel Jack for about three years from Jan 1776 to Dec 1778 and perhaps into early 1779. His company was garrisoned at Rogers Fort on the Ogeechee River in present day Wilkes Co, GA primarily to defend against Cherokee attack. Captain David Dickson (probably Michael's first cousin) commanded a second company at Rogers Fort. In Aug 1776, Michael's company may have participated in the attack on the Cherokee village at Seneca Town, GA as Col. Jack was there. From Apr to Jul 1778, his company participated in an unsuccessful GA expedition to capture St. Augustine, FL from the British. He was a major in the GA militia by Oct 1778 and served in the GA militia at least until Apr 1779. By the summer of 1780, however, he was a major in the SC militia under Lt. Col. William Bratton and Col. Edwin Lacey and was at Huck's Defeat on 12 Jul 1780, Rocky Mount on 1 Aug 1780, Hanging Rock on 6 Aug 1780, and Sumter's Defeat on 18 Aug 1780.

Captain under Col. Jack in 1776. Raised a company for defense of GA. Enlisted troops from SC and NC. Went into GA then in Apr 1778 into FL. Returned to Midway Meeting House, then to Savannah in summer of 1778. Was company commander until Dec 1778. Capt. in Nov 1777. Capt. in Jan 1776 to Sep 1776. Company commander from Nov 1776 to Jul 1777.

Captain David Dickson also had a company in 1777/78 and was with Michael at Fort Rogers in GA.

In Oct 1778, was a major under Col. Jack, for at least seven months...to abt Apr 1779.

Maj. with Bratton and Lacey at Williamson's Lane (Huck's Defeat)

Col. Jack was at the Battle of Seneca Town, 1 Aug 1776, but Dickson isn't listed with him. http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_seneca_town.html

Rev. War Pension Application Data Pertaining to Michael Dickson:

Samuel Woodside R11833--Samuel Woodside who was a private in the company of Captain Michael Dickson when there was an order made for men to fortify Charleston that he (her husband) Volunteered his service and went to Charleston but whether he went under the command of said Captain Dickson or not she cannot tell but she thinks he did for she knows said Dickson went to Charleston at the same time.

James Houston S21288--William Houston and James Houston did Enlisted into the

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Minute Service to serve in the State of Georgia for the term of 2 years in the company of Captain Michael Dickson under the command of Colonel Jack and that Thomas Kelley [?] and Hugh Kelley [?], Charles Miller and William Miller was enlisted soldiers in the same company and this Deponent further says that he understood they was to have bounty land from the State of Georgia for their services and he further understood since they never had got it and at the time of their enlistment they lived in the State of South Carolina and is Deponent further says he understood that the two Kelleys and Charles Miller and William Mellor sold their claim of their bounty land to Captain Michael Dickson which he believes to be the case.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1776 (as well as he can recollect) with a Captain Michael Dickson and served in Colonel Jack's Regiment. The field officers were General Screven, Colonel Jack his Captain was Michael Dickson as above stated William Henderson first Lieutenant. That he resided in Chester County South Carolina when he enlisted in a Regiment raised for the defense of Georgia that the company to which he belonged met or rendezvoused at Captain Dickson's and from thence they marched to Tyger River where they were joined by Captain David Dickson's Company of infantry and Captain James Pettigrew's company that they crossed Savannah River at Bagdale's ferry and passed on through Wilkes County Georgia and so on to Fort Rogers on the Ogeechee River which was the then line of Georgia where they kept Garrison for several months from there they marched down the Ogeechee River & finally crossed over and joined what was called the Florida expedition crossed the St. Mary's River & went some distance into Florida when they turned about & came to a place called Midway Meeting house where they remained for some time from there the March into the town of Savannah where they continued [to] serve until his term of enlistment expired that he got a discharge which he supposes is at Milledgeville in the state of Georgia as he gave it up when he applied for his bounty from the State of Georgia which he received that on this occasion he served out to (two) full years & left the service about the 1st of December 1778.

David Verner S21550--In the Fall of 1778 (this Deponent is pretty confident from circumstances it most have been the first part of October) he joined General Jack's Regiment of Minute Men intended to serve in the upper part of Georgia & South Carolina. He and his brother united themselves to the command of their Mother's Brother Captain James Pettigru for three years if they liked the service, but were not to be marched off without their consent and attached to this Battalion or Regiment commanded by Major Michael Dickson and with those troops he served seven months and procured a written discharge.

My Note: Proves that Michael Dickson was a major in the GA militia by Oct 1778 until about May 1781.

Stephen McLaughlin S34246--That he moved with his father in his infancy, at what period of it he does not recollect, into Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. He enlisted in the early part of November 1777 at his father's house under Capt. Michael Dickson of Georgia. Capt. M. Dickson was authorized by the State of Georgia to enlist a company

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and he came into North Carolina for the purpose of filling up his company more readily by enlisting in Mecklenburg County. Rogers Fort on the frontiers of Georgia on the Ogeechee River was the Rendezvous of the company. The lieutenants were William Henderson and ___ Richie, the Christian name of the latter not recollected, Robert Thompson orderly Sgt. Capt. M. Dickson joined Capt. David Dickson at Fort Rogers. John Wall was the Lieut. of Capt. David Dickson Fort Rogers gave protection and afforded an asylum to the inhabitants of that part of the frontiers

and for that purpose it was guarded and occupied by Capt. M. and D. Dickson's Companies until

April 1777, when both Companies were removed to Augusta -- whence they were ordered to join

the expedition against St. Augustine under Gov. Houston of Georgia. In June, day not recollected, Declarant was marched under his Capt. Michael Dickson, along with Capt. D. Dickson's company, to Charlton Mearle's Ferry, where they joined Col. Bugg, who commanded a Regiment of Continental troops. Major Hawkins was one of the officers of Col. Bugg's Regiment. Declarant does not recollect any other officers. Captains M. & D. Dickson's Companies were here placed under the command of Col. Jack and Major Hawkins, and were marched under those officers to Canoutchee rive[sic, CanoocheeRiver?], crossing Canoutchee on the South New Port -- where they were halted and remained 2 weeks. Thence were marched to Scintillah [sic, Satilla River?], thence to Baltamahah [sic, Altamaha River?], thence to Fort Barrington in the St. Augustine Territory -- said Territory and the town of St. Augustine being then in possession of the British at Fort Barrington we joined the American forces consisting of Continental and State troops under the command of Gov. Houston of Georgia, who, declarant believes, commanded the expedition. Declarant does not know the number of troops encamped at Fort Barrington. The men became very sickly and began to die off rapidly, and after

remaining at Fort Barrington 3 or 4 weeks, the respective companies were informed by their captains that they would be marched to Midway Meeting house, where those who were able to march, would be discharged and those unable to march back, would be detained and assisted home in the wagons and with the horses. Col. Bugg remained at the Fort with the Continental troops, and Gov. Houston returned back to Georgia attended by this staff and other officers connected with the State troops. The Declarant was marched under his Capt. Michael Dickson to Midway Meeting house and there received his discharge in the month of August or September which, he cannot now recollect. The Declarant and his brother Jacob who belonged to the same Company received their discharges on the same piece of paper. Jacob, being the oldest and being then married and settled, kept the discharge. He has since died in the State of Virginia and declarant knows not what has become of the paper containing their discharges. Declarant served 10 months from his Enlistment in November 1777 until his discharge in September 1778.

My Note: Proves that Capt. Michael Dickson commanded a GA company, recruited from NC, and garrisoned at Rogers Fort, GA. Also, Capt. David Dickson had a company there too. That Capt. Michael Dickson's company participated in the GA expedition

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against the British in FL in 1778.

John McLaughlin W7436--That he enlisted in the army of the united States he thinks about the year 1778 or 1779 under Capt Michael Dickson, Lieutenant William Henderson, for the term of three years or during the war.

William White S8995--I enrolled myself as a volunteer in the month of January 1776 under Captain Michael Dickson who commanded a volunteer company attached to Colonel Richardson's [Richard Richardson's] Regiment and I remained a soldier in said company upwards of eighteen months during which time the company marched to Reedy River in pursuit of Tories who retreated at our approach and we returned home some time afterwards our company marched to Charleston, where we remained about two weeks and returned home – stayed at home a short time and again we marched to Charleston – remained there some time and again returned home. Captain Dickson's company was disbanded by his taking of another command.

...to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below, and in the following grades -- to wit -- from the 5th day of January to the 5th day of March 1776 being 2 months, as a private volunteer under Captain Michael Dixon -- from the first day of July to the first day of September 1776 being 2 months as a private volunteer under Captain Michael Dixon.

My Note: Proves that Capt. Michael Dickson had a company as early as Jan 1776.

John Craig S22864--joined General Sumter [Thomas Sumter] & returned to South Carolina, then we went on a scout after the Tories under Colonels A. Neile [sic, Andrew Neal], Lacy [sic, Edward Lacey], Bratton [William Bratton] & Major Dickson defeated the Tories and British at Williamson's Lane killed Major Robison Captain Hook [sic, Christian Huck], then returned to the Main Army then marched to Rocky Mount attacked the Fort but was driven Back Lost Colonel Andrew Neal [Andrew Neel] killed.

[part of the following document is missing] ...Andrew Neal Lacey Bratton and Major Dickson our first engagement was with a Set of Tories and British at Williamson's Lane [balance of line obliterated] one hundred and thirty-five men.

My Note: Proves that Maj. Dickson was at Huck's Defeat and Rocky Mount.

Stephen Pritchett S34246--That the Said Stephen Pritchett Enlisted for the Term of three Years, on the ___ day of November 1776 -- in the State of South Carolina in the company commanded by Michael Dixon in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Samuel Jack in the line of the South Carolina Georgia State troops on the United States Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in said corps until the ___day of July 1777 when he was discharged at what is now called Midway meeting house in the State of Georgia.

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Nicholas Bishop S17847--served under Major Dickson after Hanging Rock through Sumter's Defeat.

Here are some notes about a "Maj. Dickson" of NC at the Battle of Ramsours Mill. Must have been Maj Robert Dickson, Michael's brother.

William Rankin S7342.--William Rankin was born in Pennsylvania, on the 10th of January, 1761, and at an early age joined the tide of emigration to the Southern States, and settled in "Tryon," afterward Lincoln county, N.C.

He first entered the service as a private in Captain Robert Alexander's company, Colonel William Graham's regiment, and marched to Montfort's Cove against the Cherokee Indians. In 1779 he volunteered under the same officer, and marched by way of Charlotte and Camden to the relief of Charleston, but finding the city completely invested by the British army, the regiment returned to North Carolina. In 1780, he again volunteered under Major Dickson, and marched against Col. Floyd, a Tory leader of upper South Carolina. After this service he returned home, and soon afterward marched under the same officer, General Rutherford commanding, to Ramsour's Mill, where a large body of Tories had assembled under Colonel John Moore. The forces under General Rutherford were encamped on Colonel Dickson's plantation, three miles north-west of Tuckaseege Ford, and about sixteen miles from Ramsour's. Early on the morning of the 20th of June, 1780, they broke up camp and moved forward, but did not reach the battle-field until two hours after the action had taken place, and the Tories defeated by Colonel Locke and his brave associates, with a force greatly inferior to that of the enemy.

...Soon afterward he marched with General Rutherford's command to Camden and participated in the unfortunate battle at that place on the 16th of August, 1780. While the British army were in Charlotte he served under Captain Forney and Major Dickson, watching the movements of the enemy.

My Note: This concerns action in NC in 1780 by Maj. Dickson. Mentions Tory Col. Floyd and Battle of Ramsour's Mill. Patriots under Gen. Rutherford camped at "Colonel Dickson's plantation, just before the battle.

Colonel William Graham S8624--Soon after his return home, Colonel Graham again marched with his regiment, General Rutherford commanding, against a large body of Tories assembled at Ramsour's Mill under Lieut. Colonel John Moore, (son of Moses Moore) near the present town of Lincolnton. General Rutherford, with some Mecklenburg troops, crossed the Catawba river at Tuckaseege Ford, on the evening of the 19th of June, 1780, and camped at Colonel Joseph Dickson's plantation, three miles northwest of the ford. On the morning of the 20th,

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Gen. Rutherford marched, at an early hour, with the expectation of co-operating with Colonel Locke, of Rowan county, in making a combined attack against the Tories, but failed to reach the battleground until about two hours after the close of that sanguinary engagement, in which the Tories were signally defeated.

My Note: Who was this Colonel Joseph Dickson whose plantation was 3 miles NW of Tuckaseegee Ford? Another report says a Col. Dickson of Lincoln Co, NC "assisted" Maj. Cronicle at Kings Mountain, but I've never seen any other mention of that.

Above two soldier notes by: SKETCHES OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA, HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL, Illustrating Principally the Revolutionary Period of Mecklenburg, Rowan, Lincoln and Adjoining Counties, Accompanied with Miscellaneous Information, Much of It Never before Published, C. L. HUNTER, 1877