

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

CAPTAIN ROBERT GEORGE'S COMPANY IN THE ILLINOIS REGIMENT, VIRGINIA STATE FORCES,
COMMANDED BY GEN GEORGE ROGERS CLARK AT FORT NELSON KY, 31 AUG 1782

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[E. M. Sanchez-Saavedra (*A Guide to Virginia Military Organizations in the American Revolution, 1774-1787*. Westminster MD: Heritage Books, 1978) describes the origin of the Illinois Regiment as follows: "The largest and most complex unit raised by Virginia during the Revolution began its existence in January 1778 as a special militia regiment for the defense of the Western Department. Governor Patrick Henry's instructions to Lieutenant-Colonel Clark on January 2, 1778, authorized him to raise seven companies of fifty men each and to attack the British outpost of Kaskaskia on the Mississippi. Clark was also ordered to establish a post on the Falls of the Ohio." (The Falls of the Ohio are at present Louisville in Kentucky, which was then a part of Virginia.)

In January 1781 Col. Clark went to eastern Virginia where he was commissioned a Brigadier General by Gov. Thomas Jefferson and helped repel an invasion by Benedict Arnold. Clark then returned to the Falls of Ohio, and from April through November of that year he led a punitive expedition against the Shawnee Indians. On 10 Nov 1782 the Illinois Regiment burned Piqua, Standing Stone, and other Shawnee towns in the last battle of the Revolutionary War. In April 1783 command transferred from Gen. Clark to Maj. George Walls, under whom the Illinois Regiment continued to defend the frontier until about 1786.

Additional details regarding the Illinois Regiment may be found in the other pension applications noted in brackets in the following transcriptions of rolls, which are found at <http://www.fold3.com/image/#246|9650012> et seq. Alternative spellings and pension numbers are shown in brackets.]

Muster Roll of Captain Robert George's Company of Artillery in the Service of the Commonwealth of Virginia and Illinois Regiment from the first to the 31st August 1782

Commissioned Officers. Robert George [R14396] Capt. Comm[issione]d 4 June 1779.
 Richard Harrison [R14762] Capt Lt. Com'd 4 June 1779
 Supernumery 1 Aug't 1782.

| | Sergeants | Date of Enlistment | Term of Enlistment | Remarks |
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | Bucker Pittman [Buckner Pittman VAS209] | 1 May 1780 | 3 Years | present |
| 2 | John Moore | 16 July 1781 | During the War | Do |
| 3 | William Pritchard [William Pritchett VAS287] | 16 Feby 1780 | Do | Do |
| | Gunners | | | |
| 1 | Josiah Smith | 4 June 1782 | Do | Do |
| 2 | John McGarr | 6 Novr 1779 | 3 Years | Do |
| 3 | John Oakley [John Oakly VAS319] | 5 Jany 1780 | During the War | Do |
| | Matrosses | | | |
| 1 | Abraham Miller | 11 Feby 1780 | Do | Do |
| 2 | Matthew Johnes | 6 Novr 1779 | Do | Do |
| 3 | Peeter Priest [Peter Priest W8530] | 11 Feby 1780 | Do | Do |
| 4 | Christ'r Coombs [Christopher Coombs] | 14 June 1782 | Do | Do |
| 5 | William Pursley | 10 april 1780 | Do | Do |
| 6 | Andrew Canore | 4 June 1779 | Do | Do |
| 7 | Josiah Preest [Josiah Priest] | 5 April 1780 | Do | Do |
| 8 | Isym Floyd [Isham Floyd] | 26 Novr1779 | Do | Do |
| 9 | Nich's King [Nicholas King] | 20 May 1782 | Do | Do |
| 10 | Geo Venshener [George Venshener] | 14 Novr 1779 | Do | Do |
| 11 | John Hacker | 4 March 1780 | 3 Yrs or Do | Do |
| 12 | George Armstrong | 6 June 1779 | During War | Deserted 4 Augt 1782 |
| 13 | John Hazzard | 28 March 1780 | Do | On Command |
| 14 | James Ramsey | 15 Jany 1780 | Do | Absent Sick |
| | John Smithers | 3 Jany 1780 | Do | Do |

N.B. Lieut. Thos. Dalton who formally belonged to this Company is supposed to be deserted to the enemy on the 4th of August 1782 and taken a soldier with him.

Fort Nelson [at present Louisville KY] 1st Sept'r 1782. Then mustered Capt George's Company as specified in the above roll. W Clarke M.M.

Proof of the Effectives

| Ranks | Capt | Lieuft | Sergeants | Gunners | Matrosses |
|---------|------|--------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Present | 1 | | 3 | 3 | 11 |
| Absent | | 1 | | | 4 |
| Total | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 15 |

I do swear that the within Muster Roll is a tru state of the Company without fraud to the State or any Individual to the best of my knowledge.

Robert George Capt

Sworn before me this the 19 day of Sept 1782.

G. R. Clarke

The foregoing is a true Copy of a Muster Roll contained in the 1st Vol. of papers concerning the Illinois Department

Given under my hand at the Auditors Office Richmond this 22nd day of July 1835

Jas E Heath APA for State of Va.