

**Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters**

Pension application of Mathias Whiteman R11460

Margaret

fn58NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/8/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

Pension Claim

By a widow of an old Revolutionary Soldier

Form of Declaration for Widow of a deceased Soldier

State of Indiana County of Clarke: SS

On this 17th day of December A.D. 1850 personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace within and for the County and State aforesaid Margaret Whiteman aged near a hundred years a resident of Clark in the State of Indiana, who being duly sworn according to law, declares, that she is the widow of Mathias Whiteman, deceased, who was a private in the company of Captain Henry Whitesel, & others in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Paisley [John Paisley], General Gates & General Green [sic, Nathanael Greene] in the war between the United States & Great Britain known as the Revolutionary War.

That her said husband entered at Guilford County North Carolina on or about the \_\_\_ day of March A.D. 1781 & before for the term of six months tours, and continued in actual service in said war for the terms of several tours and was honorably discharged at places unknown to her ~~on~~ ~~the~~ nor does she recollect the same except the last of the close of the war A.D. 1783 as will appear by the muster rolls of said company. She further states that she was married to the said Mathias Whiteman in Guilford County on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ A.D. 1784 by one George Cortner a justice of the peace and that her name before her marriage was Margaret Low that her said husband died at Guilford County North Carolina on the \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_ A.D. about 1816 and that she is still a widow, & wholly without the means of support.

She makes this declaration for the purpose of obtaining a pension to which she may be entitled under the acts of Congress in such cases made and provided. She further states that she has been helpless for two years, and unable to make a support for 10 or 15 years --

Sworn to and subscribed before me the day and year above written.

S/ H. Clay Coones, JP

S/ Margaret Whiteman, X her mark

Affidavit of witnesses

State of Indiana County of Clark: SS

On this 17th day of December A.D. 1850 personally appeared before me, a justice of the peace within and for the State and County aforesaid George Valentine Fifer and a resident of the

State of Indiana and County of Clark who being duly sworn according to law declare that Margaret Whiteman is the widow of Mathias Whiteman, deceased, who was a private in the companies commanded by captains Henry Whitesel & others Regiment of \_\_ commanded by Colonel Paisley that he fought under General Gates at his defeat and was in the Army in South Carolina before, and also fall under General Greene in Guilford County North Carolina. Witness knew both parties when he was a boy and before and after their marriage. Witness further states that Mathias Whiteman was at the battle when Colonel DeKalb was killed & was in the company that took the baggage wagons and was hotly pursued by the British Army.(a)

That the said Margaret Whiteman was married to the said Mathias Whiteman, deceased, at Guilford County in the State of North Carolina on the Soon after the peace was made A.D. 1784 by one George Cotner a justice of the peace, that the name of the said Margaret Whiteman before her marriage aforesaid was Margaret Low, that her husband, the said Mathias Whiteman died in Guilford County North Carolina on the 4 day of July A.D. about 1816 and that she is still a widow. That witness states that he resided in the neighborhood of the parties during the Revolutionary war though a boy at the time, and until the death of Mathias Whiteman and came to this State with the widow & family afterwards & have lived neighbors ever since.

And he swears that he is disinterested witness.

S/ George Valentine Fifer, X his mark

(a) Witness also states, that when the American Army retreated to a River, hotly pursued by the British Army, that Mathias Whiteman carried one of his fellow soldiers, who was very large and could not swim, across the River safely on his back together with their guns & knapsacks, while many of the Americans were shot in the River, these facts he learned from the soldiers soon after the battle. He also states that he saw Whiteman going & returning to & from the Army and that he had the name of a noble soldier.

State of Indiana County of Clark:

On this 21st day of April 1852 personally appeared in open Court Henry Whiteman of said County and makes the following declaration in order to obtain from the United States for the heirs of Margaret Whiteman deceased & of Mathias Whiteman deceased any and all pension money and bounties to which the said heirs may be entitled under any act or acts of Congress passed for the benefit of those who served in the Revolutionary War or the widows and heirs of such -- that he is Administrator of the estate of Margaret Whiteman late of this County who was the widow of Mathias Whiteman deceased as appears from letters of Administration herewith filed -- That the said Margaret Whiteman died at his house in said County on or about the 20th of July 1851 at the age of about 100 years. That she was the widow of Mathias Whiteman of Guilford County North Carolina who died in that County in 1816 leaving the said Margaret his widow who continued to be his widow up to the time of her death and the following children and heirs at law: who are now living to wit:

Elizabeth Philipee aged 68 and widow of Henry Philipee deceased

The Heirs of John White man deceased (to wit, Susan aged 35 years & John White man aged 33 years)

The Heirs of Peggy Clapp, deceased, (to wit: -- Lewis Clapp aged 35 years & Mary Clapp aged 32 years)

The Heirs of Sally Clapp deceased (to wit Samuel Clapp aged 36 years, Ephimy Clapp aged 34 years, Mary Clapp aged 32 years, Joel Clapp aged 30 years, William Clapp aged 24 years, Peggy Clapp aged 22 years and Elisa Clapp aged 19 years)

The heirs of Polly Wilson deceased (to wit Matilda Wilson aged 31 years)  
Etha Field aged 58 years and wife of Abner Field  
Esther Wilson wife of Jesse Wilson and aged 56 years  
Barbara Cortner wife of David Cortner and aged 46 years  
and Henry Whiteman aged 46 years.

That there is no other child nor air at law of the said Margaret Whiteman deceased now living.  
S/ Henry Whiteman, X his mark

[fn p. 54]

State of Indiana County of Clark: Sct

On this \_\_\_day of September 1853 before me Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally came George Valentine Fifer of said County to me well known and entitled to full credit, and being duly sworn according to law upon oath states that on or about the 17th of December 1850 he gave his deposition before Esquire H. Clay Coones [?] in establishing a claim of Margaret Whiteman against the United States for pension for Military Services of her late husband the Mathias Wightman deceased, in the Revolutionary War North Carolina Line -- that in that deposition he stated that said Margaret Whiteman was the widow of Mathias Whiteman deceased who was the soldier in the Revolutionary War -- that he knew said Mathias and Margaret before and after their intermarriage and came with the widow Margaret from North Carolina to this State, where they have since lived &c.

Deponent further states that since his said deposition the said Margaret Wightman aged about 100 years died in Clark County on or about the 20th of July 1851, and that she left her surviving her the following children, of her, the said Margaret A Whiteman, who was also the children of the identical Mathias can Whiteman aforesaid who was a private in the North Carolina Militia in the Revolutionary War.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Philipee aged about 69 years and widow of Henry Philipee, deceased
- 2<sup>ns</sup> Etha Field aged about 59 years and wife of Abner Field
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Esther Wilson aged 57 years and wife of Jese Wilson
- 4<sup>th</sup> Barbara Cortner aged about 45 years and wife of David Cortner
- 5<sup>th</sup> Henry Whiteman aged about 47 years -- that these are the children of the said

Mathias Wightman

Deponent further states; that the said Mathias and Margaret Whiteman had in addition to the above named children four other children as follows, to wit: John Whiteman, Peggy Clapp, Sally Clapp and Polly Wilson who were children of the said Mathias and Margaret Whiteman deceased and he had died each leaving children surviving them.

Deponent states that the aforesaid Elizabeth Philipee, Etha Field, Esther Wilson, Barbara Courtner and Henry Whiteman of the children of the said Mathias deceased who was a private soldier in the North Carolina line in the Revolutionary War and the children of the deceased Margaret Wightman who was the widow of the said Mathias Whiteman and that there is no other child of the said Margaret and Mathias can Whiteman, and further states that the children of the above named John Whiteman, Peggy Clapp, Sally Clapp, and Polly Wilson deceased are the grandchildren of the said Mathias Wightman who was a soldier of the North Carolina line in the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War and that there is no other heirs at law of the said Mathias Whiteman and Margaret Whiteman deceased but these children and grandchildren above named.

Deponent makes this affidavit as an amendment to his aforesaid declaration in said claim,

and states he is disinterested.

S/ Andrew Bower

Attest: S/ John Bower

S/ George Fifer, X his mark

[fn p. 32]

State of Indiana County of Clark: Sct

On this 4th day of February 1854 before me the undersigned Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared George V. Fifer of said County to me well-known, and entitled to credit and who being sworn in due form of law upon his oath states in addition to the statement which he has made in his several depositions taken to establish the claims of the children of Mathias Whiteman deceased against the United States by reason of military services of said Whiteman in the Revolutionary war, That he the said Fifer says he is 89 years of age next March the 8th day. He cannot tell at what particular time Mathias Whiteman entered the war or how long he served, but he supposes that he (the witness) was about 15 years old when the battle was fought at Guilford Court House NC which was called Martinsville then. This was at the same time that the battle was fought at "Geraugh" where DeKalb was killed and the British kept coming until they got to Martinsville, and the same time when General Gates ran after two fires and would not stand his ground like DeKalb.

He further states that Mathias Whiteman frequently hired to serve in other men's places and went against the Tories and sometimes one-way and sometimes the other. Witness does not know whether he was drafted or volunteered on his own account at any time; but that said Whiteman was out in the service of the war or the greater part of the time which he supposes lasted about 7 years.

Some of the foregoing facts are stated from witness own recollection and observation and some from the statement of said Mathias Whiteman in his comrades after their return from the wars, and during the wars.

Question. What was the reason that an application for a pension was not made sooner?

Ans. Witness states in answer to the above interrogatory, That there was not much of that sort of business done before he came away from Carolina and that they did not know that they could get it.

Int. 2. What is the reason the widow did not apply sooner?

Ans. It was her neglect if she knew it I don't know as she knowed it. I suppose she would not have waited so long if she had knowed it.

Sworn to before made the 4th day of February 1854 aforesaid, and I certify that I believe the said Fifer to be of the age above stated. He is a man of sound mind and undoubted veracity and clear distinct memory. I further certify that I am not interested in this claim and am not concerned in its prosecution.

S/ John Covest [?], JP

[facts in file:

1. fn p. 45: finding by clerk of court that Margaret Low was the daughter of Peter Low of Guilford County, NC
2. fn p. 46: Henry Whiteman, son of the veteran and his wife, was 47 years old when he gave testimony on May 13, 1853 in Clark County, Indiana; that he (Henry) knows of no records of the births of the children of his parents; Barbara Cotener, daughter of Mathias and Margaret Whiteman also gave testimony at the same time that she was then 45 years of age.

3. fn p. 49: testimony by Catharine Smith and David Cabel, two disinterested witnesses, that they were well acquainted with Mathias and Margaret Whiteman, that they had the following children: "Elisabeth Philepe who died in Clark County Indiana aged 69 years in 1852 widow of Henry Philipe, deceased; John Whiteman who died in Bowling Green Kentucky at the age 61 in 1845 leaving 3 children – Pegey Clapp a widow of Lewis Clapp who died in Guilford County North Carolina at the age of 30 years leaving 2 children Saley Clapp a widow of Valitine Clapp who died at the age of 50 years leaving 7 children in 1836 [3rd digit unclear]; Paley Wilson a widow of Jesey Wilson who died in Clark County Indiana about the age of 25 years leaving one child surviving her; Eatha Field wife of Abener Feel aged 59 years; Hester Wilson wife of Jesey Wilson who died in Daviess County Indiana aged 57 years; Henry Whiteman of Indiana Clark County aged 47 years, Barber Cotenner wife of David Cotenner of Clark County Indiana Aged 45 years."

[fn p. 11: certificate dated June 28, 1852 from the North Carolina Comptroller general showing payments for military service made to a Mathias Whitman or Whiteman.]