

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of William Cheatwood (Chitwood) R1898 Susannah Cheatwood VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia Franklin County S.S.

On the 30th day of September 1839 personally appeared before me a Justice of the Peace for said County Susannah Cheatwood a resident of said County aged about eighty five years who being first sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the several acts of Congress in favour of the widows of deceased soldiers of the Revolution – that she is the widow of William Chitwood who was a private in the Militia of Virginia during the Revolutionary War, and served a tour of three months at Cabin point [on James River in Surry County] the names of the officers under whom he served and the dates of his enlistment and discharge are not now known to her. He also served a three months tour at Portsmouth in this state under Capt John Trigg in Colonel Merewethers [sic: thomas Meriwether’s] Regiment the year before the seige of York [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781], and he also served a tour of three months under the same Captain at Yorktown where he was attached to Colo. [St. George] Tucker’s Regiment, and was at the memorable surrender of Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] at that place. His discharges have all been lost or destroyed – She also declares that she was married to the said William Chitwood about the 1st of May 1777 as well as she now remembers That the said William Cheatwood died on the 28th day of February 1822 and that she has not since married. That she was married to the said William Chitwood before he entered into the service aforesaid. That there is no record evidence of her marriage within her knowledge.

She further states that she had by her said husband the following children, Dicey, Joel, Squire, Frances, Mathias, & Sarah who all living except Squire Susanah herXmark Cheatwood

[On 8 April 1854 Mathias Chitwood and Eli Perdue assigned power of attorney to pursue the claim of Susannah Chitwood, who died (“they think”) in 1844.]

State of Virginia } S.S.
County of Franklin }

On this 9th day of March 1854, personally appeared before me a justice of the peace in and for the aforesaid County and State, Henry Link, aged 73 years, to me well known as a son of Absalom Link a late Revolutionary Soldier & pensioner of the said County [sic: no pension application found], who being sworn according to law, deposeseth as follows – That he was well acquainted with William Cheatwood & Susannah his wife – that he has always heard said William served three tours in the Revolution – has heard Martin Woody [pension application W3912] a late Revolutionary pensioner of said County declare oftentimes that he and William Cheatwood served several tours together, and Woody was a highly credible person & that he knew the said William & Susan Cheatwood as far back as he can remember – that they were then married – has often heard them declare they were married before he (Cheatwood) went into the service, and have often heard them and their children declare that they were married in Bedford County in the Spring of 1777 – which he the (affiant) has always believed to be true, because their oldest child, Disey Cheatwood, was just 3 years older than himself (the affiant): he being now 73 years old. He also deposes that Susanna Cheatwood died in his neighborhood on or about the 20th day of June in the year 1840, and that he remembers it from the circumstance of his being present at her death, and that he was harvesting (cutting wheat) at the time: He farther says that he has often heard his own father Absalum declare in his life time that William Cheatwood was a Militia Soldier in the Revolution and was as deserving of a pension as almost any one, and that his widow ought to have one &c – and that he is disinterested.

Henry hisXmark Link

[William Stewart (pension application S6167) and John Blankenship made a similar statement.]

NOTES:

A document dated 5 Dec 1853 states that the maiden name of Susanna Cheatwood was Susanna Nowlin. Her claim was denied for inadequate proof of her husband's service, the date of marriage, and the names and number of their children.

On 30 Sep 1839 Elizabeth Campbell stated that "she was at Old John Chitwoods the father of William Chitwoods at the time s'd. William was married and came home (the marrying in them days was in the neighbourhood of New London [in Bedford, now Campbell County] called the glebe from where they lived say 50 mile) to his Fathers with his Wife Susanna."

The file contains a copy of William Cheatwood's last will and testament dated 13 Feb 1822 bequeathing to Susanna Cheatwood "all my land and possions as long as she liveth, also one bed stead and furniture, one choice Cow and Calf, two choice hogs to fatten, all the rest of the loose property to be sold at the hiest bidding and the money to be divided among my children, my son Squire and Mathias, Sally Perdue, Franky. as for my son Joel Cheatwood he is in my dept one hundred Dollars for which he is to keep for all his claim against my estate; I leave and desire my son Mathias Cheatwood and Ely Perdue to act and be my executors... I also will to my dauter Dicey McMullen the sum of five Dollars and no more."