

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Roger Clements R2043

Hannah

fn42NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/20/10

[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.]

State of Kentucky Montgomery County

On this 8th day of September 1832 Personally appeared in open court before Silas W Robbins the sole and presiding Judge of the County and Circuit of Montgomery, now sitting, Roger Clemmons resident of said County and State aforesaid and aged 70 years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed the 7th day of June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated

1<sup>st</sup> He states that he was born in the State of Virginia Augusta County on the first of January 1762. He states he continued to reside in Augusta until he was ten years old and moved to North Carolina Roann [sic, Rowan] County, continued to reside there till the spring of 1780. He states that somewhere about the latter part of the winter of that year or the first of March he was enrolled on the muster list. He states that it was somewhere about this time Charleston was taken<sup>1</sup> by the British Troops. That immediately after he was enrolled he was drafted for a term of three months under Captain Davidson & also Colonel William Davidson [William Lee Davidson] & General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford]. He immediately marched to Major Fifer's [sic, probably John, Martin or Caleb Phifer's] & there rendezvoused and very soon after we were in a State of preparation there came an express that the Tories had assembled on the Catawba River. Captain Davidson was immediately ordered back to guard the passes of the River. We continued to remain here until reinforcements arrived. We then marched to Ramsour's Mills<sup>2</sup> at this place we fought the Tories and kept the field after a very severe conflict. We however remained in possession of the ground until evening at which time General Rutherford arrived with a reinforcement of 12 or 1500 men. He states that on the arrival of this reinforcement he was permitted to return home on parole for a few days. So soon as he arrived at home I joined a company of minute men who were to go on horseback under the command of Lieutenant G. Wails [sic, George Walls or Wailes?] and Colonel William Davidson and also Major George Davidson Having heard that Bryant [sic, Colonel Samuel Bryan] had started to go to the British then at Charleston we immediately pursued him and on our way we overtook a part of his men who were disaffected and determined to join the enemy. Somewhere in the

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<sup>1</sup> May 12, 1780

<sup>2</sup> June 20, 1780

neighborhood of the mouth of Rocky River at which place we had a short battle and killed some of those unpatriotic men, took several prisoners (at this place our Colonel was wounded)<sup>3</sup> by this time my services were out I was accordingly discharged by General Rutherford as well as I now recollect & returned home. Immediately after returning home [I] joined Colonel Charles McDowell & Major George Davidson and went on another Tour across Broad River to South Carolina on a scouting party through that part of the country to keep the Tories from committing depredations as there were many of them at this place. Somewhere about this time General Gates was defeated<sup>4</sup> as well as I now recollect was sometime in the summer of 1780. I then returned home and was immediately called out again as a militia man under Captain James Hogans rendezvoused at Scharlott [sic, Charlotte] in North Carolina same County. Here we continued for one month. I was permitted to return home. He states that he immediately joined a horse company at Charlotte for a term of two months under the command of Captain Hart [Captain Samuel Hart] Colonel Brisby [?] & Major Dixon & Colonel William Davy [sic, William Richardson Davie]. Soon after I joined the Army again Cornwallis came on with his force. Colonel Brisby with his forces was ordered to remain at Charlotte for the purpose of skirmishing with British Army to give time for our Army to make good their escape as they were greatly inferior in point of numbers.<sup>5</sup> We continued to annoy the British Army for six miles and gave time for our Army to make all. I was during this Expedition acting as a spy and Ranger associated with Robert Hall, who was on duty with me. Our business was to closely observe the maneuvers of the British Army during our ranging and closely observing the situation of the British Army. We came on some men who called themselves foragers, who were loading their wagons with oats. We took about 38 of them as prisoners without doing any damage except one man wounded with a sword. He states he still continued spying and ranging about to observe the British and ascertained their true situation. (He states he served under Captain Hart) and done so until the Army left there and made for South Carolina. He states that so soon as the British Army went off that he returned home and received his discharge having been in continual services during the time from the first of March 1780 until the last of November of the same year. These are the only service I rendered in that State. I however in the following year moved to Kentucky to Fayette County and I was there called and settled [?] in to Mcgees Station [sic, McGee's Station?] I think in June 1781. In this month he states that he was drafted on a tour of one month under Captain Robert Patterson for the purpose of joining a row galley built at the falls of Ohio [River] for the special purpose of guarding the River. We continued to ascend the Ohio River for 7 days and clearly discovered that she would make no headway we came to a determination to abandon her as we were in much danger as we had to remain on land over night while our row galley was anchored in the middle of the River. We however returned home after an absence of more than one month – having had to encounter much danger, fatigue, hunger and alarm on the route. He states that he was along with Holder at the upper blue licks<sup>6</sup> in the Battle at that place in which we lost five men and one wounded. He states that he thinks this battle took place in August 1782. In this engagement he states he lost his mare, saddle and bridle worth at that time \$100 for which I never received one cent. He also states that in the fall of 1782 he was called out by draft under Colonel G. R. Clark [George Rogers Clark] & Captain John Constant on an expedition against the Indian towns on the Big Miami Ohio we marched to their towns burnt

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<sup>3</sup> Colson's Mill, July 21, 1780. <http://gaz.jrshelby.com/colson.htm>

<sup>4</sup> Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780 <http://battleofcamden.org/index.htm>

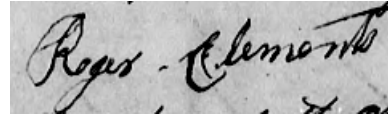
<sup>5</sup> Battle of Charlotte, late September 1780 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800926.htm>

<sup>6</sup> Battle of Blue Licks August 19, 1782 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/820819.htm>

them captured 30 and killed seven, got two of our men killed and returned home after an absence of a month or more. He states the times in those days are not easily described as we were always in a state of preparation to fight the savages not knowing at what moment we would be attacked by them. He states he now lives in Macrequery County [sic, McCreary County?] & State of Kentucky and has for a number of years. He states he has no record of his age and all the particulars that he deems necessary.

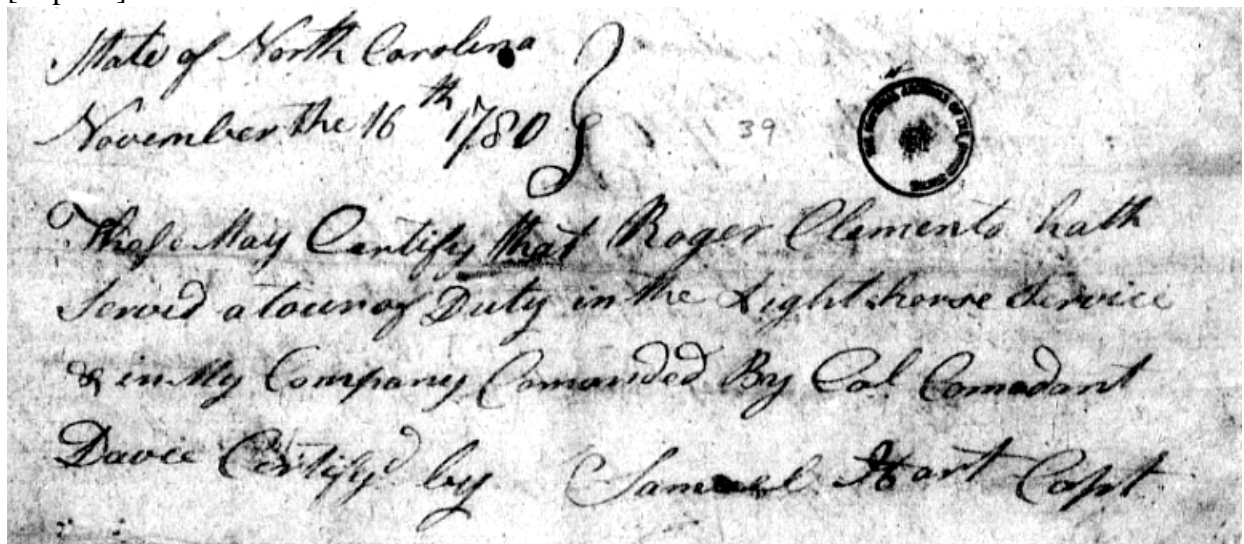
He hereby relinquishes all unclear [?] claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

S/ Roger Clements

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Roger Clements". The ink is dark and the paper appears aged.

[Buckner H Payne, a teacher of the Christian religion of the Baptist Church and Benjamin Robison gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[fn p. 15]

A handwritten document on aged paper. At the top, it reads "State of North Carolina" and "November the 16<sup>th</sup> 1780". Below this, the text certifies that Roger Clements served a tour of duty in the Light Horse Service in a company commanded by Col. Commodore Davis. The certification is signed by Samuel Hart, Capt. There is a circular stamp on the right side of the document, partially overlapping the text.

[fn p. 17]

The deposition of William Clements of Owen County and the State of Kentucky concerning the services of Roger Clements in the War of the Revolution who claims the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. –

This deponent states that he resided in North Carolina and knew of Roger Clements being called into the service of the United States under the command of Captain Alexander Davidson. He was then marched under the command of that officer to Fifer's on Rocky River. He was then called back as a rear guard to Ramsour's Mill on the South Fork of the Catawba River and was [several indecipherable words] action at that place with the Tories –

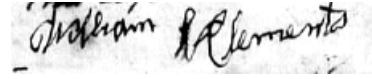
After the [indcipherable word] at Ramsour's Mill, he was placed under the command of Colonel William Davidson and marched to the mouth of Rocky River where he had a skirmish with a winning of Bryan's Army. He then served a campaign in South Carolina under the command of Major George Davidson, about the time of Gates defeat. He was then placed again under the command of Colonel William Davidson and marched to Charlotte.

He then volunteered under Captain Samuel Hart who commanded a company of horse.

This deponent understood that the said Clements was in several skirmishes, but does not know of his own knowledge.

And further this deponent saith not.

S/ William Clements<sup>7</sup>



[fn p. 41]

State of Kentucky Montgomery County

On this 4th day of June 1833 personally appeared before me Silas W Robbins the sole and presiding Judge for the County and circuit of Montgomery now sitting Roger Clements resident and Montgomery County, aged as stated in his original declaration and made oath according to law to this his supplemental declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7th of June 1833.

He states by way of supplements to his original declaration

As to the very day he entered the services of the United States he cannot speak with certainty owing to his great age and loss of memory. (That in the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Tours). But as to the length of time he served he states he cannot be mistaken he states on the first tour he served three months as a private soldier. And on the second Tour he served three months. And on the third tour he states he served one month (for officers & other particulars see original) in each of the above Tours he served in the character of a private soldier. He states that on the fourth Tour he served eight months and on the fifth he states he served a tour of two months. He states by putting all the Tours together which he served during the revolutionary War it would not make less than fifteen months he does not hesitate to say that he served a longer time but goes for no more. And during all the time as a private soldier. And for that length of time he claims a pension. He states he was born on the 1st day of January 1762 in Augusta County Virginia, moved from thence to Roan County North Carolina [sic, Rowan County, North Carolina] from which County & state he went into the services of the US as set forth in this his supplemental & also his original declaration. He states he knows of B. H. Payne a clergyman residing in Montgomery County Kentucky and Benjamin Robison residing in same who can state as it has already been stated by the Reverend B. H. Payne the & Benjamin Robison as to my character for veracity and my reputation in the neighborhood where I resided as having been a soldier of the revolution. He also states he has lost all his discharges but one for eight months here with filed. He states having lost all his discharges he has consequently no documentary evidence except as above stated. And knows of no living witness but his brother who can recollect a part of his services and whose deposition he has procured but as he accidentally happened in this County he took it but for a Justice who had no acquaintance with him and could not state as to his credibility. And as he lives a long ways from here and we both being very old and infirm makes it almost impossible to retake it. But would say once more that the length of time he goes for in this his supplemental declaration (to wit) 15 months he served. And as he is a member of the Christian church and has been for a number of years he would not hazard his reputation or forth in his claim to a future reward by stating what was not true for all the treasure of this world.

S/ Roger Clements

[fn p. 8: On February 13, 1851, in Boone County Indiana, Philip Clements, 62, filed a claim on

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<sup>7</sup> FPA S30942

behalf of himself and his siblings for the pension due their mother, Hannah Clements, the widow of Roger Clements, a revolutionary war pensioner; that he is the son and one of the executors along with his brother John of the estate of their mother Hannah Clements deceased late of Boone County Indiana; that their mother died July 17, 1846 leaving the following children her heirs at law: John Clements, Philip Clements, Elizabeth Clements, David Clements, Keturah Clements, James Clements, Zachariah Clements, William Clements, Gustavus Clements, Hannah Clements, Polly Clements, Pamily Clements, Nancy Clements, and Jonathan Clements.]

[other facts in the file: the veteran married Hannah Hathaway January 25, 1787 in Clark County Kentucky; the veteran died July 31, 1835; his widow died July 17, 1846 in Boone County Indiana; one of their children, Lewis Clements died unmarried before the death of his mother.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for one year and three months service as a private in the North Carolina militia.]