

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Daniel Blankenship (Blankinship) S10390

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 8 Sep 2016.

The State of Alabama } SS } on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of July AD 1841 Personally appeared in open Court  
Shelby County } } before the County Court of said County now sitting Daniel  
Blankinship a resident of said County of Shelby and State aforesaid  
aged Eighty years five months & Twenty one days 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 June 7  
1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as  
herein stated to wit that while residing in Campbell County [formed in 1782 from Bedford County]  
Virginia in the Spring & he thinks in the month of April 1777 he volunteered and entered the service of  
the united states under the Command of Captain John Catrill who was Commanded by Coln [Charles]  
Lynch for the Term of Eighteen months that during this term they were stationed at New London in the  
State of Virginia and that their business principally was to scout for Tories in that part of Virginia that  
they arrested imprisoned and executed a great many Tories – that at the expiration of the eighteen months  
he enlisted to serve three years more in the service of the United States at New London under a man by the  
name of Clark who was recruiting he with others were marched to the Baracks in Albemarle County  
Virginia where Burgoyne & his troops were prisoners [see endnote] – from thence he accompanied said  
prisoners to Fredericks town in Mareland [Frederick MD] under the Command of Capt. John Chapman  
[pension application R13115] and Col Joseph Crocket [sic: Joseph Crockett S46377] where said prisoners  
were given up to the Militia from Fredericks Town, he marched to Pittsburg where they took water  
intending to go to Detroit Col. Crockets Regt & Col Morgan’s [Zackquil Morgan W1912] troops  
together, but stoped at the falls of Ohio [at present Louisville KY], having been weakend in numbers in  
consequence of a great many of Col Morgans troops having deserted, where they remained for a long time  
guarding that point, & scouting the country for Indians. at this place Capt Chapman was killed in the fall  
or winter he thinks in the month of December 1781 [sic: 2 Sep 1781] he was discharged on Kegg alias  
Kagg Creek in the state (he thinks) of Kentucky, he was discharged – during the whole of this time say  
four years & six months or thereabouts he served as a private all the time, that he had a regular discharge  
from Col Crocket which He lost long since while swimming a creek. that he now knows of no one whose  
testimony he can procure who can testify to his service – that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever  
to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the  
agency of any state  
Daniel hisXmark Blankinship

State of Alabama } Personally appeared before me John Clisby a Justice of the Peace of said County  
Coosa County } Elizabeth Blankenship who being duly sworn deposeth and sayeth, that she knew  
August 27<sup>th</sup> 1853 } intimately Daniel Blankenship who served as a regular Soldier in the  
Revolutionary War and that he enlisted for Three Years and served his time out or untill the War closed,  
that he came home within one month after my husband Reuben Blankenship [S32120] did, and that he  
remained in my neighbourhood all the time afterwards untill we moved to Georgia and after one year the  
said Daniel Blankenship came out and lived close by us, and in the Year 1818 we all moved to Alabama  
together and he lived near us in Alabama untill his death, which was the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 1849, and further  
deposeth that she never knew or heard of any other Daniel Blankenship, and is satisfied that he was the  
identical Daniel Blankenship whose name appears on the Rolls from that portion of Virginia. She further  
States that she knew no other Blankenships in that country but these three Brothers viz Henry [Henry  
Blankenship S6668], Reuben & Daniel who served in the War, and they all remained untill their deaths  
within her knowledge. Reuben was her husband, further that there is no written evidence in existence of  
his Danil Blankenships Service. The said Daniel Blankenship died as above leaving the following heirs,  
viz. Solomon, Mary Ann, Henry, Edmond, Fanny, his children. & Mark.

The above deposition after being carefully read in my hearing I solemnly swear in the presence of Almighty God is true to the best of my knowledge and belief Elizabeth herXmark Blankenship  
Signed before me the day and date as above John Clisby J.P.

Pension Office/ May 11<sup>th</sup> 1854

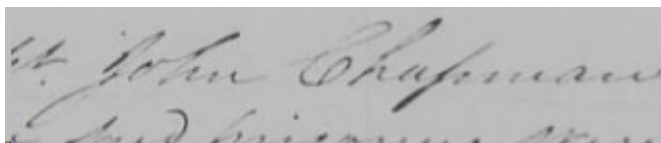
Sir [Benjamin Fitzpatrick U. S. Senate]: In answer to so much of the letter of John Clisby, Esq'r. (which is herewith returned,) as relates to the claim of the children of Daniel Blankenship, dec'd. of Alabama, under the Act of June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, I have the honor to inform you that a man bearing his name performed service in the Virginia State Line, and that the persons named by him as his Colonel and Captain also served in that Line; but he stated in his declaration, made in July, 1841, that his Captain, John Campbell [sic: see endnote], was killed near the Falls of Ohio, in the winter of 1781 - 82, according to his best recollection. The only Captain John Campbell whose name is found on the roll, is entered as having received a certificate for his pay, himself, on the 12<sup>th</sup> of March, 1784. This discrepancy has thus far proved fatal to the claim. The muster rolls of his Colonel, Lt. Col. Joseph Crockett, for the period of his alleged service, are not found in this Office; and, unless some records are to be found in the Office of the Secretary of State, or of the Auditor of Virginia, it will be difficult to remove the objection to the admission of this claim.

I have the honor to be,/ Very respectfully, Your Obt. Svt., L P Waldo/ Commissioner.

NOTES:

Gen. John Burgoyne was not imprisoned at Albemarle Barracks or anywhere else. After surrendering his army at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777, he was paroled. The part of his army remaining in captivity in Jan 1779 was marched to Albemarle Barracks, then in Feb 1781 to Winchester Barracks, and finally in June 1781 to Frederick MD. A detachment under Col. Joseph Crockett served at Albemarle Barracks from Apr 1780 till Feb 1781 while recruiting for an expedition intended for Illinois territory under Gen. George Rogers Clark. That detachment joined Clark at Wheeling on 23 May 1781.

The name of the Captain appears in Blankenship's claim as follows:

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which reads "Lt. John Chapman". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

The obvious error made by the Pension Office, which led to the denial of Daniel Blankenship's pension in his lifetime, was apparently corrected, and on 1 Sep 1854 he was posthumously issued a certificate for a pension of \$100 per year for two years service, to be paid for the period from 4 March 1831 until the date of his death, 29 June 1849.

On 11 Aug 1854 James Blankenship (as he signed) and Mark Blankenship stated that Daniel Blankenship died in Coosa County AL on 29 June 1849 leaving no widow and the following children: Mary Ann Blankenship, 52, since married to James Blankenship; Solomon Blankenship, 50; Henry Blankenship, 48; Edmund Blankenship, 46; Frances Blankenship, 44, since married to Mark Blankenship. For additional information see the pension application for Abel Blankenship (R931).