

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Thomas Clarke (Clark) ¹ S10451

f32SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/11/14

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Alabama Tuscaloosa County: Sct.

On this 10th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open Court before Marmaduke Williams Judge of the County Court for the County aforesaid now sitting Thomas Clark a resident of the State of Alabama Tuscaloosa County aged 67 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 7th June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as hereinafter stated.

That he was born in the State of Pennsylvania Lancaster County when about four years old, he being an orphan and bound out to one McGahee, he removed with him to South Carolina Chester District at which place he resided until he first performed duty. He first volunteered under Capt. John McClure,² Lieut. Hugh McClure Ensign not recollected, the Superior Officers not recollected, in truth he was then so young that those matters of names have in a great degree escaped his memory – He does not recollect how long he was to serve. This expedition was intended to join General Sumpter [Thomas Sumter]; in their march to join him, at Rocky Mount [July 30, 1780] or rather in the neighborhood of it, he was taken a prisoner by the Tories and immediately carried to the British lines – commanded by Col. Turnbull [Lt. Col. John Turnbull], he was often solicited to join the British Army which he resolutely refused – & was kept as a prisoner upon parole until an opportunity presented itself for an escape which he effected, – he then joined as a volunteer Capt. Francis Carlisle's Company for three months as a militia man, & he shortly afterwards joined Col. Pickens [Andrew Pickens] at Whitehall, during that three months he was not engaged in any battle, but was mostly at headquarters at Bacon's Bridge 20 miles above Charleston. – At the expiration of this three months he returned home, but very shortly after volunteered for three months more under Capt. Moses Liddle [Moses Liddell] – Lieut. & Ensign forgot. – Major Noble [probably Alexander Noble] commanded the Battalion, – he thinks there was no Col. until they joined General Greene's [Nathanael Greene's] Army at Bacon's Bridge. – This whole three months he spent at Bacon's Bridge – & being discharged he returned home. Shortly after his return home last mentioned there was a call for men to guard the frontiers against the Indians, & he enlisted for nine months under Capt. Robert Caruthers [Robert Carithers], & was marched to and stationed at fort independence on Rocky River – & there he resided until the whole nine months had expired & then discharged. Very soon after this, he volunteered for three months as a militia man under John Norwood, still to protect the frontiers, & this service he also performed staying the most of the time at the house of said Norwood as that was the point thought it most necessary to be protected, – Some of this last service was performed after peace was made between Great Britain & America though not much of it.

¹ BLWt45711-160-55

² Capt. John McClure died from wounds sustained at the engagement at Rocky Mount. He was succeeded in the command of his company by Hugh McClure

After the War he settled in Abbeville District South Carolina from there he removed to Georgia Elbert County, from there to Tennessee Ray County, from Tennessee to this state, Jefferson County about 16 years ago – from that he removed to that of Tuscaloosa near two years ago – & in this latter County he yet resides.

At the expiration of service at the several times when he had performed them, he does not remember that his discharges were given in writing, he thinks they were not though in this he may be mistaken – at any rate he is incapable of showing one, for if he ever had one it is lost.

He has no Register of his age, the way he ascertains his age, is by the insertion of it in his Indentures and from the time of his becoming free he hath kept in mind each successive year, so that he thinks he cannot be well mistaken in saying that he is 67 years old and will be 68 in February next.

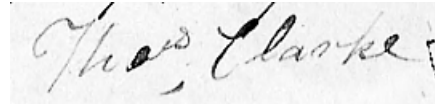
He has no documentary evidence, & knows of no person except Jeremiah Files who can prove any part of his services – His statement annexed hereto, he refers to, as proof of some portion of what he has performed in the revolution for his Country.

He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.

Sworn to & subscribed the 10th day of December 1832

S/ John A. Hodges, Clerk of the County Court

S/ Thos Clarke



[Thomas A Smith, a clergyman, and John Fortson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

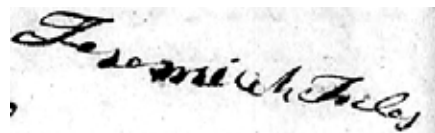
[p 29]

The State of Alabama Blount County: SS

Before me Ira E McMillian a Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Jeremiah Files Senior who being first duly sworn deposed & saith That of his own knowledge Thomas Clark now here present was a private Soldier of the American Revolution & served with this Deponent under the following named officers – that they were together & belonged to the company of Capt. Thomas Carlisle in the Battalion or Regiment commanded by Major Noble in the Brigade of General Andrew Pickens of the South Carolina militia, that in the month of May 1782 after the battle at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] & whilst the British Army lay in Charleston they rendezvoused in said Company in Abbeville District & marched from thence to General Green's Army encamped at Bacon's Bridge about Twenty miles from Charleston on the waters of Cooper River – Served in the same company together three months – & I was then discharged & left him in the Service & I returned home, and again reenrolled myself in the company of Capt. Robert Caruthers under General Andrew Pickens of the militia aforesaid & served with said Clark under General Pickens until peace was made with the Indians & British & Belonged to the mounted militia – this Deponent to the Best of recollection believes that said Clark of his own knowledge served under General Pickens about 15 or 18 months – about 3 months under General Green near Charleston & from thence upon the Northwestern frontiers of South Carolina until peace was proclaimed & further this Deponent saith not. Subscribed & sworn to before me this 16th day of November 1832

S/ Ira E McMillian, JP

S/ Jeremiah Files³



³ [Jeremiah Files S13025](#)

[p 13: On March 20, 1856 in Tuscaloosa County Alabama, Thomas Clark, stating his age as 91 years, filed for his bounty land entitlement as a veteran of the revolutionary war; he describes himself as having served as a private in the company of Capt. Robert Caruthers in which John Caldwell was 1st Lieut. in a Regiment of South Carolina militia attached to the brigade commanded by General Pickens



Thomas Clark Seal]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$60 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 18 months in the South Carolina militia.]

Another version

Pension Application of Thomas Clark, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll ____, Application #S10451

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, December 10, 1832, Thomas Clark, aged 67 years:

“He was born in the state of Pennsylvania, Lancaster County. When he was 5 years old, he being an orphan and bound out to one McGaher, he removed with him to South Carolina, Chester District, at which place he resided until he performed duty. He first volunteered under Captain John McClure, Lt. Hugh McClure, ensign not recollected, the superior officers not recollected. In truth, he was then too young that the matter of names have in a great degree, escaped his memory. He does not recollect how long he was to serve.”

“The expedition was intended to join General Sumter. In their march to join him at Rocky Mount, or rather, in the neighborhood of it, he was taken a prisoner by the Tories and immediately carried to the British lines commanded by Colonel Turnbull. He was often exhorted to join the British Army, which he resolutely refused and was kept as a prisoner ?where [or when] until an opportunity presented itself to escape, which he effected.”

“He then joined as a volunteer, Captain Francis Carlisle’s company for 3 months as a militia man, and he shortly afterwards joined Colonel Pickens at Whitehall. During that 3 months he was not engaged in any battle but was mostly at headquarters at Bacon’s Bridge 20 miles above Charleston.”

“At the expiration of 3 months, he returned home, but very shortly after he volunteered for 3 months more under Captain Moses Liddle [?Little], lieutenant and ensign forgot. Major Noble commanded the battalion. He thinks there was no colonel until they joined General Greene’s army at Bacon’s Bridge. The whole 3 months he spent at Bacon’s Bridge, and being discharged, he returned home.”

“Shortly after his return home last mentioned, there was a call for men to guard the frontiers against the Indians and he enlisted for 9 months under Captain Robert Carruthers, and was marched to, and stationed at Fort Independence on Rocky River; and there he re___ until the whole 9 months had expired and then discharged.”

“Very soon after this he volunteered for 3 months as a militia man under John Norwood, still to protect the frontiers, and this service he also performed, staying the most of the time at the house of

said Norwood as that was the point thought most necessary to be protected. Some of this last service was performed after peace was made between Great Britain and America, though not much of it.”

“After the war, he settled in Abbeville District, SC. From there he removed to Georgia, Elbert County; from there to Tennessee, Ray County; from Tennessee to this state, Jefferson County, about 16 years ago. From there he removed to that of Tuscaloosa near 2 years ago, and in this latter county he yet resides.”

“At the expiration of service at the ____ tours when he had performed them, he does not remember that they were given no writing, he thinks they were not, though in this he may be mistaken; at any rate he is incapable of showing one, for if he ever had one, it is lost.”

“He has no register of his age. The way he ascertains his age is by the ?insertion of it in his ____ from the time of his becoming free, he hath kept in mind each successive year, so then he thinks he cannot be well mistaken in saying that e is 67 years old and will be 68 in February next.”

“He has no documentary evidence and he knows of no person except Jeremiah Fields who can prove any part of his services, his stated annexed hereto, his proof of some portion of what he has performed in the Revolution for his country.”

Bounty Warrant Claim: Tuscaloosa County, Alabama, March 20, 1856, Thomas Clark, aged 91 years: “That he is the identical Thomas Clark who was a private in the company of Captain Robert Caruthers, in which John Caldwell was 1st lieutenant in a regiment of South Carolina militia attached to the brigade commanded by General Andrew Pickens in the War of the Revolution. That he enlisted at Abbeville District, SC sometime in the spring of 1781 or 1782 for the term of 9 months and continued in actual service in said war for 9 months and was honorably discharged in Abbeville District, SC in the fall of 1782 or 1783. That he served a tour of duty also as a private in Captain Norrard’s or Norwood’s company, South Carolina militia in Revolutionary War...”