

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Gent S1903

f16GA

Transcribed by Will Graves

7/3/08 rev'd 8/9/15

[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 Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for the County & State aforesaid

On the first day of August 1832 personally appeared before the Court aforesaid Charles Gent a resident of Robertson County in the State aged Seventy-eight 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 provision made by the act of Congress of the 7th June 1832.

That he entered the militia service of the United States before the Declaration of Independence to suppress the Indians, in the State of Georgia under Captain Clark [Elijah Clarke] (afterwards a General in the militia Service) in the Georgia line, under the following named officers to with General L. McIntosh [Lachlan McIntosh], Col. Commandant John Coleman & Lieutenant Colonel Zachariah LaMarr. The applicant states further that he entered the militia service a private soldier at the commencement of hostilities between the country and the British & Indians and continued in said militia service for the term of eighteen months – previous to the expiration of said term of service Captain Clark was promoted to Col. and Daniel Gunnell [sic, Daniel Gunnells] elected Captain under whom the applicant served until the expiration of said eighteen months. In Wilkes County in the State of Georgia the applicant recollects that about five miles from Petersborough situated in the fork of Broad River & Savannah River he was in one engagement with the Indians, and under the following circumstances. In the month of August in 1776 as well as applicant recollects – General McIntosh detailed Captain Clark's company to guard some goods which were to be brought into the fort Loggy [? fort Soggy?]¹ where the troops were then barracked near to Petersborough – from Jacob Patterson & Richard Woods, to protect them from spoliation by the Indians – and as said Company proceeded after getting about five miles from the fort they were attacked by the Indians in considerable force an engagement took place in which no decisive defeat to either party took place, the Indians being much the strongest – both parties retreated. The applicant well recollects that during the engagement three of the Americans were killed and three wounded – of the killed Jacob Patterson was one, Giles Tillet [?]² [could be Tillet] & Peter Davis the other two-- of the wounded Captain Clark was one having been shot in the knee, Job Hinton and James Smith were the other two – upon our return to the scene of the engagement there were three of the Indians found dead upon the field; How many more wounded he does not know as the Indian custom is to take away the dead & wounded if possible – it was supposed many of them were wounded; another Indian was found dead about three miles from the place of

¹ *Fort Loggy*

² *Giles Tillet*

[could be Giles Tillet]

engagement – from Fort Loggy Captain Clark's Company was removed to Clark Creek, where a fort was built called Clark's Station-- at which place Captain Clark's company was again engaged with the Indians where three of the men were killed and the Indians proved victorious and the company sought the protection offered by the fort. The applicant was then discharged by enlisting under William Wilson a Captain in the Regular Service or Continental line – for one year as a light horseman. John Coleman was the Colonel. The duty of the Company to which he was now attached consisted in guarding the back Settlements and aiding at times in defending the outposts; he labors under the impression (though time and age have weakened the minuteness of his recollection) that he was then in the Continental line, he was in no battle during this term. About sixteen days before his year was out Colonel Coleman called the men together, told them verbally that they were at liberty, and that he would give them their regular discharges whenever they would apply. The Colonel soon after took sick and died & the applicant never got his discharge in the regular form. Soon after this the British, aided by the Tories and Indians became troublesome & dangerous, so much so that the frontier settlements of Georgia broke of [sic, off?] their forts and settlements and many of them went to the forts in South Carolina. Applicant then became a volunteer under Captain Gunnells [Daniel Gunnells] and he served for a long time in the petty but dangerous warfare of the day; He was in an engagement against the Tories at a place called “Kettle Creek [February 14, 1779].” The battle was very warm & lasted near four hours. The Tories were commanded by Col. Boyd [James Boyd] & Col. Moore– General Clark of Georgia with Colonel John Dooly & Colonel John Cunningham under him commanded the American troops. It was said that General Clark had several horses shot under him during the fight, though this the applicant only speaks of from the reports of the day. In the same Captain's company, the troops being still under General Clarke but the names of his other field officers not now recollected, applicant was at the first Siege of Augusta [September 12-18, 1780].³ The Americans succeeded in taking Grayson [sic, Grierson] fort and as he believes would have succeeded in compelling the British from the place altogether if a strong reinforcement to the enemy's Army had not compelled them to retire. He well remembers that on the occasion of this siege the Americans fought the British and Indians three days & nights and there were many lives lost on both sides. The Americans were unsuccessful but they fought bravely. In conclusion the applicant states that he was a citizen of Wilkes County in the State of Georgia when he enlisted, that he faithfully served his country through the whole War of the revolution; he is now old, poor and helpless and desires to avail himself of the bounty of the government. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or an annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State.

Sworn to and subscribed in open court August 1, 1832.

S/ Charles Gent, X his mark

S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk of Davidson County Court

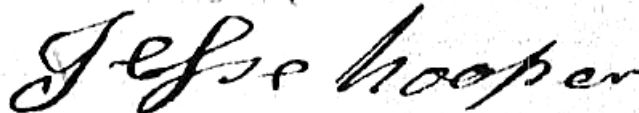
Personally appeared before said Court on the first day of August 1832 Jesse Hooper⁴ a citizen of said County of Davidson & made oath to the following facts to wit that he has been acquainted with the within named Charles Ghent [sic] from their early youth – that he is himself now 75 years of age – that he has been at his house in Robertson County that he was in the battle of Kettle Creek spoken of in the above declaration with said Gent, that the Tories were Commanded in said battle by Colonel Boyd, that the American troops were commanded by General Clarke of Georgia, Colonels Dooly & Cunningham or Pickens that said battle was warmly contested, that said Gent behaved himself well as a private in said action that his saw three horses said to have been shot under General Clarke on the day of the engagement He also states that he was at the siege of Augusta with said Gent at which siege General Clarke commanded the American troops and Colonel Brown [Thomas "Burnt Foot" Brown] those of

³ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800914-augusta/>

⁴ [Jesse Hooper S1913](#)

the British & Tories – that said siege was warmly carried on, and would have been successful had it not been for a reinforcement to the enemy. We fought from Thursday at 10 o'clock until the same time of the day on the next Monday, these were the only two actions in which I was concerned with said Gent, but I served with him almost constantly during the war and he always behaved himself well as a soldier. He also states that said Gent enlisted at the same time with himself under Captain Wilson for one year and served out the year with him as stated above. He states that he heard of the fight with the Indians above spoken of at or near Petersborough and the account as given above is in accordance with the report of it at the time. He states that said Gent is a man entitled to credit upon oath and is old, infirm and helpless: and was as well as himself a citizen of Wilkes County in the State of Georgia in the war commenced.

S/ Jesse Hooper

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse Hooper". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

Sworn to & subscribed in open Court August 1, 1832

Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk of Davidson County Court

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 2 years in the Georgia militia.]