

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

### **Pension application of Pension Application of John Clemens (Clemans) S2435**

Transcribed by Karen McKenna, gggg granddaughter

f24VA

Reviewed and revised by Will Graves 11/12/14

State of Tennessee Jackson County: November Sessions 1832

On this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832 personally appeared in open court before William Grey Tandy R. Welcher & Christopher Clemens, Justices of the County of Jackson and \_\_ [?] for said County of Jackson now presiding being a County of record, John Clemens, a resident citizen of Jackson County and State of Tennessee age seventy-nine years who being first duly sworn according to the laws of the land Doth on his oath makes the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 1832

That he entered service of the United States in Augusta County in the State of Virginia where he then resided as well as he recollects on the first of September 1776 being a volunteer to serve for the term of Three months under Captain William Christy [William Christian], Lieutenant Bohannon [perhaps a misunderstood reference to Lieut. David Buchanan] and was marched under said officers from Augusta County, the place where he entered the service to the Big Island of Holston [River] then North Carolina the place of rendezvous for the troops to which he belonged at which place General Christy [William Christian] took the command of the troops – he then crossed Tennessee River to the Cherokee Towns burnt several of them - after staying there about twenty-two days – he was then marched back to Augusta County, Virginia, the place where he entered the service and was there discharged as he now recollects the last day of November 1776 having served faithfully three months this tour and he got no written discharge.

He entered the service of the United States again as a drafted soldier in the spring of the year 1781 in the County of Augusta State of Virginia under Captain Tate as applicant then understood to march to Guilford Courthouse but when he started to that place he with seven other men were detached to guard some prisoners that had been taken in the Battle of the Cowpens [January 17, 1781] --as he understood. After marching then from Augusta County to Rockingham County applicant then marched to near Guilford Courthouse where he met the troops returning from the Battle of Guilford Courthouse having been defeated by the Enemy. He joined the company commanded by Captain Tate and marched back home to Augusta County and was then discharged having served this tour at least one month, got no written discharge.

He entered the service of the United States again in the County of Augusta State of Virginia in the month of September 1781 under the command of Captain Long [perhaps Francis Long] marched from there to Richmond in Virginia about one hundred and twenty miles from there he marched to Little York on York River- which place Lord Cornwallis was in possession of and where applicant joined the main Army commanded by General George Washington – he stayed there till the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] – he then marched with the Army guarding the prisoners to Bartlett County State of Virginia but applicant before he got there took sick near Fredericksburg Virginia where he remained sick several weeks – till some of his friends came and took him home to Augusta County. He got no written discharge He states positively he served at least two months this tour that he was dismissed from service this tour the last of November or the first of December 1781.

He states that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his service or any part thereof nor does know of any person or persons by whom he can prove the service or any part thereof. He hereby relinquishes any claim to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of any agency in any state and he further saith that by reason of old age and consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively to the precise length of

his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than six months as a private soldier as above states. He believes he served longer but he is disposed not to swear to a greater length of time than he can positively recollect. And for such service he claims a pension.

S/ John Clemans



Sworn to in open court the day and year aforesaid.

S/ William Galbreath, Clerk

Question 1<sup>st</sup> Where and in what year were you born?

Ans. In Augusta County Virginia in 1753

Question 2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age if so, where is it?

The record of my age is in my bible at home which was left me by my father

Question 3<sup>rd</sup> Where were you living when enter into Service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary War and where do you now live?

Ans. I was living in Augusta County Virginia. Resided there till 1806 when I removed to Jackson County Tennessee where I have lived ever since.

Question 4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service were you drafted did you volunteer or were you a substitute and if a substitute for whom

Ans. I was called into service as stated in foregoing part of my declaration

Question 5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served. Such Continental and Militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service

Ans. I refer to what I have before stated or can answer to the questions my recollection is too frail to be more explicit.

Question 6<sup>th</sup> Did you ever receive a discharge from the service and if so by whom was it given and what has become of it

Ans. I never did get a written discharge.

Question 7<sup>th</sup> Stat the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood and who can testify as to your character and veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Ans. James Griffith, William Plumley, Capt. Benjamin Guess, Alexander Ruth, Esq. John Gully, David Ruth and he believes there are a great many more would state the same thing.

S/ John Clemans

Sworn to in open court. S/ William Galbraith

[p 23: Jonas Griffith, a clergyman, and William Plumlee gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]