

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Claiborn Gentrey [Claiborne Gentry] S3391

f29NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

8/6/08 rev'd 8/10/15

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 6]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County January Sessions 1833

On this 8<sup>th</sup> day of February A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting for the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee Claiborne Gentry, [sic] about 72 years of age who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following statement in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832.

I commenced service, in the County of Surry in the State of North Carolina, somewhere about the 10<sup>th</sup> day of October. I do not recollect the year but know it was in the beginning of the Revolutionary War, as a volunteer in a company commanded by Captain Martin [Capt. Salathiel Martin], which at that time was attached to no Regiment, but subject to the orders of Colonel Armstrong [Martin Armstrong] who resided in the same County – we marched as aforesaid, to the town of Wilmington same State, where we remained three months – and then we marched back, under the command of the same officers, to Richmond, in the same County from whence we started – where we remained but a few days and were then discharged – The Tories becoming very troublesome, in August the succeeding year, it becoming necessary from that circumstance, I volunteered again, in the same County & State, in a company commanded by Captain William T. Lewis [William Terrell Lewis], Obadiah Martin, brother of my former Captain, being Lieutenant. The said Company was not a part of any Regiment, but was raised in order to resist the Tories, who, at that time, were committing depredations – Under the command of these officers we marched through various parts of North Carolina, wherever we <sup>during which time the battle of shallow Ford [October 14, 1780] took place, in which I was wounded on the waters of the Yadkin River<sup>1</sup></sup> could hear the Tories were collected, until having served, about four months, we were discharged, in Roan [sic, Rowan] County, at Salisbury -- About a year after my last discharge, at Salisbury in the same County & State, I entered the Continental service, as a volunteer under Captain Sharp in his company, in the 22<sup>nd</sup> or 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, (the commander of which I do not recollect now) the whole belonging to the Army commanded by General Sumpter [sic, Thomas Sumter] – Under the command of those officers we marched from thence to the Ramsour's Mill & from thence to the four holds [sic, Four Holes] in South Carolina – We remained there several months, & then marched back to North Carolina to a place called Ramsour's Mill, on the waters of the Yadkin River, where we remained, two or three months --. From this time I was in the Continental Service until the end of the Revolutionary War, -- the particular incidents that occurred during which time, I do not recollect distinctly enough to state on my oath, that having escaped my recollection I have no documentary evidence, having lost all my discharges, &c.

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_shallow\\_ford.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_shallow_ford.html)

I hereby relinquish every claim to a pension or an annuity except the present, & declare that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State – In relation to my character I refer to William Lytle, Isaac Earthman, James Marshall, Henry Bonar and General Andrew Jackson, president of the U. S. whom I have known, upwards of 20 years --

Sworn to and subscribed in open court February 8, 1833.

S/ Claiborn Gentrey, X his mark

Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

[David Cloud, a clergyman, and Henry Bonar gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County, January Term 1833

I Thomas Douglas<sup>2</sup> residing in the County of Davidson and State of Tennessee, do hereby Certify, that whilst in my youth, I became acquainted with Claiborne Gentrey who has sworn to & subscribed the above declaration, in Surry County North Carolina, that I lived many years a near neighbor to him in said County & State, previous to the commencement of the Revolutionary war, -- I recollect when said Gentrey commenced service in a single company commanded by Captain Martin – when said Gentrey first commenced service it was in October, I do not recollect the year but know that it was soon after the commencement of hostilities in North Carolina – During the various maneuverings that took place between the Whigs & Tories, I had frequent interviews with said Gentrey although I was in a different company, being commanded by Captain Lanier – the said companies were not united together, or at that time attached to any Army, being destined to act against the Tories – After being in service about 12 months, I was taken prisoner by the Tories, & was in their Custody at the time of the battle of Shallow Ford took place, said Gentrey was in that battle, & was one of those who rescued me from the Tories – in that battle the Whigs were victorious – I have no certain recollection about the time said Gentrey served but I believe his statement in that & every other respect to be true – Having been acquainted with said Gentrey ever since my youth I can confidently assert that he is a man of veracity, & that he is about seventy-two years of age.

S/ Thomas Douglass, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in open court February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1833

Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

[p 18]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions for said County October Term 1833

On this 5 day of November 1833 personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas & Quarter Sessions now sitting for the County of Davidson in the State of Tennessee Claiborne Gentry, who being first duly sworn doth on his oath make the following statement as an amendment to his former declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1833.

In my first tour, mentioned in my former declaration, under Captain Martin I served about four months.

In my second tour under Captain Lewis I served four months – and in my third tour under Captain Smith in the militia wherein I was a volunteer, I served nine months – This third tour was not mentioned in my former declaration because I could not I thought find any witness to testify to stand because I did not recollect many particulars about it – I have subsequently obtained some evidence in relation to it and consequently will throw it upon the magnanimity of the war department and leave it to

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<sup>2</sup> [Thomas Douglass S3296](#)

them to say whether, I am to be deprived of a compensation for my services when the evidence satisfies them that I am entitled to it, any technicalities to the contrary notwithstanding-- In this third tour I volunteered under Captain Henry Smith in a Regiment commanded by Major Winston and Colonel Armstrong – it was the seventh Regiment – I volunteered in said Regiment in Rowan County in North Carolina – I can't tell at what day or year it was, but know it was in the beginning of the Revolutionary [war] – or early part of it –It was at Salisbury, in said County and State I commenced service this tour-- I marched under those officers from said County, to the Cheraw Hills, from thence to Drowning Creek from thence to the four holes – we remained there about a month, then we marched up into York County where the militia (three regiments) in one of which I was attached to, joined General Sumpter – when we joined General Sumpter, during this tour, I have been in service seven months. -- some time after joined General Sumpter, I was engaged in the battle in which Captain Hook [Christian Huck] was defeated [Battle of Williamson's Plantation or Huck's Defeat, July 12, 1780], who commanded a detachment of Cornwallis's Army. After being in service under those officers, (Sumpter, Armstrong, Winston and Smith) or rather after joining the Army, my term of service expired and I was discharged, having served this tour two months, in the Army and seven months in the militia – making in all this tour or nine months. -- After this discharge, I went home, where I stayed about six weeks – at the expiration of which time, a call being made for volunteers, by Col. Martin Armstrong, I volunteered in a company of horse commanded by Captain Sharp, belonging to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Continentals, in the Army commanded by General Sumpter – I do not recollect my Colonel's name, & therefore will not undertake to say – After joining in the Continental service, I was in service till the conclusion of the revolutionary war & served in the Continental service in all three years and six months at least, if not more – I was at little York when Cornwallis was taken [Battle of Yorktown, culminating in the surrender of Cornwallis on October 19, 1781] -- & at that place and time I was discharged from the Continental Service. -- I cannot recollect any more in relation to the Continental service & hope if not allowed a pension for that, I shall at any rate be allowed for my service in the militia – I stated heretofore that “I marched under those officers, (Sumter, Sharp &c) to Cheraw Hills, from thence to Ramsour's Mills & from thence to the four holes in South Carolina” -- on further reflection I have come to the opinion that so much of my former statement was a mistake, and the statement made here is right – during all of my service I served as a private -- & during said service was not engaged in any civil pursuit. --

I have received discharges during my service, but have lost them all.

S/ Claiborne Gentry, X his mark

Sworn to and subscribed in open court

November 5<sup>th</sup>, 1833, Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

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State of Tennessee, Davidson County: Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County October Term 1833

I Samuel Wallace,<sup>3</sup> a soldier of the Revolutionary Army, & now a pensioner of the Government, state that I became acquainted with Claiborne Gentry who has sworn to the above declaration, & that I recollect, of being in service with him five months during the revolutionary war – I believe he was attached to the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment, and I was with him at the time of Hook's defeat [sic, Huck's defeat], and recollect of his having received a discharge from Smith, -- I know he was in service, with me fully five months, & that I understood then, that he was engaged for nine months, and no that it was the time mentioned in his discharge – I believe & knows said Gentry is a man of veracity, and I would believe anything he would say on oath or otherwise --

S/ Samuel Wallace, X his mark

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3 [Samuel Wallace W6408](#)

Sworn to and Subscribed in open Court  
November 5, 1833, Test: S/ Henry Ewing, Clerk

[p 22]

State of Tennessee, Davidson County August 20, 1833

This Deposition of Adam Binkley<sup>4</sup> aged 94 being first duly sworn Mr. Binkley you will state how long you have been acquainted with Claiborne Gentry and all you know about his being in the old revolutionary Service An [answer?]: I have been acquainted with Claiborne Gentry for fifty years or upwards I know of his being in service Henry Smith was the Captain that he was under Colonel Armstrong had the Command of the Regiment Major Winston was Commanding the Regiment at the same time the term was nine months that he served as well as I recollect and I served as a volunteer he was mustered in the service in Rowan County North Carolina I believe that he was mustered out of service at Salisbury I don't recollect certain as to that being the place where he was mustered out of service that is the best of my recollection the place the services was done in the seventh Regiment as to Claiborne Gentry I should give full faith and credit to him on his oath as an honest man and further this Deponent saith not.

S/ Adam Binkley

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

The above Deposition was taken before me Daniel Buie an acting Justice of the County of Davidson Tennessee the date above. S/ Dan'l Buie, JP

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

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<sup>4</sup> [Adam Binkley S1890](#)