

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Whittenton Clifton S35842

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Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 6 June 2015.

State of Delaware }

Sussex County } SS.

Be it Remembered that on the twenty ninth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen, came before me Samuel Paynter Jun. one of the Judges of the Supreme Court of the State of Delaware Whittenton Clifton a native citizen of the County of Sussex and State of Delaware aforesaid, aged fifty five years, who being solemnly Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, Deposeth and Saith that in the Revolutionary War in the year seventeen hundred and seventy six he inlisted a private soldier under Captain [Robert] Kirkwood in the Delaware Regiment commanded by Col. David Hall in the line under Generals [Horatio] Gates and Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and remained in the aforesaid company two years, and was afterwards transfered to the company of Captain [Enoch] Anderson of the same regiment, he was in the Battle at Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], and that he remained generally in the Service under Col. David Hall untill he was discharged by General Proclamation in the year seventeen hundred and eighty three. The said Deponent saith that he served with Mitchell Kershaw, Edward Harmon [pension application S36000], Aaron Easor [S35907] and many others served in the same company with him. and the aforesaid Whittenton Clifton further Deposeth that he is infirm and in need of any assistance that can be given him by the Government for past services agreeably to law in such case made and provided
Whittinton
hisXmark Clifton

Lewes, in the State of Delaware, Sussex County/ June 22nd 1819

Sir [Secretary of War]/ Whitinton Clifton a resident of this Town who was enlisted by Capt'n Kirkwood, and served in the Delaware Regiment until the end of the Revolutionary War, informing me that he forwarded to the War Department through Judge Paynter, last summer certain documents for the purpose of obtaining a Pension. As he has rec'd no answer to his application, nor any information whatever respecting it, he is fearful it has miscarried, or thrown aside for want of form, and requests you will be so good as to inform him by a note, either to Judge Paynter, or myself. This man is industrious and reputable, tho' in indigent circumstances. After the Regim't was broken up, by the fatal battle in Carolina [Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780] he resided in Lewes, for some time with Col David Hall, who commanded the Regim't, then joined Capt'n Jacquets [Peter Jacquett's] Company, and escorted some of Cornwallis' prisoners to New York, on his return to head of Elk [now Elkton MD], he rec'd a furlough to join the Col with whom he remained till the peace, and does not remember that Col Hall gave him a discharge, tho' he bro't down and delivered to him his certificates for 5 or 6 years service, one of which I afterwards purchased of him myself.

the foregoing statement was made to me by him and I believe the most of the facts, can be proved by a dozen persons in this place. W. Clifton is a white man with a large family of children and relations, and the only applicant (that I know of) belonging to the Del Reg't within 20 miles of this place, except one Edw'd Harman, a coloured man, who rec'd his certificate for a pension some time last year. You will Sir I trust excuse the freedom I have taken, and the trouble I have given you on this subject, as I have no other motive but to serve a poor tho' worthy man, who in my opinion, has an unquestionable claim to a pension if he can substantiate it in point of form.

With the greatest respect I have the Honor to be Sir your most Ob't Serv't

[signed] Dan'l Rodney

If his document should not have been rec'd at the Office, would it be too much trouble, to order a blank form to be sent him, with directions how to prepare a new set.

Office of the Secretary of the State of Delaware/ Dover 24 June 1819

There are in this office pay rolls of Captain Robert Kirkwood's company from March 1777 to March 1780, and of Captain Enoch Anderson's company from January 1777 to February 1779 inclusive and of Captain John Patten's company from May 1777 to March 1780 inclusive, all of which companies belonged to and formed part of the Delaware Regiment, commanded by Colonel David Hall, in the service of the United States, on the continental establishment, during the revolutionary war; – from which pay rolls it appears that a man of the name of "Whittington Clifton" belonged to and served as a private soldier, in Cap'n. Kirkwood's company from the 16th February 1778 until and during the month of August 1778, and in Capt. Anderson's company from the 1st September 1778 until and during the month of February 1779, and in Capt. Patten's company from the 1st June 1779 until and during the month of March 1780.

It also appears from an original paper in the office purporting to be a "Muster roll of the noncommissioned officers drummers and fifers and rank and file of the late Delaware Regiment (then) the first company of the second battalion in Col. [Otho Holland] Williams' Regiment serving in the Southern army of the United States" dated "Hillsborough N. Carolina Sep. 1780", that a private soldier of the name of "Whitin[page torn] Clifton" then belonged to the said last mentioned company and had been commanded to the State of Delaware.

certified for the United States War Department S. McRidgeley