

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Silvester Chunn (Chun) S39314
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

VA

State of Tennessee }
Maury County Sct } Jan'y 31st 1819

This day before me Parry W Humphrey, one of the Judges of the Circuit Courts in & for the State of Tennessee aforesaid now presiding in the County aforesaid Came Selvester Chun in the 61st year of his age being inhabitant of said County & being by me first lawfully sworn the truth to declare & speak touching his services in the Army of the United States in the revolutionary War & present circumstance & situation in life in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of Congress entitled an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land & naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war Declares & says that to the best of his recollection about the 1st of February in the year 1777 he enlisted with Captain Thomas Threat [sic: Thomas Thweatt] of the 14th Virginia Regiment commanded by Colo. [Charles] Lewis for three years service as a common soldier in the army of the united states he served out his time & marched back to the state of virginia from the City of Philadelphia & was discharged some time in the winter or spring of the year 1780 & was never out of the service for the space of three years. At the time of his discharge Colo. Daves [sic: William Davies] commanded the Regiment to which he was attached that his discharge was in writing but he delivered it to some person for the purpos of procuring land which he understood the soldiers were entitled to by the Law of Virginia but he never Received any thing for it nor does he know what has become of it. he further says that he acted in the Battles of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] Germantown [4 Oct 1777] & Monmouth [28 Jun 1778], he has no further evidence of his servic than his own Declaration now in his power to produce – & that from age & infirmities He is at times disqualified from hard labour has no means of subsistance but his manual labour & is in such reduced circumstances as to stand in need of assistance from his Country for support
Selvester hisXmark Chun

State of Tennessee } Court of pleas and quarter sessions July term 1826
Maury County } }

On the 22nd day of July 1826 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for said county being so expressly made by the law of the state and proceeding according to the common law with a Jurisdiction inlimited in point of amonunt and keeping a record of their proceedings Silvester Chunn aged between 69 and 70 years and resident in said Maury County west Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath declare that he served in the revolutionary war as follows to wit that he enlisted in the County of Halifax state of Virginia under Capt. Thomas Threat in the 16th Virginia regiment commanded by Col. Charles Lewis the date of his enlistment he cannot precisely remmember but it was before the battle of brandywine as he was in this battle as likewise in the battle of Germantown & Monmouth at the battle of Monmouth he was commanded by Capt [George] Lambert and he thinks in Col. Davis regiment and was commanded by him when he was discharged about three years after his enlistment That he was in the service of the united states in the revolutionary war three years commencing at the time of his enlistment under Captain Thomas Threat in Halifax county Virginia as above stated He further states that the following schedule contains every partiel of property real & personal he owns on earth his necessary bedding excepted – towit – two indifferent horses one of 17 years old worth about \$60. one colt \$15. four head of cattle \$22. fifteen small pigs \$2. twelve head of stock hogs \$24 some little household stuff of Indifferent quality fifty acres of very poor land lying in the [illegible word] not worth at a liberal calculation more than one dollar per acre \$50. debts due him \$35. he is by occupation when able to labour any a farmer That he is old and has latterly become much more infirm

than he was a few years ago, and that he has been for the last year much afflicted with the piles insomuch that he is unable to labour for his support That his family consists of himself and his second wife aged about 60 years. That she is likewise infirm and unhealthy and unable to labour for a support That he has raised a tolerably large famialy of children who have all married off and left him and all of whom are poor and unable without injury to themselves to extend to him any relief or assisstance that his little property that he still retains is of an unproductive kind and in his decrepit and helpless state must constantly deminish till it is all exhausted which cannot be long. He states that under the act of congress of 18th March 1818 he made application to the goverment and obtained a pension at the rate of eight dollars per month that his pension certificate bears date on the 2^d of June 1821 and to commence on the 31st of January 1819. the number of his certificate 17.357 that for some time he drew a pension But that it was stoped afterward and that for several years past he has been wholly dependant on his own exertions for his own he support and therefore must seek the aid of his government and I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not nor has any person in trust for me any property or securities contracts or debts due to me nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule hereto annexed and by me subscribed. Silvester Chunn

State of Tennessee } Court of pleas and quarter sessions July Term 1827
 Maury County }

On this 23rd day of July 1827 personally appeared in open court being a court of record for said county being so expressly made by the laws of the state and proceeding according to the course of the common law with a Jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a record of their proceedings Silvester Chunn aged between 70 and 71 years resident in said Maury County West Tennessee who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath declare that in addition to the facts truely stated in his declaration for a pension made according to the requisitions of the act of Congress in such case made and provided and to which this is an ammendment that since the exhibition of my first schedule the following changes have been made in my property

Thirty head of hogs sold to Branch Z Bradford in the year of our Lord 1824 for about the sum of seventy five dollars in money One young cow to Charles Deadman in the year of our Lord 1825 for ten dollars in money One young cow to David Carson in the year A.D. 1825 for ten dollars in money One young cow to __ Sneed in the year of our Lord 1825 for eight dollars in money – The above sales I do further mak oath and say were made through necessity in order to procure the means necessary to a subsistence and that the money arising out of said sales has been all expended in the purchase of the necessaries of Life and that I am now in a poor peniless and helpless condition

Silvester hisXmark Chunn

[21 Jan 1828] An ammendment to the amended declaration of Silvester Chun.

The declarant, Silvester Chun, makes oath & saith that the reason that induced him to postpone sending in his petition to be restored to the pension list under the act of the first of March 1823, until the time that he did forward it on; was that up to the time of petitioning he had living with him to help him in procuring a living a couple of stepsons; That just before he petitioned these stepsons married & left him & that he was then left helpless & continues so; that he was informed & believed that the provisions of said act would & did not extend to him while he had the help of the aforesaid step sons to wit Jack Harris & Moses Atkins; but becoming entirely helpless & destitute by their leaving him, he considering that the said act did extend to him, petitioned.

Silvester hisXmark Chun

[The following certified copy is among the [bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia](#).]

This is to certify that Silvester Chun formerly a Soldier in the 10th[?] Virginia Regiment has duly & faithfully served the term of three years for which he was Inlisted, in consequence of which and at his own request he is hereby discharged from further service in the Army of the United States and permitted to return to his home free & unmolested, he having received all his Bounty, pay & Cloathing and deficiencies of pay & Cloathing in full of all allowances & provisions made by the Congress for their Troops, receipt for which is on the back hereof.

Given under my hand at Philadelphia this 4th day of Febr'y. 1780 —
Christian Febiger/ Colo. Com'd. 2^d V.R.

NOTE: A document in the file states that Silvester Chunn died on 12 April 1841.