

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Chapness Madding S4184

f30VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

2/15/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Madison County: SS

On this tenth day of August A.D. 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before John M Johnson, James H Rogers and Jacob Perkins Esquires, Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County now sitting Chapness Madding, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed 7th of June 1832. That he is sixty-eight or sixty-nine years of age sometime during the present month, His mother told him he was born in August 1763, and in 1779 he was on the muster roll in Virginia, and in that State at that time all persons of the age of sixteen were subject to military duty. He has no record of his birth, but feels certain that he is as old as he states. That he entered the service of the United States in the spring 1780 in Pittsylvania County and was drafted in the Militia Service and belonged to a company commanded by Captain Clemmons [probably Captain Isaac Clement] of said County. The company to which he was attached belonged to or was attached to the 3rd Regiment of Virginia Militia, we assembled at Pittsylvania Court house and were mustered into service in June 1780, and Major Henry Connoway [Henry Conway] was our Major, and marched on to Hillsborough in North Carolina where we joined the Army composed of Virginia and North Carolina militia and some Regular troops, the Virginia militia were commanded by General Stevens [Robert Stevens], and the North Carolina by General Caswell [Richard Caswell] and the Continentals by the Baron De Kalb, in July we marched from Hillsborough and had not marched far before General Gates [Horatio Gates] who had been appointed commander in Chief of the Southern Army took the command of the whole Army. We were badly supplied with provisions and for some days had nothing to eat but green apples. The Army crossed Pedee River at Mass' ferry about twelve miles above Cheraw Hills, when the sick had amounted to a considerable number say five hundred as I then understood, and they were left at Mass' ferry under the care of Major Connoway, Somewhere on the way between there and Camden He was detailed as a guard to six wagons, which was sent to the Widow Coles Mill (situated some 30 or 40 miles below the Cheraw Hills on the South side of Pedee) for flour. The balance of the Army continued on that march towards Camden South Carolina. After we had loaded our wagons with Flour, we started on our road to overtake the Army, and when we fell into the road leading from the Cheraw Hills to Camden, about 2 ½ days drive from Cheraw Hills, when we met the retreating army of General Gates. They had fought as the soldiers told us on the 16th of August the day after we started from the mill. We were told the British were immediately in their rear and would be up directly, We then turned our course with the Flour, and drove on after the flying Army, and drove two days and nights without stopping to eat or feed our horses until we got to Pedee River, which we reached at the Cheraw Hills in the night, and the ferry man refused to bring the boat over for us, supposing we were British (as he

said) attempting to decoy him over, next morning he crossed the River, and took up the River, with the view of reaching Mass' ferry where Major Connaway had been left with the sick, who [we] had gone about six miles when we stopped and got some feed for the horses and a mutton for ourselves to eat, and before we had eat we were come upon by a band of North Carolina Tories, who took us prisoners and drove off the flour – the Tories were about sixty in number and headed by George Roberts, who called himself Captain, and they carried us about half a mile to their Camp, where we found they had taken two wagons loaded with rum, one they took from Colonel Peter Perkins and the other from Benjamin Langford both from Pittsylvania County, who had supplied our Regiment with spirits on the march. The Tories detained us until the evening of the day they took us, and discharged us after taking from us everything we had except the clothes on our backs. I was then lost from my Company and Regiment and made for home and got there about the last of August, and was taken sick directly after I arrived home. In consequence of many of our Regiment returning home without leave, a court-martial decided that all such should return and serve three months more. And another draft was had in Pittsylvania County, and we were ordered to march with them and join the Army at Hillsboro. But I did not march with the new drafts in consequence of my sickness, and Major Connaway sent me a furlough, until I should get well. I was sick about five weeks, after which I started by myself and overtook the Army at Cheraw Hills on Pedee, where the Army at that time were stationed. And here I was attached to the company commanded by Captain Peter May of Rockingham County Virginia and our Regiment was commanded by Colonel Stevens. I came up with the Army early in December, General Green [Nathanael Greene] being the Superior Commander. Early in January 1781 about 250 Regulars and 250 militia were ordered down Pedee River, about 100 miles to suppress a band of Tories, that were distressing the County there he much, and I was of that party. We marched all night and lay by concealed all day and when we started expected to come upon them in 4 days, but were 7 days, we came to their camp in the night and it appeared from their fires that they had just left them and we stayed at their [camp] two nights and one day, hearing nothing of them and started back to the Cheraw Hills nothing of consequence occurring on our return, When we arrived at the Cheraw Hills, General Green had broken up the camp, and here we heard of Morgan's victory over Tarleton at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781]. We received orders to proceed on after our Regiment which had been sent to assist in guarding about 500 British prisoners, taken by Morgan at the Cowpens, we pursued on the most direct course to overtake Colonel Stevens, and at Pittsylvania old Court house in February where we learned that the prisoners had passed on with a sufficient guard. Our time of three months had expired, and we were discharged – While I was at home the British under Cornwallis, at a place called the Red House in Caswell County near the Dan River and I volunteered, with many others of Pittsylvania County to go down to what was called the Island Ford on Dan River and stationed ourselves with a view to prevent the British from crossing at this place – they came to the Ford and did not attempt to cross – while we lay at this place Dr. Bryant who was conveying provisions, to General Green's Army pressed me and many others, to go as a guard, with the provision wagons, We crossed Dan River at said Ford and I with others guarded the provision wagons from there to a place in Guilford County where General Green was encamped about eight miles from where Cornwallis was encamped, We lay with the Army that night, and the next day I was permitted to return home and guarded the wagons on their return for more provisions, a day or two after I got home I heard of the battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] – Sometime between the first and middle of September I was again drafted to go to the Siege of York where Cornwallis was fortified, under the command of Captain William Dicks and

Lieutenant Clement McDaniel and before we reached York about half way between old James Town and York our Captain took sick or fainted to be so (as we had heard some heavy cannonading) turned back, and Lieutenant McDaniel led on the Company, our Company joined six other Companies or Regiment of Virginia troops on our march – we reached the American Army between the first and the 6th of October 1781, then before York and Cornwallis & put up both by land and sea, with the combined American and French armies and the French fleet. After my arrival I was placed under the command of Captain Charles Hutchings of Pittsylvania Virginia and for twelve days and nights was constantly employed in throwing up work and digging ditches and I was one of the fatigue party who helped to erect the last battery that was erected by the besiegers, upon which six guns were to be mounted and would have been ready to have opened a fire the next day had Cornwallis not sent a proposition to cease hostilities until he could arrange the terms of a capitulation, and a day or two afterwards, the British surrendered. I am an unlettered man and consequently cannot give dates, and in those days Soldiers had but little opportunity of information more than what took place immediately under their eye – Officers never talked to them about the plans of their Army – we were told what to do, and we had to do it without asking the why or the wherefore, I know that Lafayette was there and many French officers whose names I heard I do not recollect – General Washington was there in person, and I believe the greater part of the American officers of distinction – the British marched out with drums beating and in full uniform and with all their arms, and stacked them in front of the American Army, drawn up for the purpose. We remained sometime after the surrender. We were marched to guard the prisoners to a place where they were to be kept, but being a stranger in the country and unacquainted with its geography, I do not know whether it was in Virginia or Maryland my impression is it was near the boundary between the 2 states. I started but did not go all the way, it was stated that the guard was large enough without the Pittsylvania militia, and we were discharged and marched home and reached there early in December. In the three Campaigns related I served about eight months, exclusive of the time I volunteered on a short tour of about two weeks to guard the ford on Dan River and the provision wagons under Dr. Bryant. I received two discharges one at the close of each of the last mentioned Campaigns, both of which I have lost or mislaid. I have not seen them that I know of since I received them, being unable to read or write. After the war I lived about eight years in Pittsylvania County Virginia and then lived seven years in Caswell County North Carolina and then moved into Sumner County Tennessee and lived eight years then lived seventeen years in the lower end of Smith County and in the fall of 1821 moved to this County where he has lived ever since.

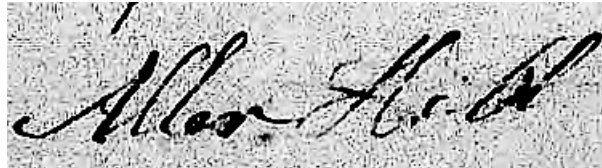
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any State. He does not know of any person who served with him who is now living except Clement McDaniel who was his Lieutenant at the Siege of York, who was alive of about two years ago, which was the last I have seen him and he then lived in Shelby County Tennessee about 90 miles from here. I refer to Allen Hill, Adam Huntsman and Andrew L Martin who have known me some years and will state my character for veracity.

S/ Chapness Madding, X his mark

And at the same time appeared Allen Hill, who being sworn in due form of law saith upon his oath That he has been acquainted with Chapness Madding who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing declaration. We were born and raised in a mile and a half apart in Pittsylvania County

Virginia. He has always sustained a good character for honesty and truth, and I have the best reasons for believing him to have been a Soldier in the Revolution, except that of serving with him myself. I have heard always from earliest remembrance, that he performed two or three tours of Militia service. I had some brothers and brothers in law that were in the Service, and they all spoke of said Madding being a faithful Soldier, and I never heard it denied. And I myself believe it as confidently as I can any fact that I was not an eyewitness to. In our various peregrinations through life, we have never been far apart, and have still known each other for fifty years, and we now live in the same County, and I can say, that in old age said Madding's general character for honor, honesty and truth is as good as it was in his youth. I will be 63 years of age the 27th of December next if I live to see the day. I believe him to be 69 years of age.

S/ Allen Hill

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Allen Hill". The ink is dark and the paper has a slightly textured, aged appearance.

[Adam Huntsman and Andrew L Martin gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Supplemental declaration

State of Tennessee – Madison County (to wit)

Personally appeared before the undersigned John M Johnson a Justice of the Peace for said County Champness Madding who being duly sworn deposed and saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades. For three months I served as a militia drafted private in the company of Captain Clemmons from about the middle of May 1780 to the middle of August following, but of this time he was only in the field from the first of June – For three months, during the winter 1780 – under Captain Peter May of the Virginia militia Major Henry Conway and General Stevens. For three months during the fall of 1780, expiring a short time after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at York – during the above second term, he was furloughed about two weeks, at the commencement being sick, – I was credited by the State of Virginia for nine months militia service. If I am allowed a pension according to the whole time I served by law I say I served nine months – If for the time I was actually in the field under arms, I served eight months. If for the time I was sick and on furlough I served 8 ½ months. I however served two weeks as a volunteer to guard the passes on the Dan River and guarding the provision wagons on their way to the American Army immediately before the battle at Guilford Court house, If I am allowed for these services then I was nine months in service (including the time I was on furlough.) If you reject the time on furlough and credit me for the guarding passes of the River and provision wagons, then I was 8 ½ months in service.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 30th of May 1833

S/ J. M. Johnson, JP

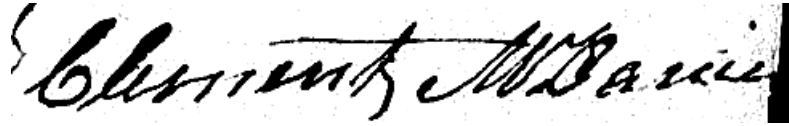
S/ Champness Madding, X his mark [sic]

I hereby certify on Oath that Champness Madding [sic] now a Citizen of Madison County State of Tennessee, was a Soldier in the Company with me at the siege of York, and that I was then acting in the double capacity of first Lieutenant to said Company and Adjutant to the Regiment, then commanded by Colonel Thomas Meriwether, of the Continental line, and that he performed his duty, as a Soldier during the siege marched with the prisoners to Fredericktown in Maryland

and received an Honorable discharge for a Tour of duty as did all others who performed the same service, since that time and look long previous to their being any expectation of a pension being allowed to the Militia of the revolution, he informed me that he had performed to Tours of duty of 3 months each in the South one at Gates defeat, the other in South Carolina below Cheraw Hills – the correctness of which statements I have no reason to doubt.

Raleigh Shelby County
September the 4th 1832

S/Clement McDaniel

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Clement McDaniel". The signature is written in black ink on a light background. The first letter "C" is large and decorative. The signature ends with a vertical bar on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the Virginia service.]