

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Stephen Clarke (Clark) S9180

f26VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/5/11 rev'd 11/12/14

[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.]

State of Virginia, Grayson County: SS

On the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Grayson County now sitting Stephen Clark a resident of Grayson County in the State of Virginia aged 70 years, 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 June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated.

When the prisoners taken<sup>1</sup> from Genl. Burgoyne were stationed in Albemarle County Virginia, Col. Taylor [Francis Taylor] and Major Robbards, or Roberts [John Roberts], was there guarding the prisoners with regular soldiers, but it was said there were not enough of regular troops to guard them, and orders were given to take the nearest Militia as assistant guards. The declarant then residing in the County of Goochland, Virginia, was called upon to assist guard [sic] the said prisoners, and accordingly marched to Albemarle Barracks under the command of Capt. Edward Curd of the aforesaid County of Goochland, and remained there 21 days, when he was discharged, he does not recollect the month or year of this first tour. He knew Capt. Burley [Garland Burnley] & Capt. Rice [Holman Rice] of the Regular army who were at the Albemarle Barracks at the above mentioned period. Shortly after this tour the declarant marched again to the same place under the command of Capt. Gideon Hatcher and continued guarding prisoners there another term of 21 days. The declarant belonged to the 10<sup>th</sup> division of the Goochland Militia, and drafted as such, in his turn, both of the times aforesaid. After this he served under Capt. Samuel Price in a Regiment commanded by Col. Lewis [probably Robert Lewis], a tour of three months as a Substitute for a man by the name of Ball; during this tour he was sometimes at Charles City Courthouse & at Holt's Forge and was dismissed at the Morben or Marben hills [Malvern Hill in Charles City County]. A few days before he marched by Charles City Courthouse some of the American Militia men were surprised & cut to pieces by the British horse. Not long after the declarant was dismissed as above mentioned, he understood that Charleston was besieged and that a call was made for men from Virginia to march to the South, he immediately entered the service again, and marched into South Carolina by way of Hillsborough, North Carolina under the command of Capt. Edmund Curd, Francis Pledge, Lieutenant, and as well as he now recollect Robt. Bradshaw [Robert Bradshaw] Ensign, before he had got out of Virginia it was understood Charleston was in the possession of the enemy, and the company in which the declarant was went on and joined Genl. Gates [Horatio Gates] at Rugeley's or Rudgeley's in South Carolina. Genl. Gates as soon as he was reinforced intended to fortify himself at a point on Craney Creek and immediately proceeded to carry his intention into execution, but before Genl. Gates & the army had gone a distance of more than about 6 or 7 miles, the infantry under Col. Porterfield [Charles Porterfield] were met and attacked by

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<sup>1</sup> Battle of Bemus Heights (Saratoga II), October 7, 1777, resulted in the surrender of Gen. John Burgoyne's troops

the enemy [August 15, 1780] under Cornwallis, the fight was kept up at intervals through the night, and became general about Sunrise or a little after that time, and resulted in the defeat of the Americans [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]. The declarant recollects that after firing several rounds the Militia were breaking on his right & left, and in the retreat he heard Major Nathaniel G. Morris, who was from Goochland Va. say "give them another fire" which was done, & then there was a general retreat. Col Porterfield he believes was wounded in the engagement. This was the battle at Camden, or Gates' defeat. He returned to Hillsborough in the State of North Carolina, and from there marched to a place called New Garden & remained there for some time, afterwards was marched to Guilford Courthouse and there discharged by Major Morris. The declarant got home in the month of October, as well as he now recollects, of the year of Gates' defeat, having served a tour of 5 months, or upwards. Shortly after he returned from the South he again entered the service under the command of Capt. Elisha Leak as a Substitute for Richard Pleasants and served 3 months chiefly in the County of Henrico Virginia. After this he again served a tour of 3 months in Henrico County Virginia as a Substitute for Benjamin Watkins, under Capt. Gideon Hatcher of Goochland Va. & John Pleasants of Henrico County Va. was his Col. After this time he again marched as a Substitute for Benjamin Woodson under the command of Capt. Richardson, who was commanded by Col. Charles Fleming, and served 3 months more, mostly in Henrico County Va. He again marched under the command of Elisha Leak Capt.; William McCall and Anderson Pears Lieutenant and Ensign, to the town of Winchester in Virginia, with prisoners and was in the service this time three months, as a Substitute of Thomas Underwood. He again went as a Substitute for George Slaughter, and served six months, was at York town when Cornwallis surrendered, was there under Col. Charles Dabney & Capt. Frank Woodson. He saw Genls. Washington, Muhlenberg [Peter Muhlenberg], LaFayette & Knox at York town; from York town he went to Hampton, from there to Portsmouth where he was taken sick & put in the Hospital under the care Doctor Broddy, and upon his recovery was discharged & went back into Goochland County having served altogether 26 months & 42 days. The declarant was born in the said County of Goochland in the year 1762 where he resided until the year 1805 when he removed to the County of Grayson where he now lives. He has no record of his age. He has two written discharges, one of which he received after he left Genl. Gates' army and the other after the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781], both of which is now lost or mislaid so that they cannot be found. The declarant cannot at this day recollect the years in which he served but recollect that he served all the different times above stated. The declarant is known in his present neighborhood to John Fielder<sup>2</sup> a contemporary survivor and to Lewis Hail, William Hail, Francis Hail & Stephen Hail who will testify as to his character for veracity and as to their belief of his services in the War of the Revolution. The declarant hereby relinquishes every claim whatsoever 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.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Stephen Clarke



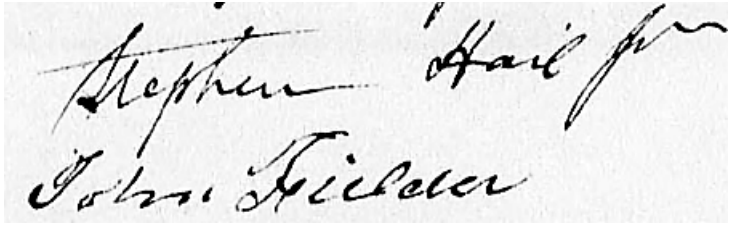
We Stephen Hail, a clergyman, residing in the County of Grayson and John Fielder residing in the same County hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Stephen Clarke who has subscribed and sworn to the above declaration: that we believe him to be seventy years of age, that he is respected and believed in the neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution, and that we concur in that opinion. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Stephen Hail Jr

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<sup>2</sup> [John Fielder R3533](#)

S/ John Fielder

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen Clark". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

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[Grayson County Virginia]

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June 1833 personally appeared in Open Court, before the Justices of the Court of Grayson County now sitting, Stephen Clark, an applicant for a pension under the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832, and, being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, make the following amendment to his Original declaration made in this Court on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the Command of Captain Curd, as a drafted militiaman in the year 1777 and served 21 days guarding British prisoners at Albemarle barracks in the County of Albemarle Virginia. This declarant was again drafted in the same year & marched to the same barracks under Captain Gideon Hatcher & served another term of 21 days guarding prisoners. In the year 1778 this declarant went into the service of the United States as a Substitute for a man whose name was Ball, and was in actual service three months under the officers & at the places set forth in his Original declaration. In the year 1780 this applicant was again drafted as a minuteman and was in actual service a tour of five months, in the United States service, in North & South Carolina, & served under the officers named in his original declaration and at the places therein named. This applicant served as a Substitute for Richard Pleasants a term of three months chiefly in the County of Henrico Virginia in the fall of 1780. In the year 1781 this declarant served a tour of three months as a Substitute for Benjamin Watkins, as set forth in his Original declaration. In the same year (1781) he served another term of three months as a Substitute for Benjamin Woodson. In the same year (1781) he served a tour of three months as a Substitute for Thomas Underwood. In the same year (1781) he marched as a Substitute for George Slaughter and was finally discharged & returned home in February 1782 having been in actual service for the said Slaughter as a Substitute six months. For the particulars of the different times of service this applicant refers to his original declaration. This applicant has no documentary evidence of his services, nor does he now know of any person living by whom he can prove the facts. This applicant was born in Goochland County, Virginia, in the year 1762. He has now no record of his age – it was recorded in a large family Bible which was carried by his brother to the State of Kentucky many years ago. He lived in the County of Goochland, Virginia, when he was called into service and continued to reside there until the year 1805 when he removed to Grayson County, Virginia, where he now lives. He was called into service as a drafted militiaman three times, and went into the service six times as a Substitute first for \_\_ Ball, second for Richard Pleasants, third for Benjamin Watkins, fourth for Benjamin Woodson, fifth for Thomas Underwood & sixth for George Slaughter. He had to written discharges both of which are now lost. For the answer to the fifth & seventh interrogatories he refers to his original declaration.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ Stephen Clarke

[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 Virginia service.]