

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

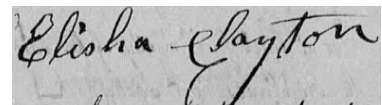
Pension Application of Elisha Clayton W1145                      Elizabeth Clayton                      NJ  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Virginia                      } ss.  
County of Monongalia                      }

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty two, personally appeared in open court, before the County court of Monongalia, now sitting Elisha Clayton, a resident of said county, aged seventy five 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 towit, that he went out in 1776, as a private soldier in the militia under the command of Capt. John Smock in a regiment commanded by Col. Herd [probably Nathaniel Heard] from Monmouth county New Jersey, for the purpose of guarding our lines, and was in service at the battle of Long Island [27 Aug 1776] – that he continued in such service for one month the time required by the requisitions – that he returned home, and after the lapse of a month he again went out in the militia under Capt. Stilwell [Stillwell] for the same purpose – that he again went out under Capt. Hunn and marched to Amboy and remained a month – that he again went out under Capt. Smock for another month on the highlands – that he again went for a month under Capt. Wykoff [Wikoff] and was stationed at Black point, during which the emeny took our Captain and Lieutenant prisoners after which Capt. Henry Vandevere took the command of the company, and we marched to Monmouth courthouse – that he again went out under Capt. Vandevere for another month and was stationed at a place called Coltsneck [Colts Neck] – that he again went out for another month under Capt. Smock on the bayside and was stationed there during the whole month – that he again went for a month under Capt. Vandevere at the falls in Monmouth county, where they remained during the month the regiment being commanded by Col. Hendricks [probably Daniel Hendrickson] – that he again went out for a month under Capt Barns Smock [Barnes Smock] when we marched towards Germantown, on the way he was taken sick and returned home soon after which the battle took place [4 Oct 1777] – that he took it by turns for a month and sometimes for two months untill 1778 when he was out of his apprenticeship – that during the years 1779 and 1780 he was almost constantly in the service of the United States either in his own place or as a substitute, that he was in the battle of Monmouth [28 Jun 1778]. that he was in a company commanded by Lieut. Little at that battle, that his company was directed to pilot Genl Morgan [sic: Col., later Gen., Daniel Morgan] round the flank of the enemy we knowing the country – that in the month of may 1778 [sic] he was taken prisoner in Monmouth county, and removed to New York, where he was kept a prisoner untill new-years day following, when we were exchanged – that he has two brothers who he can prove his services by but knows of no other person at present.

That he hereby relinquishes evry 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. That he was born in Monmouth county New Jersey in December 1757 that his age is recorded in his fathers bible in the possession of a brother or brother in law in Monmouth county – that he moved about forty years ago from Monmouth to Hancock in Maryland, where he lived about two years, from thence he moved into Pennsylvania on Kenolonay creek, from thence to Fifteenmile creek in Maryland, thence to Fayette county Pennsylvania, and from thence to Monongalia county Virginia, where he has been residing about thirty four or five years – that he never received any written discharge – that he is personally acquainted with the Rev'd William Hawkins David Musgrave esq'r Rawley Evans esq'r Richard Price and a number of old and respectable men living in his neighbourhood.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.



State of Pennsylvania } Ss.  
County of Allegheny }

On the sixteenth day of December A.D 1832, personally appeared in open court, before the Court of Common Pleas of said County, now sitting in the city of Pittsburgh, Elijah Clayton [pension application W3073], who on his solemn oath, doth depose and say, That Elisha Clayton, of Monongahela County Virg'a. an applicant for a pension under the act of the 7 June 1832, is the twin brother of deponent, and that to his certain knowledge, the said Elisha entered the service of the U. States in 1776, as a Militia man, under the command of Captain John Smock in the Regiment Commanded by Col'l. Herd, from Monmouth County New Jersey (the place of his nativity) for the purpose of guarding the Lines, and continued in the service a month at least, when he returned home, and after some time, he again went out under Captain Stilwell, in the Militia, for the same purpose; that he again went out under Captain Hunn (deponent believes) and marched towards Amboy, and remained about one month. Went out again under Captain Smock, for another months, to serve on a place called "the High lands," Went out another month under Capt. Wycoff and was stationed at Black Point: deponent does not distinctly recollect any further service by said Elisha having been about this time taken prisoner and carried to New York as a prisoner. That he did not know what became of his said Brother, until he was informed that he also was a prisoner at the same city; that he obtained permission to see said Elisha, and asked and obtained a dollar from a black fellow, in some office under the British which he gave to said Elisha. That the party who took him prisoner also took his horse from him for which he believes he never received any compensation. That the said Elisha was exchanged & liberated before deponent escaped from the enemy; – The British having kept him almost constantly at work making clothes for the British Troops. That from the best information he can obtain, his said Brother Elisha was born in Monmouth County New Jersey in the year 1757, and that he now resides in Monongahela County Virginia, and has resided there for many years past.

Elijah hisXmark Clayton

Pennsylvania }  
Greene County Ss }

Before me a justice of the Peace in and for said County, personally appeared Noah Clayton [R2030], a resident of said County and State aged seventy one years who being first duly affirmed affirms and says that his brother Elisha Clayton of Monongalia County, Virginia entered the army of the United States in the year of 1776 under the command of Captain John Smock – deponent was young when his brother first entered the service and cannot detail all his services but believes that he was called out and served monthly tours every other month from 1776 till the close of the War – said Elisha was taken prisoner by the English and detained by them from the month of May till the succeeding first of January – the above services were performed in Monmouth County, New Jersey. He served at different times under Capts. Barnes Smock, John Smock, Capt. Stilwell, Capt. Hun, Col. Holmes, Col. Hendricksman, Col. Herd and Brig'r. Gen'l. Furman – also Capt Hendrick Vandavier – said Elisha and deponent were both in the battle of Monmouth Elisha also served one month under Capt. Chadwick.

Sworn & subscribed before me 8<sup>th</sup> Jan'y 1833

Noah hisXmark Clayton

On this 27<sup>th</sup> day of April in the year 1833, personally appeared before me George McNeely a Justice of the peace in and for said county, Elisha Clayton, who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that by reason of old age, consequent loss of memory, and the frequent tours of duty he performed in the Revolution, he cannot positively swear 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 situation of a private soldier.

That he served at least four months, during the year that the battle of Long Island was fought which he beleives was 1776 under Capt. John Smock and was stationed on the Highlands near Sandy hook.

For at least four months of the year 1777 under the same captain and was stationed on the Highlands near Sandyhook.

For at least four months of the same year under Capt. Joseph Stilwell and was stationed on the Highlands near Sandyhook

For two months under Capt. Hunn during the year 1778 (as he beleives) at Amboy

For one month under Capt. Wykoff in the same year and was stationed at Black point.

For one month under Capt. Barns Smock, in the same year and was stationed at Black point

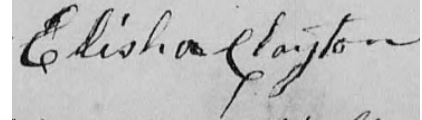
For at least six months, in the year 1779 (as he beleives) under Capt. Vandavere, and was stationed at Colts neck.

For at least six months in the year 1780, under the same captain and was stationed at Colts neck

For one month in 1781 under Capt. Chadwick, and was stationed at Colts neck.

That he was taken prisenor on the 14 of May and taken to New York and confined in the North church and from thence to the sugar house where he was exchanged about 1<sup>st</sup> January, following – he beleives he was a prisoner in 1778.

That he is confident he served more than three years including the time he was a prisoner – that the dates and times above stated may not be correct, but it is the best statement he can now make – that he never served in any other militia than that of New Jersey and was always stationed in New Jersey – that many of these tours of duty, he performed as a substitute for quakers, and whilst he was an apprentice for his master and it is was for this cause that he was out so much. That during all this time he was not employed in any civil pursuit, his whole delight being in the service.



[On 18 June 1833 Elisha Clayton was issued a certificate for a pension of \$80 per year for at least two years service.]

[The following report is by US District Attorney Washington G. Singleton who investigated hundreds of pension applications from present West Virginia. For details see my appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth S6111. On Clayton's report Singleton wrote "Entitled."]

Elisha Clayton – draws \$80—

I the undersigned Elisha Clayton at the requisition of the Secretary of war give the following narrative of my age and services as a soldier in the war of the Revolution to Wit – I was born on the 11<sup>th</sup> December 1757

In the year 1776 I was in service in the State of New Jersey on the Bay Shore – when the british Fleet came into the Bay from Boston. I was drafted for one month and marched from Middletown township under Capt Jno Smock.

After this tour I remained at home a month & was drafted for one other month & marched from same place under same Capt Smock, was stationed near Sandy Hook.

in the same year I serve a nother tour of one month under same Captain and was at same station.

in the year 1777 I served a nother tour of one month under same captain at same station.

in same year I served a nother tour of one month at same station under same captain – and so continued to serve monthly tours – from time to time under different Captains until I served in the whole two years & Eleven months – of this fact I am perfectly confident – from the laps of time and decay of memory it ought not to be expected of me to repeat my monthly tours and the names of my respective captains consecatively – the Militia of New Jersey were in service all the time – they were classed – and one or the other of the classes were always in service performing monthly tours. In testimony that the foregoing statement contains the truth I hereto subscribe my name. Elisha Clayton

Note – this man is Honest & truthful and I think full Entitled to all he draws

W. G Singleton

NOTES:

Elisha Clayton could not have been a prisoner from May 1778 until 1 Jan 1779 if he was at the Battle of Monmouth. Nor could his imprisonment have been from May 1777 until 1 Jan 1778 if he was in active service in the month before the Battle of Germantown. Elijah Clayton in his supporting statement above said that he visited his brother while they were both prisoners, and that Elisha was released before he himself escaped. In his own pension application Elijah Clayton stated that he was a prisoner for 18 months, and during his captivity the Battle of Monmouth occurred. If these statements are correct, Elisha Clayton also could not have been a prisoner from May 1779 until 1 Jan 1780.

On 5 March 1846 Elizabeth Clayton, 70, of Marion County VA, applied for a pension stating that she married Elisha Clayton on 15 Oct 1793, and he died on 31 March 1845. On 17 March 1846 Sarrah Cunningham (as she signed), 62, stated that she and Elizabeth Clayton were "daughters of the same mother," and that she was not at her wedding but was present at the wedding dinner after Elisha Clayton brought his bride home. On 19 Nov 1846 Sarah Cunningham (as she then signed) stated that she was 63, that Elizabeth Cunningham were half sisters, and that Elisha and Elizabeth Clayton were married in Allegany County MD. On 20 Nov 1846 Elizabeth Dawson, 59, stated that she was seven or eight when her father, Elisha Clayton, married her stepmother, whose maiden name was Elizabeth Little.

On 17 Sep 1847 John Clayton made a statement in support of his mother's application, stating that according to an account in the Bible of his father he was 51 on 2 Feb 1847, and that she "was delivered of a still born child, a year or so before he John Clayton was born and was nine or twelve months after her marriage with his father Elisha Clayton." In a letter dated 13 July 1846 William G. Brown stated that he had served with John Clayton in the Virginia legislature.

On an application for bounty land dated 17 March 1855 Elizabeth Clayton was said to be 78, that she and Elisha Clayton were married by Rev. Joseph Powel in 1792, and that her husband died in Marion County.

On 6 Oct 1860 Elizabeth Clayton signed a power of attorney that was witnessed by Ezekiel Clayton and John Clayton.