

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Gabriel Clements ¹ W27592

Mary Clements f126SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

9/13/19

[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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Georgia County of Telfair} SS

On this Twenty Ninth day of January in the year of our Lord 1853 personally appeared in open Court now sitting before the undersigned Judge of the Inferior Court for said County and which is a Court of Record, Mrs. Mary Clements a resident of Telfair County in the State of Georgia aged Eighty-two years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Acts of Congress passed July 7, 1838, March 3, 1843, and June 17, 1844, And of all other Acts and resolutions of Congress that may apply to and embrace her case: That she is the widow of Captain Gabriel Clements who entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated as this deponent has been informed and believes: That her said husband entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in South Carolina as a private in the company commanded by Captain Andrew Dubose and in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benton [Lemuel Benton] under General Francis Marion and after serving in that Capacity one year he was promoted to ensign & was Lieutenant (the first) in said Company: that having served for a considerable time as Lieutenant in said Company he was elected a Captain in the Militia in which Capacity he served during the years of 1780, 1781 & 1782: that all of his services was under General Francis Marion who pervaded the swamps of the lower part of South Carolina. That not having received his pay for said services from the State of South Carolina or from the United States he petitioned the Legislature of South Carolina in the year 1823 for the same and submitted proofs of his said services and was placed on the Pension Roll of said State in said year: That the facts of his service and proofs thereof detailed in his petition to the Legislature aforesaid at the time aforesaid will more fully appear by reference to the said petition & proofs in the possession of the State of South Carolina to which this declarant respectfully refers: That the reason why this deponent has not applied at an earlier day for her pension as the widow of said Captain Gabriel Clements deceased was because she was not until recently aware of her right to the same she being aged, poor, destitute & unlearned, living in a humble circle of life and in a remote part of Georgia: That at the time her said husband was pensioned as aforesaid he lived in Lexington District South Carolina and having removed from the same to Crawford County in the State of Georgia he died in the latter on 20th of October 1825; That since his death as aforesaid she has remained a widow & now is: That she has been living in Telford County Georgia for 24 years past: That before her marriage to said Captain Gabriel Clements her name was Mary Watts & that their marriage took place in Lexington District South Carolina on the 19th day of February 1793: That she was married as aforesaid by

¹ BLWt67.699-160-55

John Fairchild a Justice of the Peace & that the persons present at the ceremony were Cornelius Clements, Verdiman Clements, John Eli, Martha C Clements and Delilah Bell. That she had a family Record showing the date of her said marriage & birth of her children which she has so unfortunate as to lose by its getting burned of years ago which fact she can substantiate by several persons: That after so losing her family Record she had the date of her said marriage & birth of her child sat down on a piece of paper which she herewith submits: That her oldest child William Clements was born two years after her marriage to wit on the 21st day of February 1795: She further declares that she was married to the said Captain Gabriel Clements on the 19th day of February 1793 and that her husband the said Gabriel Clements died on the 20th day of October 1825; that she was not married to him previous or prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the 1st of January 1794, viz., at the time above stated: Sworn to and subscribed on the day & year aforesaid

Before me

S/ James Rogers, JIC

S/ Mary Clements, X her mark

[p 8]

Gabriel C Clements & Mary Watts was married 1793 the 19 of February by John Fearchiles Esqr. Of Lexington District SC – the persons present was John Eli – Vardiman Clements, Cornelius Clements, Nancy Fairshiles, Martha C Clements & Delilah Bell – William Clements oldest child of Gabriel & Mary Clements was born 1795 February the 21st Gabriel Clements died the 20th of October 1825 in Crafford [sic] Georgia

[p 14: Oath of allegiance dated August 4th, 1871 signed by Jacob A Clemins [sic] as administrator of the estate of Mary Clemens deceased; executed in Telfair County Georgia]

[pp 55-58: copies of the documents submitted to the South Carolina Legislature by the veteran petitioning for pay for his revolutionary services and order to be placed on the pension list. These are transcribed from the South Carolina auditor's office below from the originals.]

[p 125: On April 2, 1853, Mrs. Jane Seay of Lexington District SC gave testimony that she is the sister of Mary Clements; that she often her their mother say that Mary & Gabriel ran away to marry when deponent was a small child; that deponent is now 62 years old; that deponent is about 4 years older than Mary and Gabriel's eldest child, William. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Veteran's widow was initially pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1836, for her husband service as a private for 2 years in the South Carolina militia. Her pension was later increased to \$270 per annum for her husband's service as a private and Ensign in the South Carolina service.]

South Carolina Audited Accounts² relating to Gabriel Clements
Audited Account Microfilm file No. 1285B

AA26

[p 2]

Petition of Gabriel Clements praying payment for revolutionary services

² The South Carolina Audited Accounts (AA) are now available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. To find the AA for a specific person, click on the [Just take me to the search page](#) link, then enter the person's surname first in the "Full name" box followed by a comma and the person's Christian name.

[p 3]

To the Honorable President of the Senate & other members of the Same

The humble petition of Gabriel Clements Sheweth. That your petitioner Served in the armies of the State of South Carolina during the whole of the Revolutionary War and that he served principally under the Command of General Marion; – was at (the Snow Expedition as it is called) and in several Battles. That he twice had his house and everything in it burned by the Tories. That he is now old and infirm (being upwards of Seventy Six years of age) and unable to work and labour for his Support and is in reduced circumstances and therefore presents himself to his Country praying that he may be allowed the arrears of pay and him [sic] for his Services, and also that he may be allowed a pension and your petitioner will ever pray

S/ Gabriel Clements, X his mark

[p 4]

South Carolina Richland District}

Personally appears Philip Roberts³ and makes oath that Gabriel Clements [one or more words obliterated by ink blot] in the armies of the State of South Carolina during the revolutionary war as a private in Captain Dubose Company in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benton under the command of General Marion – that the said Gabriel Clements was afterwards elected Captain of Militia and always behave and fought gallantly:

Sworn to before me 14th of December 1820

S/ Wm A. Brickell, JP

S/ Philip Roberts



[p 5]

South Carolina Richland District}

Personally of appears, Clement Clements⁴ and [several words too faint to discern] that he knows that Gabriel Clements did serve in the armies of the State of South Carolina under General Marion during the Revolutionary war; – that he fought gallantly and invariably behaved well – That he is now old and infirm and unable to work for his support as set forth in his petition to the Legislature

Sworn before me 13th of December 1820

S/ Wm A. Brickell, JP

S/ Clements Clements, X his mark

[p 7]

South Carolina Sumter District} Personally came Peter Dubose⁵ Before me Felix Ellis one of the Justices appointed to keep the peace in and for the District aforesaid and duly made oath that he was personally acquainted with Gabriel Clemons [sic] During the Revolutionary War he the said Clemons conducted himself as a faithful soldier under the Command of Captain Andrew Dubose and myself and afterwards was Elected Ensign in the same Company and Done duty under the Command of Colonel Benton and General Marion during which time to my knowledge his house and furniture were burned by the Enemy

³ [Philip Roberts W2170](#)

⁴ [Clement Clements S8217](#)

⁵ [Peter Dubose \(DuBose\) S21163](#)

Sworn before me the 2nd day of November 1822

S/ Felix Ellis, JP

S/ Peter Dubose



I the said Captain John Stewart do Assert the above mentioned to be Just and true



[p 8]

South Carolina Richland District} Charles Spiars being duly sworn makes oath he was acquainted with Gabriel Clements during the Revolutionary War, and that he knows that he did serve in the armies of the State of South Carolina for a length of time – but does not know positively how long – That this deponent's father served under his command (the aforesaid Gabriel Clements then being an Ensign in the said line). That he believes that the said Gabriel Clements served with zeal and encourage.

Sworn before me 2nd December 1822

S/ Wm A. Brickell, QU

S/ Charles Spiars, X his mark

[p 10]

The Committee on claims to whom was referred the Petition of Gabriel Clements, praying for Revolutionary services

Beg leave to Report –

That they have had the Petition and documents under consideration and for want of proper vouchers respectfully recommend that the prayer thereof the not granted

S/ Thomas Carr, Chairman

[p 12]

The Committee on Pensions to whom was referred the Petition of Gabriel Clements, praying for arrears of pay for military services, and to be admitted on the Pension List, respectfully Report.

That your Committee have taken the Petitioner's Claim into Consideration; and although there are many vouchers provided the Petitioner to have served in the Armies, yet as there are no proofs of his being an object contemplated by any Pension Act, your Committee recommend that the Prayer of the Petition the not granted
December 1822

[p 14; heavily edited for spelling]

To the Honorable the Speaker and other members of the House of Representatives of the State of South Carolina

The Petition of Gabriel Clemmence [sic] Sheweth

Unto your Honorable Body that your petitioner served during the Revolutionary war as a military man under the Command of Captain Andrew Dubose your petitioner served one year as a Private Soldier then was appointed first Lieutenant in the said Captain Andrew Dubose's Company where your petitioner continued for years as first Lieutenant in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Benton your petitioner had his houses burned by the Tories when your

petitioner was in the Service of his country your Petitioner further states that he never received any Compensation for his services during the whole of the War – your petitioner is now nearly Eighty years of age and in Low Circumstances with a large family Depending entirely on your petitioner for support your petitioner therefore Prays your Honorable Body to take his Case into Consideration and grant him such Relief as your Honorable Body may deem me and your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray

Gabriel Clements, X his mark

[p 17]

South Carolina Richland District } Personally appeared Gabriel Clements before me who being duly sworn says on his Oath that he served faithfully during the Revolutionary War in the Company commanded by Captain Dubose One year as a private & the rest of the time as first Lieutenant in said Dubose's Company & that he has never Received any pay for said Services from the state or from the United States Neither directly or Indirectly or has he sold any right or title of his said Services.

Sworn to before me this 28th of November 1833

S/ [illegible signature]

S/ Gabriel Clements, X his mark

[p 25]

The Committee on Claims to whom was referred the Petition of Gabriel Clements praying payment for Revolutionary services beg leave to Report

That they have duly considered the same together with the accompanying documents from which it appears that the Petitioner served his Country throughout the Revolutionary War either as a Private Soldier or as an Officer, for which it appears that he has not been compensated, but as his documents are not for & satisfactory, as to the Amount that should be paid him, And as he has now become very old and infirm Your committee have thought proper Respectfully to Recommend that he be placed on the Pension List with one years of the rear of Pension which is in low of all Claims against the State for Revolutionary Services
December 3rd, 1821

S/ John K Griffin, Chairman

(another version)

Pension Application of Gabriel Clements, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 576, Application #W27592

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette
Telfair County, GA, January 9th, 1853, Mary Clements, aged 82 years:

“That her husband entered the service of the United States in the Revolutionary War in South Carolina as a private in the company commanded by Captain Andrew DuBose and in the regiment commanded by Colonel Benton under General Francis Marion, and after serving in that capacity for one year, he was promoted to ensign and was Lieutenant (the first) in said company. That having served for a considerable time as Lieutenant in said company, he was elected a captain in the militia in which capacity he served during the years of 1780, 1781, and 1782. That all of his service was under General Francis Marion who pervaded the swamps of the lower part of South Carolina. That not having received for said service from the state of South Carolina, he petitioned the Legislature of South Carolina in the year 1823 for the same and submitted proofs of his said services and was placed on the Pension Roll of said state in said year...”

Lexington District, SC, April 2nd, 1853:

John Gortman [*Gartman*]-“That in the month of May next he will be seventy-six years of age and that he was born not far from his present neighborhood, and has from early boyhood, lived in this community in which he now resides. That as far back as this deponent can recollect, he remembered Gabriel Clements, who was ever since deponent’s recollection, reputed and believed to have served in the old Revolutionary War.”

“That said Gabriel Clements and Mary Watts lived near neighbors of this deponent’s father, and that he, deponent, recollects with certainty the fact of their having made a runaway match of it when they got married as her father was opposed to her marrying said Clements. Deponent recollects that it was when he was a schoolboy and that the event occasioned general talk in the neighborhood it being told and believed that the said Gabriel Clements and Mary Watts went to the house of John Fairchild, a justice of the peace who lived a little way out of their immediate neighborhood. That deponent was then about fifteen or sixteen years of age as he recollects; That deponent is certain in his own mind and from his recollection that said marriage must have taken place fully sixty years ago...”

Comptroller General’s Office, Columbia, SC, April 4th, 1855:

“This is to certify that I have personally examined the records of this office for evidence of the services of Lamuel [*Lemuel*] Benton and Gabriel Clements and do not find any in their names; that I have also examined for the services of George Hicks, Abel Kolb, and Robert Lide or Lyde and do not find any in their names, but that in the names of different persons who furnished supplies or rendered military services in the War of the Revolution, I find ample evidence by the receipts for supplies and etc, signed by the officers themselves.”

“That Lemuel Benton as Lieutenant Colonel commanded a regiment from 1781 to 1783 in Marion’s Brigade; that George Hicks also commanded as Colonel a regiment in said brigade in 1780 and that Abel Kolb also commanded as colonel in 1781 a regiment in same brigade; that Robert Lide or Lyde is designated as ‘Major Robert Lide or Lyde’ (the name being spelled differently by different persons) and that payment was made to him for supplies furnished only, and not for militia or other duty. I further certify that there are no pay rolls of Marion’s brigade in this office as is the case with Sumter’s brigade, the services in the former being shown by detached, separate and scattered individual accounts...”

“The additional evidence on which the claim for increase is based consists, first of a transcript of Clement Clements [*Gabriel’s brother*] application to the SC Legislature and accompanying proofs in 1820. Clement Clements claimed to have served in Captain Andrew DuBose’ company, Benton’s 18th regiment from 1780. Peter DuBose testified that he served under Andrew DuBose as captain and himself as lieutenant. Gabriel then testified that Clement served in ’80, ’81, and ’82 in DuBose’ company alternately under him (Gabriel). Was at Battle of Wadboo and several other battles.”

“In 1844, Clement applied in Lexington Co, KY for pension under Act of ’32, admitted in 1852 at \$80 and declared that he served under Captain DuBose 1 year in 1780, continuously in Marion’s brigade. In his after service, was much of his time in scouting parties after Tories under his brother Gabriel, who was captain of the scouts and in nearly constant duty service and fatigue to the final close of the war. Peter DuBose in his application made in 1832 declared he served 15 months as captain and was allowed for the same. Doubtless the promotion of Gabriel Clements corresponded with his, from lieutenant or ensign, as both were in the same company.”

“...It appears probable that Gabriel Clements under his appointment as ensign, had alternate command in the company. That he was called captain is very natural and that he may have been, as he alleged, 1st lieutenant is not improbable, but while Peter DuBose, the lieutenant of his company was in it as lieutenant, he was ensign. When Peter was made captain, it is very likely he was made lieutenant.”

“I think that now that Peter DuBose is proved to have been lieutenant and captain, his sworn statement should be held to be good evidence that Gabriel was ensign for the 6 months that he was lieutenant of the company, and afterwards. It seems from Peter’s statement that his brother, Andrew, as captain, and himself as lieutenant commanded the company alternately, and this agrees with Gabriel’s statement that himself was 1st lieutenant and that Clement, his brother served alternately under himself and Captain DuBose.”