

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Charles Pelham¹ W3034 Isabella fn50VA
Transcribed by Will Graves 8/1/11

[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.]

The Commonwealth of Kentucky First Judicial District Sct.

Charles Pelham a resident Citizen of the County of Mason and District and Commonwealth aforesaid, this day made the following declaration before me Adam Beatty Circuit Judge of the District and Commonwealth aforesaid: to wit, That he the said Charles Pelham entered the military service of the United States in the month of February in the year 1776 as first Lieutenant of a company commanded by Captain Edmund Dickinson in the first Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment, commanded by Colonel Patrick Henry; and that shortly after he received a commission as first Lieutenant of the Company and Regiment aforesaid.

That on the 11th day of November in the same year, he was commissioned a Captain in the same Regiment. That on the 23rd day of November in the year 1779 he was commissioned "a Major of the 2nd Virginia Regiment in the Army of the United States to take rank as such from the 25th day of June 1779"; and that he continued in the Army and service of the United States from the time that he first entered it, as aforesaid, until the end of the War of the revolution, and until the troops were disbanded. He further declares that he never had a pension heretofore allowed him by the laws of the United States, and that by reason of his reduced circumstances in life, he needs the assistance from his country for support

And I the said Adam Beatty, Circuit Judge as aforesaid further certify that the said Charles Pelham did, before me, in due and legal form, make oath to the truth of the facts stated in the foregoing declaration.

In witness whereof I the said Adam Beatty Circuit Judge as aforesaid have hereunto set my hand and seal the 13th day of April 1818

S/ Adam Beatty {Seal}

[fn p. 14]

State of Kentucky Sct.

At a Court held for the Mason Circuit at the Courthouse in the town of Washington on Wednesday the 21st of May in the year 1823.

Charles Pelham produced in Court a declaration and schedule in conformity to the act of Congress in such case made and provided and swore to the same, which is ordered to be filed and it is ordered to be certified to the Secretary of War, that this Court is satisfied from the evidence of Milton Taylor, sworn in open Court, that the property set forth in said Schedule, is of the value of \$218.18 exclusive of the land on which the said Pelham lives, which is of the annual

¹ BLWt1735-400 Major Issued Dec. 3, 1792 No Papers

value of \$13.33.

The declaration and schedule referred to in the above order is in the following words and figures, to wit:

State of Kentucky, County of Mason Sct.

Be it remembered that at a Court held for the Mason Circuit in the County of Mason and State of Kentucky before the Honorable Adam Beatty sole Judge thereof on the ___ day of May 1823 personally appeared in open Court Charles Pelham resident in the said County aged 74 years and 10 months who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the provision made by the acts of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st May 1820 and the 1st of March 1823, that he the said Charles Pelham having for some time served as a private soldier in a volunteer company commanded by a Captain James Jones and in a minute Company commanded by Captain Robert Anderson was appointed a Lieutenant in January or February in the year 1776 and a Company commanded by Captain Edmond Dickenson in the first Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel Patrick Henry, where and in which capacity he served until the early part of the year 1777 when he was appointed a Captain in the said first Virginia Regiment, then commanded by Colonel Isaac Read, and afterwards received his commission dated November 11th, 1776 where he the said Charles Pelham continued to serve until the summer of the year 1779 when he was ordered to join the 2nd Virginia Regiment on Continental establishment commanded by Colonel Christian Febiger as Major thereof, and on the 20th day of June 1779 was commissioned as Major, which commission the said Pelham forwarded among other papers to the Secretary of War, about 5 years ago, in order to obtain a pension under the act of the 18th of March 1818. The said Pelham further states that in the year 1779 aforesaid, he marched under Brigadier General Woodford, to Charleston South Carolina, where he was captured by the surrender of the town, to the British troops by Major General Lincoln, in May 1780 and continued a prisoner until the end of the War; That he was in the battle of White Plains, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth; was in the cannonade at New Brunswick first December 1776 and in the defense of Mud Island Fort, nearly the whole siege.

And I the said Charles Pelham 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 whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons 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; nor any other property of any kind or description, necessary clothing and bedding excepted, than that named in the following Schedule to wit

Gears for two horse half worn of the value of	\$5.50
2 small plows a barshear [?] & shovel half worn	5.00
6 hoes worth \$6 2 old sleds worth \$1.50	7.50
1 Desk & bookcase in use about 30 years & much injured	6.00
1 old table worth \$3 1 armchair 15 years in use \$1.25	4.25
10 old chairs \$11 one small looking glass 87 ½ cents	11.87 ½
1 doz. knives & forks (good) \$4: half dozen do old \$1.25	5.25
one 10 gallon cattle \$2.50: 1 do pot \$1: 1 slew kettle 1.50	5.00

one middle sized Dutch oven \$2: one iron teakettle \$2.50	4.50
two teapots one sugar dish, & one cream pot	5.00
three pitchers 1 cracked \$4.50: 6 pewter spoons old 50 cts	5.00
6 silver teaspoons much worn \$4	4.00
4 washing tubs (one old) \$2.50: 2 large tubs \$1.25	3.75
1 pr steelyards \$1.75: 2 buckets old 75cts; 2 barrels \$1: 1 pr end Irons 75	4.25
2 barrels for hauling water \$1; 2 pr. And Irons, the first cost	
of which was \$6 and worth about the same	7.00
one broken pair of and Irons 75 cts ; ½ doz cups & saucers 50 cts	1.25
2 pr Snuffers 75 cts 4 dishes \$1.50: 12 plates \$1	3.25
1 flat candle stick 75 2 pr old brass candle sticks \$1	1.75
1 tin Coffee pot 62 ½ cts one cup board \$8: 3 Dishes 1.50	10.12 ½
1 small ferry flat much injured	15.00
1 horse saddle & bridle worth	60.00
28 hogs old & Young \$35 one Gun \$12, one churn 75 cts	47.75
2 log chairs \$8: 304 flour barrels \$1.25 one pot trammel \$1.50	10.75
1 small trunk \$1: 2 axes \$1.50 two tin cups 25cts	<u>2.75</u>
	\$236.50

The said Charles Pelham states that he receives annually from the Cincinnati Society of Virginia \$100 that he has some debts due to him which (except a debt from the United States to him of \$25) in consequence of insolvencies and the long periods that have elapsed since they were due, he has long relinquished all hopes of ever collecting any part of, and that he owes several large debts which he has no hopes of ever being able to pay, and several smaller debts which he is unable to discharge.

That he has a lease for life for one third part of an undivided tract of about 90 acres of land, on which he lives and about 20 acres of which land, only is cleared, and cultivated. The said Charles Pelham also states, that he has no occupation, nor has he ability to pursue any. That his family consists of himself, now in the seventy fifth year of his age, his wife in the fifty seventh year of her age, His daughter Elizabeth Atkinson Pelham, in the thirty first year of her age, Martha M Pelham in the twenty ninth year of her age, (both unhealthy) Penelope Pelham in the twenty third year of her age; and Ann Crease Pelham in the fifteenth year of her age; and who is unhealthy; His sons William Pelham in the twenty first year of his age and who is about to leave him, John Pelham in the eighteenth year of his age and Richard Henry Pelham in the eleventh year of his age, he has also two grandsons living with him to it James E Pelham, in the ninth year of his age and George H Pelham in the seventh year of his age.

S/ Chas. Pelham

[fn p. 27: Charles Pelham filed for his pension under the act of May 15, 1828



[fn p. 11: On August 28, 1838 in Mason County Kentucky, Isabella Pelham, 73, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Charles Pelham late a major in the Army of the revolution in the Virginia line and a pensioner of the United States; that she

married him September 22nd, 1874 in Caswell County North Carolina by John Womack; that her husband died August 29th, 1829; that she knows of no person she can prove her marriage by except her brother General Atkinson of the United States Army was living with her at the time of her marriage; she submits the following family record as proof of her marriage.

Isabella Pelham]

[fn p. 9: family record:

Peter Pelham Junior & Parthenia Browne were married in So Amson County by the Reverend George Gurley on Saturday about 6 o'clock in the afternoon the 3rd day of October 1772

Peter born in Brunswick County Virginia on Tuesday the 3rd of August 1773 died 16th of December 1774

Charles born on Sunday April 23rd 1775

Thomas born on Saturday February 15 1777

Elizabeth born Saturday February 28th 1779

Ann born Wednesday January 17th 1781

Samuel born in Greenville on Saturday the 26th of April 1783

Sarah Crease born on Saturday 4th June 1785

Reverend Benjamin Blagrove & Sarah Pelham were married December 5th 1773 at Williamsburg by the Reverend John Bracher

John born September 21st 1774 died

Peter Pelham born November 20th 1775 died 22nd of February 1806

Charles born February 2nd 1778

James born December 21st 1779 died December 3rd 1805

Benjamin born September 9th 1781

William born May 30th 1783

Thomas Crease born November first 1785

Charles Pelham and Isabella Atkinson were married in Caswell County North Carolina on Wednesday September 22nd 1784 by Mr. John Womack

Charles Pelham and Isabella Atkinson were married at 12 o'clock on Wednesday September 22nd 1794 in Caswell County North Carolina by Mr John Womack

Peter born about 10 o'clock in the evening Sunday the 18th day of December 1785

Sarah Brown born Sunday morning about 10 o'clock May 4th 1788

Charles born about 10 o'clock on Wednesday June 30th 1790]

[fn p. 25: Isabella Pelham was still living in Madison County Kentucky on August 22, 1848 when she filed at age 82 for an increase in her pension.]

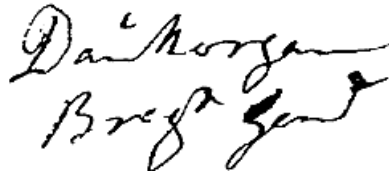
[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per month commencing April 13, 1818 for service as a Major in the Virginia Continental line. Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$600 per annum commencing March 4th, 1848.]

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)]

I do Certify that Major Charles Pelham was appointed an Officer in the Virginia Continental line

the 25th of February 1776 and is now a Prisoner of War: – Given under my hand this 3rd day of April 1783

Dan'l Morgan
Bridr Genl.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Dan'l Morgan" on the top line and "Bridr Genl" on the bottom line.

It appears by reference to the books in this office that Major Charles Pelham has drawn a warrant for 6222 acres. Certificate states "for 7 years service ending the 5th of February 1783."

S/ J. Blagrove [??]

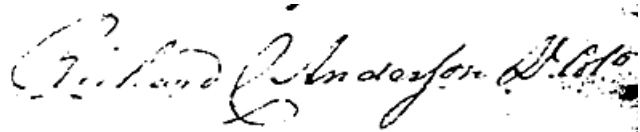
Land Office Feby 20, 1809

[from another file]

This is to certify that Major Charles Pelham was appointed pay Master to the first Virginia Continental Regiment the first day of March 1779 & acted as such till the 15th day of October following –

S/ Richard Anderson, Lt. Col.

Richmond May 24th, 1783

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard Anderson Lt. Col." with a decorative flourish at the end.