

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Leonard Claiborne W3388 Frances Claiborne VA
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Virginia, and County of Chesterfield

On this 14th day of April 1834 personally appeared in open Court before county court for Chesterfield county the court now setting, Leonard Claiborne, now a resident in the County of Buckingham, but was borne & raised in the County of Chesterfield, and was a resident of said County untill after the Revolutionary Ware, aged 73 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, Viz, that he in the year 1779 in the month of April entered the service under Capt. Creed Haskins, Lieutenant John Robertson, the name of the Ensign not recollected, and marched to warebotton church [sic: Ware Bottom Church, E of Chester in Chesterfield County] & crossed James river, Thence to birds to westerfer [sic: Westover] & recrossed the river, thence down the river and crossed & went to Williamsburg & staid some time in the barracks, and from thence we march to York & there was discharged. Col. Robert Goode Commanded the Redgmt. Served two months this tower. again entered the service in the fall 1780, joined a volunteer Company commanded by Capt. Creed Haskins, the subalterns not recollected, but think that John Trabue was one we marched from Chesterfield Court house to Randolphs mill in said County, from thence through Petersburg, Prince George, Nancemond [sic: Nansemond] and the low counties to Smithfield & from thence to Cabbin Point [sic: Cabin Point on James River in Surry County], & from Cabin Point up to the burnt mills from thence to Petersburg and there was discharged. Served two months this tower.

Again, some time in April 1781 entered the service as a substitute for Joel Foulks near black water [Blackwater Swamp], under the command of Capt. Henry Cheatham and Lieutenant John Harmer, if my memory serves me right. Arnold & Phillips [Generals Benedict Arnold and William Phillips] drove us up to Petersburg, there had a fight with the British [Battle of Blandford Hill]. the night before the fight we lay upon our arms. Major Holt prepared us for battle the next day, the 25th of April the battle commenced, and we was taken from where we were then & marched down the river below Pocahontas & prepared for battle. part of the company went down the river & fired on the boats of the British. Then they drove us up to the Court House. On the 26th Col Goode was called out with the militia & met us at Chesterfield Court House, about this time Foulks took his place & I took my own under Capt. Creed Haskins after taking my own place under Capt. Creed Haskins we marched to the [Midlothian] coal pits and crossed the river at Tuckahoo [sic: Tuckahoe], from thence to Richmond, to Bottom bridges whilst there the pressmen tried to press Capt Creed Haskins horse, & then was discharged. served fifteen days as substitute for Foulks & 15 days for myself making one month in the whole time.

also in May 1781 about the 20th of said month, we were calleded out under Creed Haskins Capt. & John Robertson Lieutenant, & Col Goode. we marched to Manchester & formed on the hill & drew some guns. The British then in Richmond, they burnt Rocky ridge warehouse. We marched from there to Col. Cary's, thence by Carys mill while they were burning to swift creek mills & there stationed untill the British left Richmond, & then marched to Petersburg from there to Mackeys Mills & discharged served about six weeks in this tower.

Some time in the summer after Sudberrys defeat [sic: defeat at Sudbury's 3 mi NW of Chesterfield, 23 May 1781], we were again called out under Capt. Archer Walthall [Archibald Walthall] & met at Chesterfield Court House & marched to Manchester and crossed the river, thence down to the brick house [on York River in New Kent County] or West Point, & thence down to Hubbards old Field in

Gloster [sic: Gloucester], and there stationed awhile, then to Middlesex to the Cold spring & returned to Hubbards Old field & thence to Gloster Court House. whilst at Gloster Court House an alarm was given & we were prepared for action. whilst at Gloster court house there was called for two Companies of light inforty [sic: infantry] to go down upon the lines & some riflemen. whilst there the british came for parson price. when we marched to the lines the main army marched back to Hubbards old Field where they were discharged as I was on the lines under Capt. Buck & Major Wicks. They kept me and those with me three weeks longer. Field officers not recollected except Col. Monroe.

Served this tower two months & 21 days.

Served 8 months & 27 days in the whole

He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatsoever, or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state Leonard hisXmark Cliborne [William Goode, pension application S8581, certified that he and Claiborne "were boys together," and that they had served together on the first tour.]

NOTE: On 31 May 1843 Frances Claiborne, 76, of Buckingham County, applied for a pension stating that she married Leonard Claiborne on 27 Nov 1788, and he died 9 Dec 1839. Her statement was certified by Thomas O. Claiborne. The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Amelia County VA on 13 Nov 1788 by "Leonard Cleborne" and Robert Tanner for the marriage of the former to Fanny Tanner. On 4 Nov 1848 Frances Claiborne was said to be 80.