

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Cunningham W6752

Ann Cunningham

f159GA

Transcribed and annotated by Will Graves

rev'd 12/23/12 & 2/5/23

[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' or 'undeciphered' 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. Researchers should not rely solely on the transcripts but should review the originals for themselves. These transcripts are intended as an aid to research, not to be used in lieu thereof.]

[Transcriber's Note: The pages in this file have been badly scrambled. I have taken the liberty of putting the correspondence which was submitted in support of the claim in as near a chronological order as could be discerned (some dates were not decipherable). To help anyone interested in viewing the digital images of the correspondence, I have included in brackets above each item the page number of Fold3.com's digital image of that item. I have also decided to leave the spelling and punctuation as it appears in the original of the correspondence, with bracketed corrections, if I thought it necessary in order to aid the reading of the document. I have included transcriptions of correspondence relating to the war between Georgia and the Creek Indians in 1786-88, because (1) it was in the file, and (2) this file may be the only known source for this correspondence. Most of the period documents relating to Lt. Col. Cunningham contained in this file are copies of the originals. When I think the originals were actually in the file, I've added images of those documents.]

[p 7]

State of Georgia Elbert County }

On this Seventeenth day of September in the year of our Lord 1838 personally appeared before Thomas Johnston one of the Justices of the Inferior Court in and for the County aforesaid Ann Cunningham (widow) a resident in Elbert County aforesaid – Aged Seventy Six or Seven years who being 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 Act of Congress passed July the 7<sup>th</sup> 1838 entitled an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows – That she is the Widow of John Cunningham of the County aforesaid deceased the twelfth of March 1829, who was Mayor [Major]<sup>1</sup> and lieutenant Colonel in the old Revolutionary War – She says she became acquainted with him the aforesaid John Cunningham some two or three years previous to their marriage which took place the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1781 from her first acquaintance with him, which was passing, he was in Militia Service acting with grade of Mayor in the State of South Carolina of which we was both then Citizens Aberville [Abbeville] District – she cannot at this time of life recollect all the officers which he served under to the best of her Recollection and Sources of good Information, he served with General Pickens [Andrew Pickens], General Green [presumably Nathanael Greene] and Colonel or General Clark [Elijah Clark also spelled Elijah Clarke] the battles he was engaged in I cannot recollect all – but believe he was in the Battle at the Cowpens<sup>2</sup> in South Carolina as Mayor of Militia<sup>2</sup> which was on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January 1781 – the most of his Services was in the State of South Carolina till the Sege [Siege] of Augusta<sup>3</sup> in Georgia where he Served under Colonel Clark, which was some time in the month of April 1781. I

<sup>1</sup> Throughout the documents in this file, the rank of major is spelled mayor. In most instances I've edited it to 'major.'

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_camden.html](https://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html)

<sup>3</sup> Siege of Augusta (second/Clarke) [May 22-June 6, 1781] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

have good reason to believe that he entered into the Service of his Country at or near the beginning of the Revolution, from my acquaintance with him I know he was most of his time in the Service until the War was ended he resided in the State of South Carolina where he first entered the Service he volunteered under my knowledge and all his services, She further declares that she was married to the said John Cunningham late of Elbert County Deceased on the 10<sup>th</sup> day of August 1781 that her husband the said John Cunningham died on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of March 1829 the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794 – viz. at the time above stated –

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me

S/ Ann Cunningham, X her mark

S/ Thomas Johnston, JIC

[p 4: Certificate given by F. B. Cunningham that the veteran's widow, Ann, died March 19, 1849 in Elbert Co., Ga. survived by Franklin and John Cunningham and Elizabeth Wanslow [Winslow?], her children.



[p 5: On September 17, 1838 in Elbert County Georgia, Franklin Cunningham made oath that the family record is a true copy of the family record of John Cunningham of said County who departed this life March 12<sup>th</sup>, 1829.



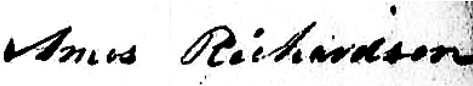
[p 11: Family Record:

John Cunningham and Ann Davis was married in the year of our Lord 1781 August the 10 <sup>th</sup> Day	
Elizabeth Cunningham	born February 20, 1783; married __ Wanslow (or Warnslow)
Franklin	August 14, 1784; in 1838 living in Elberton
Johnson	February 14, 1784; died Aug. 11, 1809
Joseph I. or T.	March 11, 1788; died Sept. 18, 1809
James S.	March 9, 179_; died Dec 29, 1824
John A.	December 14, 179_(illegible) ]

John Cunningham and Ann Davis was  
 married in the year of our Lord 1781 August  
 the 10<sup>th</sup> Day ~~in the County of Elbert~~  
 Elizabeth Cunningham was Born the 20<sup>th</sup> Day  
 of february 1783  
 John Blair Cunningham was Born the 14<sup>th</sup>  
 of August 1784  
 Johnson Cunningham was Born the 14<sup>th</sup> of  
 february 1786  
 Joseph I. Cunningham was Born the 11<sup>th</sup> of  
 february 1789  
 James S. Cunningham was Born the 9<sup>th</sup> of  
 february 1789  
 John A. Cunningham was Born the ~~10<sup>th</sup>~~  
 State of Georgia Elbert County february

[p 61]  
 Georgia, Elbert County}

Personally appeared before me Barnabus Barron one of the Justices of the peace in and for the County aforesaid Amos Richardson<sup>4</sup> of said County and after being sworn on oath saith that he became acquainted with Colonel John Cunningham (late of Elbert County deceased) in the year 1781 sometime in the month of April at the Sege of Augusta in Georgia with the British. That the said John Cunningham was then and there acting in the Grade of Major under Col. Elijah Clark of Georgia and continued in service during the Sege at which time was marched to Clark's Fort in Georgia. I remained in service with Major John Cunningham under Colonel Clark (as above) until some time in the month of November at the same year during which time I had perfect knowledge of said Cunningham serving in the Militia in the Defense of his Country he further saith that he was acquainted with him the said Cunningham in Elbert County Georgia until his Death – Sworn to and Subscribed before me this the sixth day of September 1838.

S/ Barnabus Barron, JP  
 S/ Amos Richardson  


[p 57]  
 Georgia Elbert County} Personally appeared before me Howel Smith one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County Mary Northern and after being Duly Sworn on oath Saith that she was acquainted with Colonel John Cunningham (late of Elbert County Deceased) at the beginning of the old Revolutionary War that the aforesaid John Cunningham entered into the Service of his Country about the beginning of the War & Continued in Defense of his Country until the war ended, the officers under whom he served, time and places of battles that he was engaged in I Cannot Call to mind at present – but that of long cane in South Carolina. I know he was engaged in that battle – the appellations the said Cunningham bore was Major through part of my knowledge of him in the Militia or troop Service the rest of my acquaintance with the aforesaid Cunningham until the war ended he acted in the grade of Colonel – under my Knowledge his Services was mostly Rendered in the State of South Carolina and

4 [Amos Richardson S31932](#)

Georgia – Sworn to and subscribed the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1838  
Before me S/ howl smith, JP

S/ Mary Northern, X her mark

[p 63: On September 22, 1838, in Elbert County Georgia, Catherine Tramell gave testimony substantially identical to that given by Mary Northern as set forth above. She signed her affidavit with her mark.

[p 59]

Georgia, Elbert County: Personally appeared before me Zachariah Smith one of the Justices of the peace in and for the said County Richard Gully of said County and after being sworn sayeth that he the said R. Gully was at the Battle at the Cowpens in South Carolina in the old Revolutionary War in the year 1781 – that he there and then saw Col. John Cunningham of Elbert County Deceased in revolutionary Service under Genl. Morgan [Daniel Morgan], acting in the Grade of Major and further saith that the said Cunningham was one actively employed in opening and bringing on said Engagement. Sworn to and subscribed before me this ninth day of January 1840.

S/ Z Smith, JP

S/ Richard Gully, X his mark

[p 69]

Georgia of Elbert County } Personally appeared before me Horatio Goss one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County Amos Richardson of said County and after being sworn – Saith that about the first of April in the year 1781 he the said Amos Richardson became acquainted with Colonel John Cunningham of Elbert County Deceased – at the Sege of Augusta in Georgia, then and there in the Revolutionary Service, under General Elijah Clark – acting at that time in the Grade of Major. I remained in service with said Major Cunningham under Genl. Clark from the time above stated until sometime in the month of November following – at or about which time I was Discharge – leaving said Cunningham still in the Revolutionary service. Sworn to and subscribed before me this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of January 1840.

S/ H. J. Goss, JP

S/ Amos Richardson

[p 79]

State of Georgia, Jackson County } S S

Be it known that on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1846 Before me Abner Wills a Justice of the Peace in and for said County personally appeared Henry Anglin<sup>5</sup> a Revolutionary Pensioner of the County aforesaid, who being first duly Sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following Statements. That he was personally acquainted with John Cunningham who was a Major Commandant in Col. him Dooly's [John Dooly's] him Regiment and subsequently a Lieutenant Colonel of Colonel Elijah Clarke's in the time of during the War of the Revolution. That he was a very active and efficient Officer, constantly in service of his Country as a Militia Officer until Peace was consummated with the British, and the Enemy was driven from the Country. That the said John Cunningham married in the time of the Revolutionary War, a relative of deponent's wife by the name of Ann Davis now Ann Cunningham if in life a resident of Elbert County Georgia. Deponent was under the Command of Major Cunningham at the last Seige of Augusta and the said Cunningham was afterwards in many skirmishes after the Indians with deponent. And as he deponent understood and believes was Lieutenant Col. under Col. Elijah Clarke a tour over the mountains after or chasing the Indians and continued troublesome about which deponent was a volunteer at Savannah Georgia under Genl. Wayne

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5 [Henry Anglin S31521](#)

[Anthony Wayne] as will appear from his Declaration now on file. At this late period deponent is unable to describe each tour of duty and fire [?] the definite length in either grade of the said Cunningham Services but can with satisfaction of his own Knowledge State that from the year 1779 about which time deponent entered Service under the command of said Cunningham until the 1783 he said Cunningham in all did at least as much as two years Service as a militia man, Refugee & Citizen Soldier.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above mentioned before me in presence of Abner Wills, JP  
S/ John H. Kilgore

S/ Henry Anglin, X his mark

[p 9: On March 17, 1851 in Elbert County Georgia, Franklin Cunningham a resident of said County and state gave testimony that he is one of the surviving children of Ann Cunningham widow of John Cunningham a Lieutenant Colonel in the war of the Revolution and a pensioner of the United States at the rate of \$175 per annum; that his mother died March 19, 1849.



Franklin Cunningham

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[p 68]

Georgia of Elbert County: Personally appeared before me Zachariah Smith one of the Justices of the peace in and for said County Franklin Cunningham and after being sworn saith that the old official letters Enclosed in pack marked No. 1 – these letters that was found among the papers of Colonel John Cunningham late of said County Deceased after his Death. Sworn to and subscribed the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1838.

S/ Franklin Cunningham

[p 26 (other images of the same letter appears on p 24 and p 26 but the quality of the image is no better)]

“ [indecipherable location, looks like “Lackies” or “Suckies” or “Jackies”] March 11<sup>th</sup>  
1781  
Sir

You will with the Men under your command make as soon for the settlements nigh Ramsours [?] and be at that place on or about the twentieth day of this instant. You will take such provisions as may be necessary for your Men and Horses giving proper thought [?] for the [indecipherable line of text due to a fold in the paper] such South Carolinians and Georgians as may fall within your knowledge.

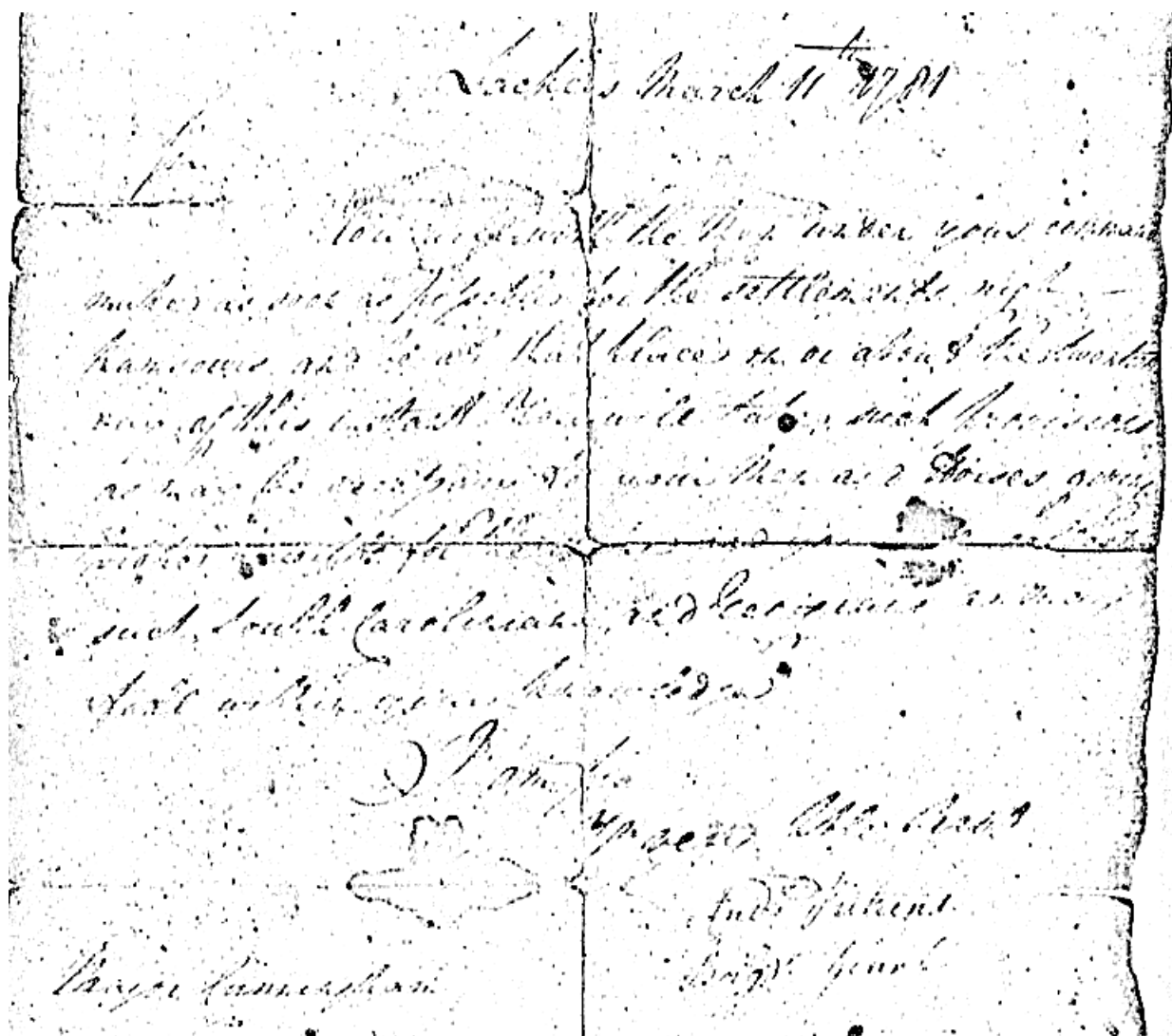
I am Sir

Your Hble Servt.

S/ Andw. Pickens [Andrew Pickens]

Brigadier General

Major Cunningham”



[p 135 (image 250 in Ancestry)]

"Maj. Cunningham 17<sup>th</sup> March '81

"Davidson's 17<sup>th</sup> March 1781

Dr. Cunningham

[The text is largely indecipherable due to faded ink, tears in the paper and holes in the paper. The letter is signed by Jas Jackson. In it he states: "The General not having arrived from Mecklenburg.....Cornwallis lies still at New Garden this side of Guilford he is very scarcely provisioned his Men are allowed but a quarter ration[?] of flour & the same quantity of Beef, a day. Our Army are plentifully [?] supplied from Halifax and Virginia—Rawdon is advanced to Rocky [?] Creek in my Opinion to draw the attention of those County's from Cornwallis.

God bless you

S/ Jas Jackson"

[p 132]

"Camp 12 miles North Rutledge's Ford Saluday [sic, Saluda River] 22<sup>nd</sup> [?]<sup>6</sup> March 1781

Dear Major/

I am to Inform you that I am this far on my way I would wish to wait but find it Impracticable. I must Earnestly Entreat of you my dear friend to let me know-- the Circumstances of Matters in full or to Come on with all the Men you can with all Speed. If you find that there is any possibility of Our Succeeding from the face [?] of Matters, Don't delay my Dear friend as the whole of Our Country Depends on Our Success and your Approach will Answer Essential Service. Several of our friends is under Sentence of Death and it is probable that we may Stay the Execution -- therefore Let no Trifling Matter put a Stop to your Coming-- but as Soon as a Horse can Come Let me know by Express without Delay -- am now fixed for a March and shall Rely on you -- I am Dear Sir your Very Humble Servant.

S/ Elijah Clark"

Camp 12 Miles North Rutledge  
Ford Saluday -  
92<sup>nd</sup> March 1781

Dear Major/

I am now to Inform you that I am this far on my way I would wish to wait but find it Impracticable. I must Earnestly Entreat of you my dear friend to let me know -- the Circumstances of Matters in full or to Come on with all the Men you can with all Speed. If you find that there is any possibility of Our Succeeding from the face of Matters. Don't Delay my

<sup>6</sup> The date looks like "92<sup>nd</sup>" which, of course, it cannot be. Then the question becomes what is the mark before '2<sup>nd</sup>'? Could it be '1' in which case the proper suffix would be 'th' not 'nd'? I have encountered instances of the use of the improper suffix and it is possible the writer meant to date the letter the 12<sup>th</sup>. Could the mark be a corrupted 'ye' in which case the date of the letter would be 'Ye 2<sup>nd</sup>'? For what it is worth, I'm inclined to believe the date is the 22<sup>nd</sup> with the writer having been very sloppy in writing the initial '2.'

Dear friend as the whole of our  
Country depends on our Success, and  
your Approach will Renew our Essential  
Service. Several of our friends is under  
Sentence of Death and it is probable  
that we may stay the Execution —  
therefore let to this very Matter put  
a Stop to your coming —  
but as soon as a Horse can come  
let me know by Express without  
Delays we are now fixed for a March  
and shall Rely on you —  
I am Dear Sir Your Very Humble  
Servant ————— Elijah Clark —

[p 91]

To Lt. Col. Cunningham  
Com'g the Militia at Spirit Creek  
Col. Cunningham 29 Dec. '81

[p 92]

Head Quarters Augusta 29<sup>th</sup> December 1781

Sir

You will please to order an Officer and Eight men on horse back immediately to proceed with the Letter and pack horses to General Greene's Camp and to return as soon as possible, they are to come by the River road and keep their Route Secret as they will probably meet further orders on their way up or directions where to join our Camp.

By order of the Governor

I am Sir your Obedient Servant

S/ Peter Deveaux, DC

to

Lt. Col. Cunningham

Com'g the Militia at Spirit Creek'



Head Quarters Augusta 29<sup>th</sup> Dec<sup>r</sup> 91

Sir

you will please to order an Officer and Eight  
men on horse back immediately to proceed with the  
Letter and pack horses to Gen. Greenes Camp and to  
return as soon as possible, they are to come by the  
River road and keep their Rout secret as they will  
probably meet further orders on their way up or  
directions where to join our Camp. —

by order of the Governor

I am Sir your Obedt Serv<sup>t</sup>

Peter Dureau DC

[p 84]

“To Col. Cunningham 31 Jan. '82 [1782] No. 8 To Coll. John Cunningham in Camp at Beard's Place”

[p 85 is a portion of the whole letter transcribed below]

[p 86-7]

“Sir

On Receipts of These Orders You will DisCharge The men and Order The Officers of the Different Companys to meet the 9<sup>th</sup> day of Next month Richard Wood Place with the one half of Their Company every man to be Armed and Horsed and Thirty days Provisions and Those men That have not horses The Officers belonging to their Company must furnish them Our of Their Own Companys Horses, I Think every five or six men had better have a pack [?]

As the Governor has Issued Orders for every Officers to make Out their pay Roles [sic, rolls] I expect the Officers are mostly in Camp, I have Inclosed paper for to make Out the pay Roles I desire every Officer set Down and make Them Out imidiately, Commencing from the I left this Country Till we returned [bottom two lines of text undeciphered] [p 87] at Augusta all the men. That was On duty at That time, The officers will also make Out pay Roles for every Tower [sic, Tour] of Duty since when men Were Drafted and Out on Command, I have Inclosed a form for the officers to make out their Pay Roles you had better assist the officers in making out their Pay rolls and bring them Down to me when you come as they must be the returned to me immediately.

Inform the Officers that they must not fail meeting at Woods with the one half of their men & the Provisions by the time appointed I am obliged to join General Pickens by some time next morning every man that is Warned and does not meet with arms & Thirty days Provisions may rely on He will

suffer & that severely.

Your Humble Servant

31<sup>st</sup> Jany. 1782

S/ E. Clark

In Obedience of His Orders you will dis-  
charge the men and Order the Officers of the  
Respectable Companies to meet the 9<sup>th</sup> day of  
Next month. Richard Lee I believe with the  
An half of their Company may be to be  
Armed and Allowance Thirty days Provisi-  
ons and then more that have not horses.  
The Officers belonging to their Company  
must furnish them but of their own  
Companys horses. I think every five or  
six men had better have a pack  
As the Governour has Issued Orders for  
every Officer to make out their pay Roles  
I suspect the Officers are mostly in Camp I have  
Actual paper for make out the pay Roles I  
desire every Officer set Down and make  
them out immediately. I am ever your  
Obedient Servant  
E. Clark

at Augusta all the men that was on duty  
 at that time The Officers will also make  
 out pay rolls for every piece of (C) (C) (C) (C) (C)  
 when you (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C)  
 come (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C)  
 The Officers to make out their Pay rolls  
 you had better send the Officers in making  
 out their Pay rolls and bring them  
 down to me when you come as they must  
 be returned to me immediately —  
 Injoin the Officers that they must <sup>not</sup> fail  
 meeting at Woods with the Core half of  
 the men & the Provisions by the time  
 appointed I am obliged to their Genl  
 Orders by your letter next morning very  
 soon that is within (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C) (C)  
 arms & thirty days Provisions may rely  
 on I shall supply it that surely —  
 I am your Obedt Servant —  
 1<sup>st</sup> March 1782 Col Clark

[p 136]

“My Dear Colo.

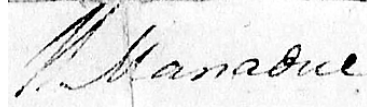
3<sup>rd</sup> March 1782

I Just Mention a few words to you—Begging of You to Send the Gorgett [?] for Capt Prince, I  
 Expect to Set out Tomorrow—the Colo. Clark has Wrote for you begging the favour of you to come up.  
 If you should not Come up this Evening pray send it by Butler. If you should pray bring it with you—  
 as I shall at his Request have it at his father's.

I have no more to Add. Only the Colo. Intends Starting to Camp on Thursday next.

I am Sincerely Yours,

S/ W. Manadue



Col. Cunningham”

[p 138]

“3<sup>rd</sup> March 1782

Dear Colo.

I am Just Arrived from Augusta and shall be Extremely Glad to see you Near as I have something of Notice to Relate to you to Tedious to Mention here--

I have sent you an Express Directed to the Genl & I Beg my Dear Sir that you will Hurry off a man with It it fast and soon as you possibly Can as Matters of Consequence is Inclosed which I shall Relate to you—Therefore I beg you will not Omit this Service.

I am Sir with Every Respect your Humble Servt.

S/ E. Clark”

[p 93]

“Publick Service

To

Lt. Col. John Cunningham

Express

[p 94]

14<sup>th</sup> of March 1782

Dear Sir

Yours of Yesterday I received by Mr. Lee [?] The Genl. Is gone but May have left the Necessary orders about the Flower [sic, flour], with Lieut. Findley the Officer of the Blockhouse—had you previous to my going up last to the Blockhouse, or while I was there acquainted me with your want of a Waggon to carry the Flower, I could have secured one for that purpose, but now I doubt it being in my power. Therefore you had Better send Pack horses this day for the purpose of carrying it to the Beaver dams tomorrow. Because I expect our orders will be to March punctually from the Beaver dams on Saturday Morning, therefore ought to be there the evening Before.

I am Sir your most obed't Servt.

S/ Robert Anderson

Col. Cunningham”

14<sup>th</sup> of March 1782  
Dear Sir  
Yours of Yesterday I received by M<sup>r</sup>. Die.  
The Gen<sup>l</sup> is gone but may have left the Treasury.  
Orders about the Powder, with Lieut. Pringle the  
Officer of the Blockhouse had you previous to my  
going ~~down~~<sup>up</sup> last to the Blockhouse, or while I was there  
acquainted me with your want of a Wagon to carry the  
Powder. I could have secured one for that purpose, but  
now I doubt it being in my power. Therefore you had  
better send Pack-horses this day for the purpose of carry-  
ing it to the Beaver-dams to morrow. Because I expect  
our orders will be to March perpetually from the Beaver-dams  
on Saturday Morning. Therefore ought to be ~~there~~ there the  
evening before I am Sir your most obed<sup>t</sup>. Serv<sup>t</sup>  
P. Anderson  
Col. Cunningham

[p 23]

"Long Cane 4<sup>th</sup> April 1782

Dear Sir/

I Received yours of the 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Johnston and thank you for the news, which I hope is true—I have sent you by the bearer six pounds of powder and 8 or ten of led [sic]--I wish you to be careful of it as it is scarce and hard to be got—and would Recommend you to keep a good lookout [word obliterated] your frontier—the letter to Col. Clark you will pleas to send by the first safe oportunity [sic]--

I am Dr. Sir

your Humble Servt.

S/ Andw Pickens" [Andrew Pickens]

Dear Sir

Long Lane 4<sup>th</sup> April 1782

I received yours of the 2<sup>d</sup> by Mr Johnston and thank  
you for the news, which I hope is true - I have sent  
you by the bearer six pounds of powder and 8 or ten  
of lead - I wish you to be careful of it as it is scarce  
and hard to be got - and would recommend you to  
keep a good look out for your frontiers - the letter  
to Col. Clarke you will please to send by the first  
safe opportunity -

I am Sir

your most humble

Servant

Edw. Pickens

[p 128]

"Dear Sir

I Received Your Letter Safe to Hand and I am much obliged to you for your intelligence, I should've rote [sic, written] to you by Mr. Barnett But I expected you was Over the River & Barnett would not promise to go over, we have done but little yet the Confiscation Bills have been [indecipherable words] but have not yet gone through. I beg if any should happen that you would give me the earliest Intelligence you possibly can. I also beg you would order a General Muster on Monday next.

I am Sir with due Respect Your most Humble Obedient servant

S/ E. Clarke

29<sup>th</sup> April 1782"

Dear Sir  
I Received your Letter safe to Hand and  
I am much Obliged to you for your Infor-  
mation, I should have told you by Mr. Barnitt  
But I respected you were above the River & Barnitt  
Wood not Permitted to go on, we have done  
but little yet. The Confederation bills have been  
Laid out But have not yet gone through  
A Bill of Army should I suppose that you  
would give me the earliest Intelligence you  
Possibly can. I also beg you would Order  
a General Meeting on Monday next.  
I am Sir with due Respect Y<sup>r</sup> most Obedt<sup>t</sup> Servant.

C<sup>o</sup>. Clark  
29<sup>th</sup> April 1782

[p 112]

“Savannah 15<sup>th</sup> July 1782

Dear Sir/ I have not had it in my power [sic, power] to write you till this time but now have the pleasure of informing you that on the 10<sup>th</sup> of Inst we got possession [sic, possession] of the town and that the whole [sic, whole] of the British troops sailed down to Tybee Island [sic Tybee Island] where they continue at this time but expect them to sail from that place every day the Cheat of the marchants [sic, merchants] have Continued in town who have great Store of Salt and all kind of goods which the Inhabents [sic, Inhabitants] may get for produce [sic, produce?] on good terms, as to purchasing negroes it is out of my power as there will be none [sic, none] sold on this quarter the english [sic, English] have Caned [?] all they could get with them to the amt. [sic, amount] at Least between 4000 or 5000 which which will prevent us from selling any at all.

I am Sir your very Humble Servt.

S/ E. Clark

Col.

Cuning Ham [sic, Cunningham]

PS I should have wrote Mr. Thos. Carter but expect he is gone it not Set him see what I wrote you.”

Savannah 15<sup>th</sup> July 1782

Dear Sir, I have not had it in my power to write you till this time but now have the pleasure of informing you that on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Inst we got possession of the town and that the hole of the British troops laid down to Liberty where they continue at this time but prevent them to sail from that place every day the Cheat with the merchants have continued within who have great store of salt and all kind of goods which the Inhabitants may get for produce on good terms as to purchasing negroes it is out of my power as there will be none and on this quarter the English have could all they could get with them to the amount at least between 4000 or 5000 which will prevent us from selling any at all

I am si your very Humil<sup>d</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

Cats

E. Clark

Cuning Ham

ps I should have wrote Mr Gho's cartage but I have it in some it not but thin see what I wrote you

[p 102]

12<sup>th</sup> of Decemr. 1782

Be Glad you will order the Different Compy's in this County to meet at beard Spring on tuesday the 24<sup>th</sup> of this Instant, with their arm and Accoutrements in Good order not forgetting Capt. Dugla[missing, possibly "Duglass" for Douglas?] pray let the order Issue as Soon as possible.

S/ Elijah Clark, Col.

Col. Cunningham"



19<sup>th</sup> of Decem<sup>r</sup> 1784.  
Be glad you will order the different Comp<sup>ts</sup> in  
this County to meet at Beard Spring on Tuesday  
the 21<sup>st</sup> of this Instant, with their arms and  
Accoutrements in good order, not forgetting Capt. Duane  
pray let the order come as soon as possible.  
Elijah Clarke Col.  
Col. Cunningham

[p 33]

“Georgia,

[No. 471]

These are to certify that John Cunningham as a Citizen & Major in Refugeeship is entitled to nine hundred acres of Land, as a Bounty, agreeable to an Act and Resolve of the General Assembly passed at Augusta the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> of August 1781. As per certificates Colonel E. Clarke.

Given under my Hand at Savannah the 28<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord 1784.

S/ P. Houston

Attest: S/ D. Rees, Secy.

State of Georgia:

These are to certify, that John Cunningham was an inhabitant of this State prior to the Reduction thereof by the British Arms, and was a Refugee from the same, during which time he cheerfully did his duty as a Major and Friend this and the United States.

Given under my hand, this second day of February 1784.

S/ Elijah Clarke, Col.

Elijah Clarke Col.

By his Order

S/ H. Freeman”

[p 36]

“State of Georgia:

This is to certify, that John Cunningham has steadfastly done his duty, from the time of passing an Act at Augusta, to wit, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of August, 1781, until the total Expulsion of the British from this State; and the said John Cunningham cannot, to my knowledge or belief, be convicted of plundering or distressing the Country; and is therefore under the said Act, entitled to a Bounty of 250 Acres of good Land, free from taxes for 10 years.

Given under my hand, at Savannah the second day of February 1784.

S/ Elijah Clarke, Col.

By his Order  
S/ H. Freeman

“To the Honorable the President and Executive Council now sitting in Augusta.

This Petition of John Cunningham humbly showeth that your petitioner served as Captain in the Second Georgia Continental Battalion near four years. Your petitioner therefore hopes your Honorable Board will Grant him 690 acres of Land in the reserve and your petitioner will ever pray &c.

S/ John Cunningham”

[p 48]

“State of Georgia

To the Honorable the Presiding and Members of Council, now sitting in Augusta for the purpose of granting Lands in the two new Counties of Franklin and Washington.

The Petition of John Cunningham a citizen of the State aforesaid

Sheweth

That your Petitioner is entitled to 500, and 535 Acres of Land, as a Bounty for his Services pursuant to the certificates hereunto annexed: That your Petitioner is desirous of taking of the said Lands in the County of Washington.

May it please your Honorable Board to be grant to your Petitioner 535 and 500 acres of Land in the County of Washington in two Surveys on the Right aforesaid, and on his Complying with the terms mentioned in the late Land Act; and your Petitioner will pray.

S/ John Cunningham”

[p 53]

“I Certify that Captain John Cunningham of the Second Battalion of Continental Troops for the State of Georgia, served in that station for three years, & that he is thereby entitled to the Continental and the State Bounty of Land.

Given under my hand at Augusta this 19th July, 1784.

S/ S. Elbert, Brig. Genl.”

[pp 55-56] [Indents paid John Cunningham during the Revolution by the State of Georgia.]

[p 108]

[This is a partial letter—it is torn in places with missing text as indicated]

“Sept. \_\_\_ [text torn and missing] 1786

Dr. Sir

I rec'd yours by Mr. Davis, in which you mentioned you had ordered for the first Divisions, to hold themselves in readiness to march at a minutes warning, which is very rite—Major Fasmith [?] has gone to Charleston, concerning of armes and has not returned, wheather he will get any or not I cannot say

In regard of the men all going Horse back, there is no such orders if the men makes it their choice to ride at their own risk, I think it will be [text obscured] they law says no Horse shall be paid for only the Horses that goes in the [text torn and missing]

Horses Service—neither is their any Horse to be [text torn and missing]

Except it is for the light Horse, nor not then without [text torn and missing]

orders from the Governor--[indecipherable word] of your Embodying [text torn and missing]

their will be a great many Defaulters, if you do it [text torn and missing]

matter how Soon you began upon them—you [text torn and missing]

twenty men out of the Second Division to Mr. Has [text torn and missing]

[text torn and missing] more where you think necessary, and [text torn and missing] Commissary to furnish [text torn and missing] lion—the time is [text torn and missing] that it is Impossible for to send to Capt. Saxton to have his men here in time to go on this Expedition—the talks that McGilbeary & the Chiefs of the Nations has sent to the Governor, is for every man to move of the South Side of Ogeechee by the last Day of this month, on them terms the Indians are not to go to war but if not they are Determined to fall upon the Inhabitants which convinces me their will be a war—you will keep out spies one from Mr. Harrington's another from some other Station that you shall appoint, Mr. Harrington will go from his Station if you think he will do—if the Spies cannot find themselves Horses you will be oblige to have Horses Employed for them—you will receive orders to march by the last Day of this month, if not before—I w'd wish you to go, if you can make it convenient, I think one or both of the other field officers had better Stay. I am Sir your Huble Servt.

S/ Elijah Clark”

[p 27—is the printed form commission dated May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1786 whereby Edward Telfair, Esq., Captain General, Governor of Georgia appoints John Cunningham a Colonel of the upper Battalion of the Wilkes County Regiment of Militia.]

[p 104]

Dear Sir

I Rec'd yours by Mr. Carter which informed me of Great Confusion in your parts for which I am very sorry to hear, as that is the case you will cause some Fortification to be Immediately erected at the most Convenient places for the benefit of the Inhabitants as you all the best Judge where shall leave it to your self, Am very happy to hear that you have stopped the Inhabitants from [indecipherable word or words] I hope you will continue so to do, you will Likewise Cause to be stopped all horses arms Ammunition and buy cattle that may be offered to be carried out of the State. Our frontiers are much Distressed we have been very busy this few days, have followed the Indians as far as Oakmulgee killed 2 and recovered some horses which they had stole on Tuesday night last shall send to Augusta immediately shall wright everything particular day on Shall be better able to inform you after I get an answer from there – And Sir with every Respect yours &c.

S/ Elijah Clarke, Colo.  
at Benj. Knoxes  
12<sup>th</sup> May 1786

Col. Cuningham

Dear Sir  
I rec<sup>d</sup> yours by Mr. Carter which inform'd me of  
Great Confusion in your parts for which I am very sorry  
to hear, as that in the Case you will cause some  
Fortification to be immediately erected at the most  
Convenient place for the Benefit of the Inhabitants  
as you are the best Judge when I shall leave it to  
your self, Am very happy to hear that you have  
stop'd the Inhabitants of your District I hope you will  
continue so to do, you will likewise cause to be  
stop'd all horse arms Ammunition <sup>and</sup> beef & cattle  
that may be offer to be carry'd out of the State  
Our Frontiers are much Disturb'd we have been  
very busy this few days have follow'd the Indians  
as far as Cahonagee kill'd two and recover'd some  
horses which they had stole on Tuesday night last  
I shall send to Augusta immediately I shall write  
every thing particular you shall be better  
able to inform you after I get an Answer from  
them — am Sir with every respect yours &c

Co. J. Cunningham

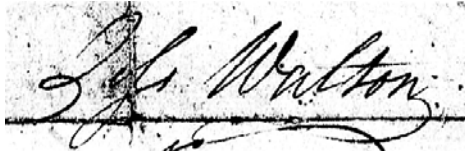
Elijah Clarke Col<sup>l</sup>  
at Benj. Knoxes  
12<sup>th</sup> May 1786

[p 105]

Tugaloo 7<sup>th</sup> September 1786

Dr Col this is [to] Inform you that we have certain Inteligence that there is a Large party of Creeks  
Now on the frontier Which mean to Strike from Tugaloo to the Oconee the Settlement is now in the  
Greatest Confusion and is about to leave the place and I Expect to be Commander in Chief of the  
District by Tomorrow—for I don't think that there will be five men left Except the Small Guard You  
Sent You'l [sic, 'you will'] therefore please to Send on a Reinforcement Imediately If you mean to  
protect the place under the Comm'd of a proper Officer We have Large Crops and if it is left It will be  
Great Support to the Enemy You'l also please to let me know punctual What I Can Depend on for I  
mean to Stand If possible tho the Whole Support must Come from you You'l please to let me know by  
the Barer I have also Inteligence that the Creek Indians have Taken three forts at Cumberland—I have

nothing more Extra but With Esteem am Dr. Colo. Your Most Obdt --  
S/ Jess Walton



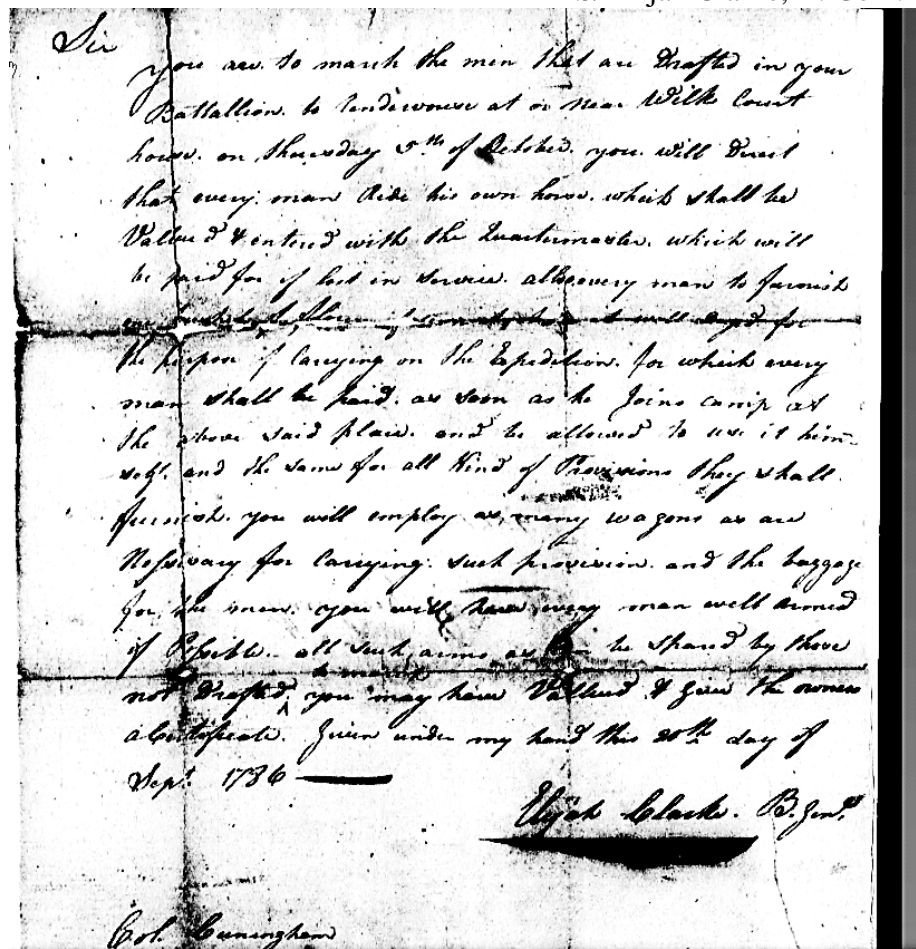
Please to Send Back Express if the men is Not Ready to March.  
Colo. John Cunningham”

[p 89]

“Sir

You are to march the men that are Drafted in your Battalion to Rendezvous at or near Wilkes Court House on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of October. You will Direct that every man Ride his own horse, which shall be Valued & entered with the Quartermaster which will be paid for if lost in Service. Also every man to furnish one bushel of flour [balance of sentence indecipherable] for the purpose of Carrying on the Expedition, for which every man shall be paid, as soon as he Joins camp at the above said place, and be allowed to use it himself, and the same for all kind of Provisions they shall furnish. You will employ as many wagons as are Necessary for carrying such provision and the baggage for the men. You will have every man well armed if possible all such arms as can be spared by those not Drafted to march you may have Valued & give the owner a Certificate. Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September 1786.

S/ Elijah Clarke, B. Genl.”



Sir  
you are to march the men that are Drafted in your  
Battalions to Rendezvous at or near Wilkes Court  
house on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> of October. you will Direct  
that every man Ride his own horse, which shall be  
Valued & entered with the Quartermaster, which will  
be paid for if lost in Service. also every man to furnish  
one bushel of flour for the purpose of carrying on  
the Expedition, for which every man shall be paid, as  
soon as he Joins camp at the above said place, and be  
allowed to use it himself, and the same for all kind of  
Provisions they shall furnish. you will employ as many  
wagons as are Necessary for carrying such provision, and  
the baggage for the men. you will have every man well  
armed if possible. all such arms as can be spared by those  
not Drafted, you may have Valued & give the owner  
a Certificate. Given under my hand this 20<sup>th</sup> day of  
Sept. 1786  
Elijah Clarke. B. Genl.  
Col. Cunningham

[p 109]

“Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> [year obscured and illegible, probably 1786]

Sir

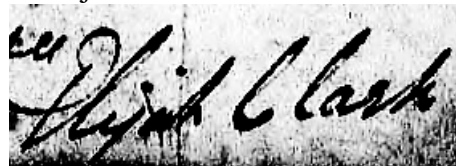
Yours by Mr. Graves Dated 2<sup>nd</sup> [could be 24<sup>th</sup>] of this Instant I rec'd on last monday [sic] their [sic] was two men killed in Greer [could be Green] within three hundred yards of Winslett Fort on Richland Creek, about eight Days ago their was one man killed near Greensborough [sic, Greensboro] three Days afterwards their was two Wounded near the same place; last friday Capt. Fidlin [?] at the Skull Shoals got two men wounded, lost seven guns and all their Horses & Close [sic, clothes]; the men were a gather [sic, gathering] fodder & had left their Horses & guns which caused the Indians to get them. Col. Barber with a small reconitering [sic, reconnoitering] party; was over the Oconee River and was fired on by about forty Indians; killed three men & himself wounded this happen the 16 of this Instant. I got the alarm about one O'clock in night; & that night a [line of illegible text where the paper is folded] men; and went & buried the dead; and then pursued the murders [sic, murderers]; but finding their was not the least probability of over taking them, I took another rout [sic, route] & accidently happen to fall on a large Trail coming into the Inhabitants, which I pursued until I came up with them, before they got in. Their we had a very sharpe [sic, sharp] Ingagement [sic, engagement] for about two hours; and Guns continued for five hours some times very sharpe [sic] firing; the attack happen [sic, happened] in at [illegible word/words] had a rough as every I said Joining of a Cainbrake. We lost six men killed on the Ground and Eleven Wounded one of them dead since; and I expect two more will Die.

I am Satisfied we killed 25 or 30 Dead on the Ground of them; and have every reason to believe we killed a good many more. In short we give them a compleate [sic] Drubing sic, drubbing]; the men behaved in [?] a masing [amazing] spirited and had they a been on open ground, I am shure [sure] very few would a made their escape. We took eighty seven large packs from them besides Blankets kettles and a number of others things. We have every Reason to think their was upwards of a hundred Indians. In regard of the Stations on your Quarter you'll Erect them where you think fit; if there is none but Walton's family it is not worth while to keep a guard their but he sure to keep up the others Stations as you mentioned in your letter. If you'll send here I will give you an order to Washington for 25 lb powder and Lead according and 25 Guns for your Battallion [sic]. I hope you'll doe [sic, do] every thing for the frontiers on your Quarter in your power. I much doubt their making a house [?]; tho I shall hear from thim [sic, them] tomorrow & if they are like to make me I shall go down.

I am Sir Yours &c.

To Col. Cunningham

S/ Elijah Clark”

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored, textured background. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Elijah Clark".

[p 130]

“Camp at Shoulderbone 15<sup>th</sup> October 1786

Sir/ You will move the Troops Under your Command as Soon as possible to Joine this Brigade, you will Imediatly Send a Subaltern and 25 Men as a fatigue party to Clear your Incampment I am to Request of you not to Suffer any person to Cross the River without a pass from Under my hand.

Sir I have the Honor to be  
your Humble Servt.

Col. Cunigam [sic] S/ John Twiggs

NB You will order the fatigue party to Bring with them 8 or 10 axes. JT”

[p 118]

“Sir

Agreeable to orders from his honor of the Governor to me directed, you are hereby ordered to muster your Battalion as soon as you conveniently can & make a return of every man capable of bearing arms, together with the number of arms in your Battalion to me, immediately, -- I am Sir

Your Humble Servant

S/ E. Clarke, B. Genl.

24<sup>th</sup> April 1787

Col. Cunningham”

[p 98]

“Sir

You will immediately draft your Militia into three divisions, one of which is to horsemen the other two to be ready to do duty on foot whenever called upon, you will send 25 men with proper officers out of your first division into Franklin County to be under the direction of John Gorham Esqr. to do a Tour of 15 days duty from the time they arrive at Mr. Gorham's & to be relieved by men from your own Battalion & to furnish their own provisions, you will also send 25 men officered as aforesaid to the Station on Broad River, above the Scroll Shoals, to be furnished & relieved as the others, until you receive further Orders from me. I am &c.

S/ E. Clarke, B. Genl.

19<sup>th</sup> June 1787”

Col. John Cunningham

Sir

you will immediately draught your Militias into three divisions, one of which is to horsemen the other two to be ready to do duty on foot when ever called upon, ~~that~~ you will send Twentyfive men with proper Officers out of your first division into Franklin County to be under the direction of John Gorham Esq<sup>r</sup> to do a Tour of fifteen days duty from the time they arrive at Mr Gorhams & to be relieved by men from your Own Battalions & to furnish their Own provisions, you will also send Twentyfive men officed as aforesaid to the Station on the river above the Scull Shoals, to be furnished & relieved as the others, untill you receive further Orders from me. I am &c.

Col. John Cunningham

E. Clarke Colonel  
19<sup>th</sup> June 1787

[p 100]

"Sir,

In consequence of Orders received from his honor the Governor, you will allow no Scouting party of yours to cross the Oconee River or act of instantly against the Indians; but keep up your Stations as usual. I expect you will hear from me again in a very few days.

I am Server, Your most obedient

S/ Elijah Clark, B. Genl.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1787

N. B. Send a return of your Battalions as I wished to make a General return. Col. Cunningham"



Sir  
 In consequence of Order issued from his Honor  
 the Governour. you will allow no straggling  
 party, of yours to cross the River  
 or act offensively against the Indians;  
 but keep up your Stations as usual  
 I expect you will hear from me again in a  
 very few Days.  
 I am Sir  
 your most obedt  
 Obedt Servant  
 July 9<sup>th</sup> 1777  
 I send a detachment of your Battalion  
 as I wish to make a good return  
 Col Cunningham

[p 114]

“Tugalo 5 July 1787

Dr. Sir take this Opportunity to Inform you that we have long looked for assistance from your Battalion  
 but finding none have Come to hand the people have got out hope of Receiving any, and from that  
 circumstance and some late news from the Nation handed in by Timothy Barnet and also that no Relief  
 is to Coming from you have set the Settlement to Breaking the families on the Move this morning and  
 Several others preparing You'l therefore please to hurry on assistance as soon as possible Otherwise this  
 place will shortly be evacuated. I have the Honor to be your Most Obedient and Very Humble Servant.

S/ Jesse Walton”



[p 116]

“Dr. Sir: This is a short notch of a letter from Timothy Barnett Dated August 16 '87 he mentions that  
 he is convinced from their present disposition they will commit hostilities; therefore think it highly  
 necessary for the Inhabitants on the frontiers from the mouth of River Altamaha upwards to be prepared  
 to meet them; as it is very uncertain where they will Strike the first blow; but undoubtably where they  
 expect the least resistance, from every circumstance he says he has reason to believe that they will be  
 outrageous in a very short time; as some of the lower Towns have been to Pensacola and returned with  
 a large supply of ammunition.

Sir you will not neglect keeping up the Stations at Waltons & Harringtons.

I am For yours &c.

S/ Elijah Clarke  
Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> '87

This in Last  
Col. Cunningham”

[p 123 To Curnol John Cunnungham Commander Yr favour of the [undeciphered] Last Waltson  
Battalion

[p 124]

Sir After my Compliments to you & your family I main [mean] to Inform you that I Came from the  
OConeys [Oconee?] Last Night & Discovered signs there has Not been A man over the River Since the  
Battle We luck [look] for them Every Moment Cp Clarks Men Never Came to Me There was a  
Sergeant & 7 Men at Capt. fargus on Sunday Last I Don't Expect I ever will get any Assistance Do  
pray Let Mr. Wattson first Lieutenant have at The Least 8 guns and what powder & lead you can Spare  
as I am Sure the [sic, they] will be in this Week as there is Nothing to hinder them I want you if you  
will be so Kind as to write to Stokes [?] As he Keeps the Men at His Fort and saith that he will protect  
them so if you write to Mr. Stokes it will alter the Case Send a Good Supply of powder & lead and I  
will put you to no troble [trouble] as I main [mean] to do what lieth in my power To put you to the  
Least troble no more but I but I Remained Sir your most obedient Servant

October 3<sup>rd</sup> 1787

To Serve Samuel Nelson Cp [Captain ????]



[p 120]

“Sir

In consequence of murder being Committed by the Indians on Tugaloo, You will send 10 men  
out of your Battalion to Harrington's Station for 20 days, with 20 days provision and your Receipt shall  
be taken for so much of their [indecipherable words]; You will keep up that station until further orders:  
I am very sorry to hear that your Quarter ordered out by Major Ragland is not gone on and hope that  
you will not fail in send the detachment [?] immediately to him at Knox Fort.

I am Sir Yours &c.

S/ Elijah Clark, BG  
Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> '87

NB You'll not fail in sending three men to Harringtons Station immediately. S/ E. Clark  
Col. Cunningham”

[p 126]

Colonel John Cunningham Wilkes

Sir

In consequence of this late mischief being drawn up on Togola [Tugaloo] him You will  
immediately send an officer and 15 men to Col. Isaac in Franklin County. They will continue there as a  
Guard for fifteen days. I am Sir your &c

S/ Elijah Clark BG  
Jany. ye 1<sup>st</sup> 88

Col. Cunningham

[p 96]

“February 12<sup>th</sup> 1788

Dr. Sir

I intended to have been at your General muster Saturday, but this day my horse fell with me and hurt my leg worse than ever man was before that I do not expect to ride for some time. I intend to have a large Scout to rendezvous at the Scroll Shole [shoals] on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Instant. You will therefore send me 100 men officered and in order for a Scout of 15 days with provision &c. to said place on said day. I intend to go myself if I am able. I expect you [to] get them [as] volunteers if not by draft or otherwise. You may inform the men of the Act of Assembly to authorize any three men to find one to Serve during the war, to be clothed and armed by those who substitute him. The federal Constitution is Ratified by this State have no further Acts since I wrote you. I am your humble &c.

S/ Elijah Clarke”

D. Sir February 12<sup>th</sup> 1798-

I intended to have been at your genl  
Musters Saturday, but this day my <sup>horse</sup> fell  
with me and hurt my leg, worse than  
ever man was before, that I do not expect  
to ride for some time. I intend to have  
a large Scout, to rendezvous at the Scull  
Shole on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, you  
will therefore send me one hundred men  
officerd and in order for a Scout of 15  
days with provision &c. to said place  
on said day. I intend to go myself if  
I am able. I suspect you get them Volenters  
if not by Draft or otherwise, you may  
inform the men of the act of assembly to  
authorize any three men to find out  
to serve during the war, to be cloathed  
and armed by those who substitute him  
the act of assembly is satisfied by this  
State have no further Act. Since I wrote you  
I am your friend &c  
Elijah Clarke

[Veteran's widow was initially pensioned at the rate of \$175 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836, for her husband's service as a Lieutenant Colonel in the service of the state of Georgia for 7 months during the revolution. Her pension was subsequently increased to \$550 per annum payable from March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831 and ending March 19, 1848. The increase in her pension was attributed to her husband having served in the Georgia militia for 16 months as a Major and 10 months as Captain]