

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Bernard Clemons (Clements) W9792      Sally Clemons      VA  
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Before me the subscriber a judge of the General Court and one of the Circuit Judges of the State of Kentucky, this day [15 June 1819] personally appeared Bernard Clemons, a citizen of the County of Franklin, and state of Kentucky aged about sixty four years, and made on oath the following statement & declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made for soldiers in the continental army of the revolution, to wit,

That about the 9<sup>th</sup> of August in the year 1778 he was enlisted in Charlotte county and State of Virginia, by Capt. Edmond Reed [Edmund Read], for three years in the dragoons, that he was attached to the 2d regiment, as he thinks in the dragoons, of the Virginia line, commanded at first by Colo. [John] Nelson, and after Nelsons death, commanded by Colo. William Washington. That he continued to serve out the three years, and was honorably discharged, near Williamsburg, the discharge being signed by the Marquis De LaFayette. Which discharge being carefully kept was lost or destroyed so that he cannot produce it, nor has he any evidence in his power other than is here transmitted. That being old, and infirm, & having a family he is unable to support himself, owing to his poor and indigent circumstances, being possessed of no estate, he stands in need of the aid of his country as provided by law.

Also William Goare being duly sworn did depose and say that he was acquainted with the applicant Bernard Clemons before and during the Revolution, that he knows said Clemons served as an enlisted soldier in Capt. Reeds company of Dragoons for the space of about three years. That he frequently heard of the said Clemons enlistment for that period and he saw him in the service often during the time, & knows his absence was about that length of time. That he heard of the discharge (not only of Clemons) but) of the rest who had enlisted for three years, and shortly after the said Clemons with the rest of his comrades in the same neighborhood returned home. That he lives now a neighbor to the said applicant, and knows that he is in such indigent and reduced circumstances as to require the aid of his country, now provided by law.

State of Kentucky  
Franklin Circuit October Term 1820.

On this twenty eighth day of October One thousand eight hundred and twenty personally appeared in open Court being a Court of Record for the said Circuit and held within the said County of Franklin Bernard Clemens aged Sixty three years and upwards resident in the said County of Franklin in the said Circuit who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his Oath declare, that he served in the Revolutionary War as follows to wit. that he in Charlotte County Virginia in the year Seventeen hundred and Seventy seven enlisted as a private Soldier to serve three years into Captain Edm'd. Reeds Company of Light Dragoons belonging to Colo. William Washington's Regiment in the Virginia Continental line. That he was marched to Fredericktown in Maryland, thence to Pennsylvania to the main Army from thence to South Carolina, where he joined the Army under General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] and served at the Southward until some time previous to the battle of Yorktown in Virginia [Siege of Yorktown, 28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] when he returned with the Troops to that place and was then discharged about two weeks before the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. That he was in the following battles to wit Germantown [11 Sep 1777], Gates defeat [defeat of Gen Horatio Gates at the Battle of Camden SC, 16 Aug 1780], and Guilford Court House [15 Mar 1781]. That he has received a pension certificate from the United States under the Act of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 No 13,798.

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift sale or in any manner disposed of my property or

any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of an act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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. That his occupation is a farmer; That he is unable to work much on account of Rheumatism. That he has no family but a Wife and two children Nancy aged twelve years and William fifteen years. The latter of whom is an invalid confined a great part of his time by Rheumatic pains.

Franklin Circuit Ct, October Term 1920. Sworn to in Open Court a Schedule of the Estate and property of Bernard Clemens. Att. F. J. Blair C.F.C.C.

2 Cows \$12.50 each \$25.	1 Bed value \$20. . . . .	\$45.00	
4 Chairs \$2.	1 Pot & Kettle \$4.	1 Chest \$2.50. . . . .	8.50
1 Axe \$1.	1 Table \$3.50.	1 frow \$1.50. . . . .	6.00
1 Drawing Knife \$1.	1 Cupboard \$16.	1 Wheel \$3. . . . .	<u>20.00</u>
	Dollars		79.50

September 28<sup>th</sup> 1820      Bernard Clemens

Barnard Clement is entitled to the proportion of land allowed a Quarter master's Sergeant of the Continental line for three years service  
Council Chamber/ Nov'r. 18<sup>th</sup> 1818

J. W. Pleasants

Peter V. Daniel

A Warrant No. 6,284 for 200 acres issued the 20<sup>th</sup> Nov'r. 1818 to Barnard Clement and was delivered to

A Copy from the Records of the Virginia Land Office, Teste, S. H. Parker Reg. L. Office

[The following is among the [Revolutionary bounty-warrant papers in the Library of Virginia.](#)]

I Bernard Clement of the County of Franklin & State of Kentucky do on oath declare that on being discharge from the service of the United States & from Col. Wm. Washingtons Regiment the said Col. Washington gave me a Certificate that I was entitled to a Military Land Warrant for one hundred & fifty or two hundred acres which of those quantities I cannot now recollect – that I never applied for said warrant neither have I ever sold, assigned or transferred the said Certificate in any way and that the same is torn up and lost & can not be found.

[signed] Bernard Clements

NOTES:

On 20 Feb 1835 Bernard Clemons (as he signed) applied to transfer his pension from Kentucky to Indiana, having moved to Marion County for the following reason: "He is aged and infirm and wishes to reside with his children who have removed from the state of Kentucky to the state of Indiana."

On 28 Oct 1843 Sally Clements, nearly 80, of Marion County IN, applied for a pension stating that she married Bernard Clements in March or April 1784, and he died on 22 July 1838 or 1840. The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Charlotte County on 22 March 1785 by Bernard Clements (as he signed) and Mathew Williams for the marriage of Clements to Sally Goare. She stated that their oldest child, Allen Clements was born less than a year after their marriage, followed by Catherine or Kitty; William; Jane; Sally; Oston; and Nancy. The last mentioned – Nancy Thornton – "about forty years old," stated that her father, "Barnett Clements," died on 22 July 1838. A Treasury-Department document gives the date of death as 21 July 1838. Nancy Thornton stated that her brother William was dead but would have been about 52 or 53, and that he had been a "Soldier in Captain Churchs Company in Colonel Richard M Johnsons Regiment in the late war."