

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Walter Clopton S3165

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee } S.S.

Wilson County }

On this 26<sup>th</sup> day of October 1833 personally appeared, out of court before the Worshipful Jacob B Lasater, Elisha C Stephens John Smith acting Justices of the peace in and for the county of Wilson aforesaid Walter Clopton Senior a resident of the county of Wilson aforesaid aged about seventy six years and nine months, (he being wholly unable to ride to court, it is ordered by the court that his affidavit to this declaration be taken at his residence before a comptant tribunal and authority and certified accordingly) Who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his corporal oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the U.S.A. under the following named officers and served as herein stated, that he was drafted a private soldier in Goochland county in the State of Virginia in the year 1775, but was not mustered into service untill 1779 that he entered the service at [blank] and was attached to the company under the command of Captain Joseph Leak [probably Josiah Leak], (the names of the subaltern officers affiant cannot recollect) they were marched to Albamarl Barracks and stationed there as guard over the provisions previously taken from Saratoga, they were not attached to any regiment nor to the main army but remained in service three months and were discharged by Capt Leake at [blank] on the day of [blank] 1779. [See endnote.] That he was again drafted a private soldier in Goochland Cty Va. on the [blank] day of [blank] 1780 and were rendesvoused at Richmond, at the place of rendezvousing Affiant volunteered a private soldier under Capt Johnson from York County, Lieut Mann & Ensign Barry from Chesterfield County Va. for four months among the regulars on the [blank] day of August 1780 the Adjutant of the regiment to which they were attached was Frederick Woodson and Muhlingburgh [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] was the commanding General (the names of the other officers affiant cannot recollect.) he marched to the Isle of Wight, Cabbin Point [sic: Cabin Point on James river in Surry County], Petersburgh [sic: Petersburg] &c. &c. were in no battles and honourably discharged at Petersburgh Va. on the [blank] day of Dec'r. 1780. That he was again drafted a private soldier in Goochland county Va. and entered the service in the month of January 1781 under Captain Joseph Leake, the subaltern officers not recollected, the regiment was commanded by Colonel [Nathaniel Garsden] Morris, they were rendezvoused at Cabbin Point, and served six weeks after marching to many places not now recollected and were discharged at the same place Cabbin Point on the [blank] day of [blank] 1781. The he was again drafted a private soldier in the county of Goochland aforesaid some time in the month of 1781 and was mustered into service at Richmond Va. and placed under the command of Capt Strakly Tolls [sic: Stockley Towles], and attached to the Reg't commanded by Col Pleasants and after a while was placed under the Command of General LaFayette, we were in a skermish at Osburn's [sic: Osborne's] E of Chester, 27 Apr 1781] at which place the American Shipping were blown up, a skermish at Cedar Point, and at Shirley, we were in service that tour three months and were honourably discharged at Richmond on the [blank] day of [blank] 1781-2 by Capt Tolls & Pleasants. After we were discharged Gen'l. Layfayette joined Gen'l. Wayne's division [Anthony Wayne's Continentals, 10 Jun 1781] & both armies marched up against Lord Corn Wallis [sic: Cornwallis]. Your affiant was born in Goochland County state of Virginia in Rockcastle neighbourhood on James River on the 25th day of Dec'r. 1756 and lived at the same place untill after the restoration of peace, when he moved to Sumner county Tennessee in November 1803 & from thence he moved to Wilson County in Tennessee & settled himself on Fall creek about sixteen miles from Lebanon where he now resides in January 1805. He is now old infirm and well stricken in years, his memory has much failed him and he cannot recollect the names of the Regular

officers, the Continental & Militia Regiments and the general circumstances of his services. He hereby certifies that he was in the actual service of his country as a soldier of the revolution for eleven months & eleven days, that he now recollects. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the Agency of any State. By time & accident his discharges are lost & destroyed, & he has no documentary evidence of his services

[signed] Walter Clopton Sr

7 Interrogatories:

1<sup>st</sup>. Where & in what year were you born?

Ans'r. in Goochland County in the State of Virginia, Rockcastle neighbourhood on James River on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of December in the year 1756.

2<sup>nd</sup> Have you any record of your age, and if so where is it?

Ans'r. I have my age registered in my large Family Bible which was transcribed from my fathers family record when I went to housekeeping

3rd Where were you living when called into service; where have you lived since the Revolution & where do you now live?

Ans'r. I was called into service in Goochland county Virginia, Remained in that County after the war untill 1803 and since 1805 I have lived in Wilson County where I now live and expect to die.

4<sup>th</sup> How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you Volunteer or were you a substitute.

Ans'r./ I was drafted three times & Volunteered once, and served as a private soldier every time.

5<sup>th</sup> State the names of some of the Regular Officers, where you served, such Continental & Militia Reg'ts. as you can recollect & the gen'l. circumstances of your service

Ans'r. I recollect Gen'l. Muhlinburgh, Col Pleasant Maj Woodson, Gen'l's. Lafayette, Wayne & some others. I cannot particularize any of the Militia or Continental reg'ts and for the general circumstances of my services I refer to my foregoing declaration

6<sup>th</sup>. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service & if so by whom given & what has become of it.

Ans'r. I was discharge by Capts, Leake, Johnson, Tolls & Leake which I have long since lost or misplaced.

7<sup>th</sup>. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighbourhood who can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the Rev'lu.

Ans'r. I am known to a very large circle of my neighbours & acquaintances, all of whom I believe would testify that they would believe me to be a man of veracity & good moral character, but I have refered to the Rev'd. Joshua Lester & Isaac Winston & Allen Harris all of whom have known me ever since I came to this county more than 27 years ago.

NOTE: The passage "provisions previously taken from Saratoga" should probably read "prisoners previously taken from Saratoga." Burgoyne's army was captured at Saratoga on 17 Oct 1777 and kept at Albemarle Barracks from Jan 1779 until Feb 1781. They were under guard by the Convention Army Guard Regiment on Continental Establishment as well as by militiamen from Goochland and other nearby counties.