

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Burgess Clark W2758

[fn45NC]

Transcribed by Will Graves

State of Tennessee, White County

On this 12th day of October 1832 personally appeared in Open Court before the Worshipful, the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for said County of White Burgess Clark a resident of White County and State of Tennessee aged about 69, or 70 years, who first being duly sworn according to Law, doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the Act of Congress passed June 7, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He lived in the State of North Carolina, Chatham County. From the best estimate he can form, it was in the year 1777 that his Older brother, William Clark was drafted in the Company Commanded by Captain James Hearne, the name of the Lieutenant was Roger Griffith. The name of the Ensign he has forgotten. This Declarant was then only 14 years of age, turned into his 15th year, and not subject to military duty: But in as much as his brother was drafted, and was compelled to go, this Declarant had a wish to go with him, and accordingly he became a substitute for Morgan Minter, who had been drafted in the same Company Commanded by the above named Officers. This tour was for three months. Captain Hearn [sic] marched his men to Charleston S. C. where he joined General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. He remained at Charleston until the expiration of his three months – when he received a discharge – but whether it was given by his Captain, by General Lincoln or by whom he does not remember but he thinks it was signed by his Captain, the discharge itself having been destroyed by fire, when his house was burnt near 30 years ago, when he lived in York District South Carolina. The Regiment to which he belonged was Commanded by Colonel Mayburn [sic, Mebane?] from Orange County North Carolina. He also recollects Major O'Neil who held the rank of Major in his Regiment.

His Second tour was also from Chatham County and likewise was three months – and he thinks it may have been three month, or perhaps more, after returning from the first Campaign, that he Volunteered in the Company Commanded by Captain Joseph Johnson – who commanded a Company of drafted men. But the Captain being the half brother of this Declarant he volunteered as above stated. He belonged to a Regiment Commanded by Colonel Collier, and he thinks the Major's name was Sharp. Captain Johnson's Company joined General Gates' [Horatio Gates'] Army – and marched to Campden [sic, Camden]. He was in the Battle which is called “Gates defeat” -- after Gates defeat, this Declarant with the balance of Captain Johnson's company, was stationed at Salisbury North Carolina, and there remained until his time expired. He was discharged at Salisbury, by Colonel Harper who had the Chief Command of the troops there Stationed. His discharge upon this Occasion shared the same fate with his other discharge – i.e., it was lost when his house was burnt in South Carolina.

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 any agency in any State. He has no documentary evidence by which he can prove the foregoing facts nor does he know of any living witness by whom the same can be proved. Sworn to and subscribed the date above.

Answer to the Questions prescribed by the Department

1st He was born, sometime in the year 1763 as he believes – in the County of Goochland Virginia.

2nd He has no Record of his age – the family Bible which Contained it was taken by the Tories when they plundered his father's house during the The revolutionary war in Chatham County North Carolina.

3rd When called into Service he lived in Chatham County North Carolina. From thence he moved to Richmond County N.C. he then returned to Chatham – from there he removed to York District South Carolina – from there, he returned to North Carolina and settled in Lincoln County. From there he removed to the County of White and State of Tennessee where he now lives.

4th He substituted one Campaign and volunteered the other.

5th He knew Generals Lea [sic, Lee], Lincoln and Greene. “The General Circumstances of his Service” he has already stated as fully as he can.

6th He received discharges, as above set forth, and by whom the last one was given, and what has become of them both – has already been stated.

7th He states the names of the following persons to whom he is known in his present neighborhood and who can testify as to his Character for Veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the revolution – Viz. -- William Knowles Esq., Samuel A. Moore, Esq. Thomas Robertson, Colonel David A. Mitchell and the Reverend Ozias Denton and Reverend Abel Hutson and Henry Burton.

He begs leave to add to his Declaration that he served another tour against the Tories of three months in Chatham County this had escaped his recollection. He turned out as a volunteer this time under Captain Alexander Clarke. His Lieutenant's name not remembered – his Regiment was Commanded by Colonel Luttrell [sic, John Luttrell]. He was in an engagement with the Tories on Cane Creek at Lindsey's Mill in Chatham County – here Colonel Luttrell was shot from his horse and killed – he got no discharge this time – the troops were disbanded at the end of three months.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written. S/ Burgess Clark, X his mark

Test: S/ Jacob A. Lane, Clk

By S/ N. Oldham, D. C.

[Abel Hutson, a clergyman, and Henry Burton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[On November 21, 1850, in White County, Tenn., Rhodney Clark, filed for a pension stating that she was the widow of Burgess; that she married him in Richmond County NC on August 14, 1799; that Burgess died in White County on October 22, 1850.]

[This file contains a digital image of the bounty land certificate issued to Rhodney Clark as widow of Burgess.]