

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Byrd Chamberlayne R22

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Fleetwood [illegible word] P.O

Sept'r. 9<sup>th</sup> 1856

Col E. T. Montague

Dear Sir/ At the request of Mrs. Evelyn B. Pollard widow of the late Robert Pollard of King Wm. [King William County VA] who is now at my home, I write you, to inquire what prospect there is of recovering any amount, from the Government of the United States, for services rendered by her dec'd. father Byrd Chamberlayne who was a Lieut in the Navy during the Revolutionary war, and as she has been informed & believes remained in service to the end of the war. Mrs. Pollard informs me that you were employed by her dec'd. husband some years ago to attend to this claim. As she has heard nothing from it since – she is very anxious to know at once, whether she can calculate on receiving any thing from that source, and what are the difficulties in the way of a speedy settlement of the claim? if there is a prospect of recovering any amount? Presuming you have examined into it some years ago, she will be greatly obliged to you to inform her through me, what the condition of the claim is.

I will add that I feel a great interest in the matter as a friend of Mrs. Pollard, who is one of the most amiable persons I ever knew, And who is not only deeply afflicted by the loss of an affectionate husband with whom she has spent so large a portion of her life, but her pecuniary circumstances are such as to render it especially desirable to receive at as early a day as possible whatever may be due to her as one of two only surviving heirs of her dec'd. father.

Mrs. Pollard desires me to present her best respects to you. And with which you will accept the kind regards & esteem of your old friend & brother Alex'r Fleet

NOTE: Byrd Chamberlayne was Lieutenant of the galley *Henry*, then 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant of the brig *Mosquito*. After being captured in 1777 he escaped from Forton Prison in Britain and took command of the brig *Jefferson*. See Chapter 4 The Career of the *Mosquito* in Stewart, R. A. *The History of Virginia's Navy of the Revolution*. 1934.