

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Cornelius Clements ¹ S8218

f26NC

Transcribed by Bob and Mildred Godrey on September 28, 1993 [posted 7/21/09]

revised and supplemented by Will Graves 11/13/14

RECORDS FROM THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES, WASHINGTON, DC.

Pension # S.8218, BOUNTY LAND WARRANT # 7430-160-55

Cornelius Clements

State of North Carolina, Rutherford County

On the 23rd day April 1834, personally appeared in open court before the Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions now setting Cornelius Clements a resident of the United States in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina aged 77* years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following statement in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress *passed* the 7th of June 1832 Sayeth that *by* reason of *Old* age and consequently *loss* of memory he cannot swear to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his memory not less than the period mentioned below and in the following *grades* and for which service he claims a pension.

From the best of my recollection in the winter of 1780 I was drafted under Capt. Gilkey [*Robert Gilkey*] commanded by Col. Hampton [*Andrew Hampton*] we was marched in pursuit of Ferguson [*Maj. Patrick Ferguson*] down Broad River into South Carolina near Thicketty Fort. From there we returned home. This tour was not less than one month. On my return I was ordered on and stationed on the lines in Mumford's Cove where I stayed until my three months was out. In the latter part of the same year I was called again under Capt. James Withrow and Col. Miller [*Lt. Col. James Miller*] and Major Singleton [*probably Major Richard Singleton*]. This was not less than three months. We was first marched down Broad River [from S.W., NC into N.W. SC.] to South Carolina, then across to *Catawba* on the Yadkin [River, Northern N.C.] we was kept moving during this service. Major Singleton who kept the command was very industrious. In the summer of 1781 I served a *tower* [tour] of three months under Capt. Lumpkin [*Ewell Lumpkin*] and Col. Malmandy's [*Francis de Malmedy, Marquis of Bretagne*] command. I was joining the main Army under General Green [*Nathanael Greene*] at the high hills Santee, at which place we made our stand, from that place marched back to Charlotte N.C. where we was discharged. This makes my service Nine months and for which service I claim a pension. I hereby do relinquish every claim to pension except present and declare his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of the state *whatsoever*.

Question 1st *by the Court*: Where and what year were you born.

Answer: From information I was born near Augusta Georgia in the year 1757.

Question 2nd: Have you any record of your age and if so where is it?

Answer: *I have it* from the family record at home.

Question 3rd: Where was you living when called into service? Where have you lived during the Revolutionary war? And where do you now live?

Answer: From the best of my recollection I came to Rutherford County North Carolina in year 1779 and have remained in the same County ever since.

Question 4th: How were you called into service? Were you Drafted? Did you volunteer? or were

¹ BLWt7430-160-55

you a substitute and if a substitute for whom?

Answer: I was drafted and served as above stated three tours 9 months.

Question 5th: State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops where you served such Continental and Militia regiment as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

Answer: I recollect to have served under General Green and Col. Malmandy, Col. Hampton, Col. Miller and Major Singleton. I know we had much trouble and fatigue we was often closely pursued by the enemy. We sometimes rushed them close.

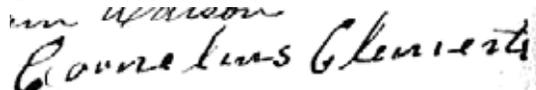
Question 6th: did you ever receive a discharge from the service? and if so by whom was it given and what was become of it.

Answer: In my first two tours I have no recollection that I *rec'd* any. In my last tour I *rec'd* a discharge which there with enclosed.

Question 7th: State the names of some persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify as to your character for veracity and good behavior and you service as a revolutionary Soldier.

John Padgett - William Watson -
S/ T.F. Burdutt, Clk. -

Cornelius Clements

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cornelius Clements". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year of foresaid.

We John Padgett a Clergyman residing in the county of Rutherford and State of North Carolina and William Watson residing in the same thereby certify that we were well acquainted with Cornelius Clements who was sworn to the above declaration that we believe him to be 76 years of age and that he is respected and believed in his neighborhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the Revolution and that we concur in that opinion.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year foresaid,

John Padgett T. F. Burdett - William Watson

And the said court to hereby declare the opinion after the investigation of the matter and after putting the interrogation presented by the War Department that the above named applicant was a revolutionary Soldier and served as he states and the court further certify that John Padgett who has signed the proceeding certificate is a clergyman resident in the County of Rutherford and State of North Carolina and that William Watson who has also signed the same is a resident in the same County and State and is a credible person and that there statement is entitled to credit.

I Theo F. Birdutt clerk of the Pleas and Quarter Sessions do hereby certify that the fore going contains the original proceedings in the matter of the application of Cornelius Clements for pension.

Testimony whereof I have into set my hand and seal of office this
29th day of April 1834. T.F. Birdutt (clk)

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State of North Carolina, Rutherford County of this 16th day of March 1855 personally appeared before me James M. Spratt a Justice of the Peace for and in the County of Rutherford Cornelius Clements a pensioner of the United States residing in the County of Rutherford North Carolina *who being* duly sworn according to law declares he is the identical Cornelius Clements who is a pensioner of the United States on the roll of the State of North Carolina. He makes this

declaration for the purpose of obtaining any bounty land due him by the act of Congress *passed* in February and approved 3rd March 1855.

S/ Cornelius Clements



Sworn to subscribed by me and that I certify that an original certificate in the possession in the following I certify that in conformity with the law of the United States of the War Department Revolutionary Claims 7th June 1832 Cornelius Clements of the State of North Carolina who was a private in the war of the Revolution is entitled to receive 30 dollars per annum during his natural life commencing on the 4th March 1831 and payable semi annually on the 4th of March and 4th of September every Year. Given at the War Office of The United States this 5th day of May one thousand eight hundred and thirty four.

S/ Lewis Cass
Secretary of War

Examined and counter signed

S/ J. L. Edwards

Commissioner of Pensions

And I further certify he is a credible man and I am disinterested.

Jas. M. Spratt

On his 16th day of March 1855

[*Note: The 1860 census of Rutherford County NC wrote that Cornelius had died that year, was 103 years old and in the battle at Kings Mountain. Cornelius was the founder of present day Camp Creek Baptist Church, Union Mills NC.

Bob Godfrey]

[p 10: Very compromised paper that appears to be a discharge reading as follows:

*"This is to Certify that Cornelius Clements
is Dismissed from the Moletia [Militia] of North
Carolina by Serving three Months in South
Carolina in Col. Malmudy's Reigment
Discharged by order of Genl. [illegible]
this 29th of November 1781
Certified this 12th of March 1782*

*S/ Thos. McMurray [?], Lieut."*²

² Thomas McMurray is known to have served in that officer under Capt. Ewell Lumpkin and Col. Malmedy.

[Faded handwritten text on aged paper, likely a military record or pension application. Legible fragments include:]
Cornelius Clements
March 1781
The: Henry Lee

[p 11]

State of North Carolina Rutherford County

This day personally appeared before me a Subscribing Justice of the County aforesaid James Withrow³ and made oath in due form of law that he is and has been personally acquainted with Cornelius Clements during the Revolutionary war with Great Britain and ever since and that [in the] time of said war he James Withrow commanded a volunteer Company and said Clemens [sic] volunteered himself and served a tour under him as a soldier in the year 1780 as well as my recollection serves me but I am not able to state the length of time.

I again went with my Company into what is called the Brian settlement against the Tories the said Cornelius Clements was a Soldier under me I think that tour was in the year 1781.

And in the year 1781 I pursued after Cornwallis when he passed through our country nearly to the North section of North Carolina Cornelius Clements was a soldier in my company but in consequence of old age and loss of memory I am not able to state the length of time of service in any of the tours. Sworn to and subscribed this 12th March 1834

S/ William Davis, JP

S/ J Withrow

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia.]

³ [James Withrow S7945](#)