Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Vachel Clement R21700

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

VA

[Punctuation partly corrected.]

State of Kentucky Hart County Sct.

On this 15th day of August 1833 Vachel Clement a resident citizen of said county aged 71 years last December, personally appeared in the Hart Circuit Court, before the Judge of said court sitting in open court, and being first duly and solemnly sworn according to law, made the following declaration on his oath, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions of the act of congress of the 15th day of May 1828, entitled, "an act for the relief of certain surviveing officers and soldiers of the Army of the Revolution." That he entered the service of the United States in the army of the Revolution, under the following officers, and served as stated below.

He enlisted as a regular soldier in the continental line in the army of the United States, in the County of Pittsylvaniah [sic: Pittsylvania] in the state of Virginia in the month of October, he believed the first thereof in the year 1778, under Lieutenant Gilbert, shortly thereafter he was placed under the command of Lieutenant Holmes, who was also a recruiting regular officer of the United States army, and when he entered the army he was put in the company of an under the command of Captain William Horton, and served in his company until he was discharged. the company of Horton was in the Second Virginia Redgment on continental establishment, commanded by Colonel Freeman; the term of his enlistment was for and during the war, which time he served fully out and was discharged from the service not very far distant from Little York he thinks in March after the Surrender [Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] at that place of the British troops to General Washington having served three years and five months to the best of his reccollection. He was marched from the place of his enlistment in Virginia to Hillsborough in North Carolina, & after remaining there some time, marched with other troops to Guilford courthouse, and was in that memorable engagement fought in March [15th] 1781, in which he received a wound, by having the end of his finger next his little finger on the wright hand shot off with a musket or rifle ball. From guilford courthouse he marched with the other troops of the redgment to which he belonged to the seige of Little York [which began Sep 28], in which he was engaged until the close of the seige and surrender and until March thereafter, when he was discharged near Little York, the name of the place at which he does not reccollect. He was discharged by Captain Horton and received a written discharge from the service, and his enlistment aforesaid fully exonerating and acquitting him from duty under it. His discharge he has long since lost, not having supposed it to be of any value. He does not now and never has received a pension of any kind from the government of the United States, and his name is not on the pension list of any agency in any state of the union. He has no documentary evidence of his service as aforesaid, nor does he know of any witness living by whom he can prove his services or any part thereof; He was born in Pittslvaniah County Virginia [then Halifax County] according to the best information he has from family tradition on the 8th day of December 1762, he has no record of his age. He removed from Virginia in the year 1811, (where he lived after the war till that time) and settled in Shelby county Ky and lived there two years, from thence he removed to Hart County Ky where he now resides, and has for 21 years past. He presumes his name will be found on the rolls in the office of the Secretary of War in the Redgment mentioned and in the company rolls of Captain William Horton.

He is known to many person in his neighbourhood & county who can speak as to his character for truth & honesty and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution. He will mention the names of George T Wood, William Allen, Jesse Craddock Esqrs & Doctr. Hiram D Jett who he will endeavour to procure to depose on the subject. He is now old and extremely poor, and withal diseased with the phthisic and stands in absolute need of the assistance of his country. He hereby relinquishes his claim to

any other and all other claims to any pension or annuity from the government except the one now claimed, he could mention the name of many of the officers with whom he served towit General Washington, whom he frequently saw at the Seige of York, Gen'l. Morgan under whom he served at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse [see endnote], Genl Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] & Major Ryan and others

Subscribed and sworn to the day & year above named. [signed] Vachel Clement

NOTE: Clement's claim was rejected because his name could not be found on any roll, and there was no Col. Freeman. There was also no Capt. William Horton in the 2^{nd} Virginia Continental Regiment. Gen. Daniel Morgan was not at the Battle of Guilford Courthouse.