

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Clement Blackbourn S10388
Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

Alabama State } S.S.
County of Madison }

On this seventeenth day of January, one thousand, eight hundred, and forty, personally appeared before me W. Gravis Bouldin, a justice of the peace, in and for said county of Madison, and State of Alabama, Clement Blackbourn, aged nearly eighty years, who being first duly sworn, according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he entered into the service of the United States, under the following named Officers, and served as herein stated: he entered the service under Captain James Anderson, in Mecklinburg [sic: Mecklenburg] County, in the State of Virginia – that he substituted in the place of William Toone, for a three months tour, he does not recollect how long he was detained in service, but thinks it was about three weeks – does not recollect the month, nor day, but recollects it was in the year 1776. did not march out of the County of Mecklenburg, State aforesaid, where he resided; does not know of any person now living, by whom he can prove the above named services: In February 1779 he march in his own place, being drafted, and served in the Militia a five months tour, he then resided in Mecklinburg County, State of Virginia, was commanded by Captain Charles Clay; the Regiment by Colonels David Mason, and Lewis Burwell, he was marched through the State of North Carolina, by the way of Salisbury [sic: Salisbury], in said State, where the troops were halted for a day or two, and then marched into South Carolina, in the neighborhood of Charleston, where he was in several skirmishes with parties of the enemy and tories; he was in the Battle at Stono [Stono Ferry SC, 20 Jun 1779]; the Army was commanded by Gen'l. [Benjamin] Lincoln. I knew Count [Kazimierz] Pulaski, who commanded a company of troop [sic: Legion of Horse and Foot], I also knew Gen'l. [William] Moultrie. I received my discharge, signed by Colonel David Mason, for this tour of service, which I have lost or mislaid – this last-named tour, I can prove by Walker Fitts, who was a living a few months ago, in the County of Mecklinburg – State of Virginia. In August (the day not recollected) in the year 1780 he was ordered out for a three months tour, in his own place to guard the magazine in Mecklinburg County, State of Virginia, where he then lived commanded by Captain James Hester; the magazine was removed before the expiration of the three months, and as near as he can now recollect was discharged at the end of about two months. In February 1781 (the day not recollected) he was ordered out in his own place, to march to Petersburg, in the State of Virginia, for a three months' tour, and to the best of his recollection, was in the Service about two months, he then, also resided in the County of Mecklinburg, State of Virginia, and was again Commanded by Captain James Hester; the Regiment by Colonel Lewis Burwell, was in no engagement in either of the last-mentioned tours, nor does he know of any person now living, that he can prove the last-named tour of services by. And he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

[signed] Clem't. Blackbourn

Interrogatories propounded to Clement Blackbourn, an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress, passed June the 7 1832 by W. Graves Bouldin, a justice of the peace in and for the County of Madison, State of Alabama.

1st. Where and in what year were you born?

Ans'r. My information is, that I was born, in the City of Lisbon on the 11th February 1760.

2^d. Have you any record of your age, if so, where is it?

Ans'r. I have none.

3^d. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the Revolutionary

- war, and where do you now live?
- Ans'r. I was living in Mecklinburg County, State of Virginia during the Revolutionary War, and continued to live in said County and State until the fall of eighteen hundred & sixteen at which time I moved to where I now live, in Madison County, State of Alabama.
- 4th. How were you called into service; were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a substitute? And if a substitute, for whom?
- Ans'r. I was a substitute for William Toone, in the year 1776. I marched in my own place in February 1779 to the neighborhood of Charleston, State of South Carolina for a tour of five months – which time I served out.
In August 1780 I was ordered, and went out as a guard to the Magazine in Mecklinburg County, Virginia for a term of three months but discharged at the end of about two months. In February 1781 I was ordered out in my own place to Petersburg, in Virginia, for a tour of three months, but was discharged at the end of about two months.
- 5th. State the names of some of the Regular Officers, who were with the troops, where you served; such Continental and Militia Regiments as you can recollect, and the general circumstances of your service.
- Ans'r. I have no recollection of the names of any of the Regular officers, except Gen'l. Moultre, Gen'l. Lincoln, & Count Pulaski. I can at this time, name no general circumstance worthy of remark more than I was in the Battle, at Stono, and in several skirmishes
- 6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so, by whom was it signed, and what has become of it?
- Ans'r. I never received but one discharge, which was for my five months tour, which was given by Colonel David Mason, which discharge is lost
I never received any Commission, I was a common soldier
- 7th. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood, and who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your services as a soldier of the Revolution.
- Ans'r. Philip Dedmore[?], Dr. Alfred Moore, Dr. David Moon, Thomas Pettis, Gabriel Moon. Rev'd. William Crutcher, Nathaniel Lewis –

Alabama State }
County of Madison } S.S. On this fourteenth day of May, one thousand, eight hundred and forty personally appeared before the undersigned, a justice of the peace in and for said county, and state aforesaid, Clement Blackburn, aged eighty years, who being first duly sworn according to Law doth on his oath make the following amended Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the Act of Congress, passed June 7th 1832.

That in the year 1776 he served not less than three weeks – That in the year
1779 he served not less than five months – That in the year
1780 he served not less than two months – That in the year
1781 he served not less than two months – and for such service I claim a pension as a common Soldier, and saith, that, by reason of old age, and consequent loss of memory, he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service, but according to the best of his recollection, he served not less than the periods mentioned above, and that during those periods he was in actual service & was not employed in any civil pursuit, and further saith, that the reason he has not made an earlier application for a pension, was that he was under the impression, that the Act of Congress passed, June the 7 1832 embraced only American born citizens
[signed] Clemt Blackburn

NOTES:

On 16 July 1840 John Lewis, 79, of Mecklenburg County [possibly pension applicant S10249], stated that he had been a neighbor of Clement Blackburn during the Revolutionary War and on one occasion walked with him as far as Roanoke River on his way to serve in the South.

On 23 Sep 1843 Francis Blackburn, executor of the estate of Clement Blackburn, stated that Clement Blackburn lived in Limestone County AL for about five weeks before his death. Another document states that Clement Blackburn died on 7 Feb 1843 leaving the following children: Thomas Blackburn; Francis Blackburn; Gray Blackburn; Sally, wife of William Clark; Alfred Blackburn; Maria, wife of Edward B. Vaughan; Sidney Blackburn; and Alexander Blackburn. The same document listed the following grandchildren who were the children of Samuel D. White and his late wife Mary Blackburn White: Cornelia, wife of a Mr. Batey; Jane, wife of a Mr. Word; William White; Maria White; and Samuel D. White. The children and grandchildren lived in the states of Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, and Arkansas.