

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension application of Jonathan Clark S2438

fn39NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 11/18/10

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Also, the handwriting of the original scribes often lends itself to varying interpretations. Users of this database are urged to view the original and to make their own decision as to how to decipher what the original scribe actually wrote. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. Folks are free to make non-commercial use this transcript in any manner they may see fit, but please extend the courtesy of acknowledging the transcriber—besides, if it turns out the transcript contains mistakes, the resulting embarrassment will fall on the transcriber. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading fails to catch all misinterpretations. I welcome and encourage folks to call those and any other errors to my attention.]

State of Kentucky – Christian County

On this 3rd day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Christian now sitting Jonathan Clarke a resident of said County and State – aged Seventy three 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 act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1832 – That he entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein Stated.

According to a Register of his age [he] was born in the year 1759 in the County of Bedford (now Campbell) State of Virginia – his Father removed from that [county] to Surry County (now Stokes) North Carolina in the year 1773. In the Spring of 1776 James Shepherd raised a Company of volunteers were called Minute men I joined said Company as a Volunteer and was elected a Lieutenant therein and I was and at all times turned out whenever there was a call and this was very often as there was a great many disaffected men in that part of the Country – Martin Armstrong was Colonel of the Regiment of Militia, Joseph Williams Lieutenant Colonel & Joseph Winston Major.

Colonel Bryan or Bryant [sic, Samuel Bryan] a Tory from the forks of the Yadkin [River] was the first man that attempted to embody men under the authority of the King in our quarter, and did raise men and join the British. I believe he commanded in 1776 – our Company was often called on to suppress them in which I always took part as Lieutenant of the Company after that Colonel Roberts a Tory from the Hollow of the Yadkin raised a Company. We were often called on to suppress him – and when the Tories had embodied themselves and going on the Catawba Roberts and his men marched to join them – Colonel Wm Shepherd [William Shepherd] with all the Militia that we could raise went in pursuit of them and overtook some of them and fired on them; they dispersed – we took some of them prisoners – the Tories at Ramsour's or Ransel's Mills was Defeated before Roberts had joined them and himself and his men were dispersed – and after this Col. Ferguson [sic, Major Patrick Ferguson] with his British forces & Tories was marching through the upper part of South Carolina and North Carolina we marched and joined Colonels Cleveland [Benjamin Cleveland], Shelby [Isaac Shelby] & Campbell [William Campbell] – I was then sent back and was not in the Battle of King's Mountain I joined the Army the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> day after and marched with the Army to Moravian town – this was in October 1780.

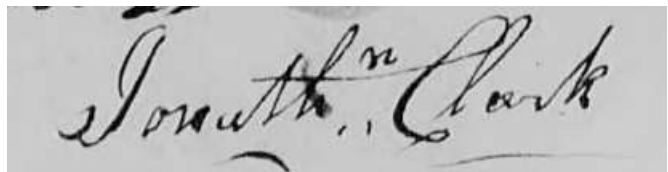
About this time Colonel Wright a Tory raised two or 300 men and was defeated near the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin – we then heard of Lord Cornwallis marching through the upper parts of the State in a direction toward Virginia – we here heard of the Death of General Davidson [William Lee Davidson] at Catawba River – we collected together I joined Captain Edward Lovell [or Lowell?] and marched near the Shallow Ford of the Yadkin there we met General Pickens [Andrew Pickens] flying before Cornwallis – we joined – and when he halted – I with two other men was sent out to reconnoiter the British-- we came in sight of them as they left the Moravian town – we returned to General Pickens and then pursued them gathering together all the militia we could as we went – Cornwallis marched through North Carolina, then turned his course towards Hillsboro then to Guilford Court House, we pursued him so closely that we had several small skirmishes on the way I was in two of them, one at Alamance Creek – one at the Reedy fork to of Haw River, we had some men killed at those places – I was not in the Battle of Guilford – but was in hearing – this I believe was in March 1781 --.

The next general campaign I was in was in the fall of 1781 – there was a party of British lying at Wilmington. General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] gathered the Militia and marched against them. I was attached to Captain Daniel Wright's Company with my Company. Captain Wright's Colonel Smith's Regiment of Horse on the Little Pee Dee [Pedee River] – I continued in that Regiment the whole campaign and was in several small engagements we surprised Col. Bryan, the Tory, below Wilmington on the South side of Cape Fear River – the same day we attacked a Picket of the British Stationed in a Brick House near the River opposite Wilmington – we had one man killed – Major Grimes and myself of said Regiment was sent with about 60 men further to the to South we were attacked by the British & Tories in the night lost one man killed & six wounded – myself slightly wounded – lost ten horses including my own – mine was appraised to 60 pounds North Carolina Currency – I never received one cent for him – this was about the time Cornwallis surrendered at Little York – I always and on all occasions Volunteered, found my own Horse & fire arms – sword – there was Tories who mostly lay in the Hills of South Carolina Colonel Cunningham and Fanning who often committed great depredations in the Country, also a Captain Coile or Coyle-- a noted Tory who would Sally out in small parties to kill & plunder the Inhabitants – I often went in pursuit of them – it is impossible at this late period for me to tell the number of times – the length [or] term positively that I was employed in the Service – not having kept a Record thereof – but of this I am certain that from the year 1776 until the year 1783 I was more than half that time in Service – that I had a written commission as Lieutenant from Col. Martin Armstrong – but have lost it.

In the year 1784 I removed to South Carolina and in 1803 from thence to Christian County Kentucky where I have ever since resided.

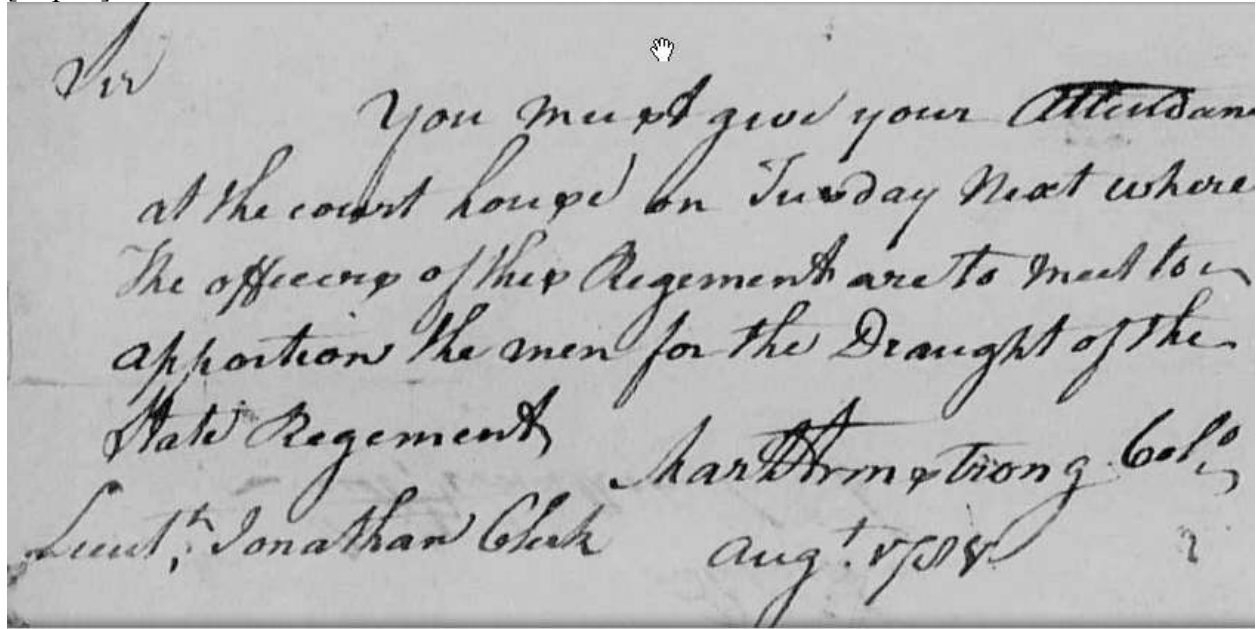
He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any State in the United States.

S/ Jonathan Clark

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Clark". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with a large initial 'J' and a long, sweeping underline.

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.  
[standard certificate of veracity and service given by John Bobbitt, clergyman, William Gray & Joseph Clark, neighbors]

[fn p. 5]



Sir  
You must give your Attendance  
at the court house on Tuesday next where  
The officers of this Regiment are to meet to  
apportion the men for the Draught of the  
State Regiment  
S/ Mart. Armstrong Col.  
Lieut. Jonathan Clark Aug. 1798

Sir

You must give your Attendance at the courthouse on Tuesday next where the officers of this Regiment are to meet to apportion the men for the draft of the State Regiment

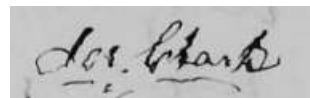
S/ Mart. Armstrong, Colo.

Lieut. Jonathan Clerk

The deposition of Joseph Clark taken before D. F. Hays a Justice of the Peace in and for the County & State aforesaid – in Support of the Claim of Jonathan Clark for a Pension under the act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832. The said Deponent being of lawful age and being first duly sworn Depose & saith that he is the youngest Brother of Jonathan Clark the applicant herein and that he was too young to be in the Service as a Soldier; that from the year 1778 or 1779 [illegible word] the taking of Cornwallis in October 1781 my Brother Jonathan Clark, neglected all other business except that of a Soldier of the Revolution that during that time he Served in the Company of Captain E. Lovel & Daniel Wright, that during the term he regularly Served as Lieutenant and that he was generally known and acknowledged as such during the whole time he was in Service that owing to the Situation of his Father living near the Center of the Company his House was generally the place of rendezvous for the Company I therefore had a good opportunity of knowing that my Brother acted as Lieutenant. He further States that Col. Martin Armstrong was the Colonel commandant of the County and that he has seen and [illegible word] the notice to Jonathan Clarke as Lieutenant and that he was well acquainted with the handwriting of Colonel Armstrong and that he believes the notice to be in the handwriting of Colonel Armstrong and that my Brother Jonathan Clarke entered the Service of the United States at the different periods as set forth in his Declaration always as a Volunteer and further this Deponent saith not.

September 2, 1833

S/ Jos. Clark



Jos. Clark

Commonwealth of Kentucky Christian County Sct

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a justice of the peace in and for the County and Commonwealth aforesaid Jonathan Clark who being duly sworn deposeth & saith – that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his Services but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades and makes this as an amended Declaration to one made by him in the County Court of Christian on the 3rd day of September 1832 – That all the Service he rendered was as a Lieutenant and the reason of his remaining and acting as a Lieutenant for the whole period of his service was this that he was frequently transferred from one company to another – Captain James Shepherd raised a standard company of minute man or North Carolina Militia who were to act at all times in case of emergency, that sometimes Captain Shepherd did not go out in which case the command devolved on this Deponent – and that sometimes the company would be divided each of us taking the command of part and marched in different directions in search of the Tories and guarding the frontiers from the depredations of the Indians and to prevent the Tories from communicating with them – this Deponent would therefore state that from his best recollection he served not less than three years in actual Service in the company commanded by Captain J. Shepherd in which he always served as Lieutenant – that in the Company commanded by Captain E. Lovell he served not less than one and a half months – also as Lieutenant that in the company commanded by Captain Daniel Wright he served not less than three months he further states that he is positively certain of having rendered actual service during the War of the Revolution for more than three years during the years 1776 & 83 inclusive. He would name William Gray, John Bobbitt, Henry Myers, William Barnes, Colonel F. P. Pennington, Matthew Wilson, Thomas Barnett, Colonel S. D. B. Stuart and many others of his near neighbors by whom and who can testify as to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution. He would also name the Honorable C. Lyon his Excellency Governor John Breathitt, the Honorable B. Shackelford who will testify as to the same –

Given under my hand this 23rd day of April 1833

S/ Jonathan Clark

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$320 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for two-year service as a Lieutenant in the North Carolina militia.]