

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Lewis Field S30413

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. 2 Feb 2014.

State of Kentucky } Sct

Ballard County }

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1844 Personally appeared in open Court Lewis Field before me S. W. Upshaw now sitting in open Court he being a resident of Ballard County and state of Kentucky aged eighty years and about ten months 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 of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the virginia state Line under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated

That he entered the service of the United States in Capt Benjamin Roberts [pension application S31343] company in Major George Slaughters [George Slaughter W8729] Battallion or Corps as it was then familiarly called That he entered service by enlistment two or it may have been three years in Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] County in the State of Virginia and was mustered into Service at a Large frame house called the Red house which was Maj Slaughters head quarters. That he cannot state the precise date of his enlistment but knows it was in the year 1779 in the latter part of the Summer or first of the fall probably in sept. or oct. of that year. That Joseph Sanders [sic: Joseph Saunders S11347] was his Lieutenant. That Robert Green [W8866] was his Ensign. That Joseph Crocket [sic: Joseph Crockett S46377] was his Col. But he thinks Crocket was only a Lieutenant Col. and Geo. R. Clark [George Rogers Clark] (afterwards Brigadier Gen Clark) was the Col. Commandant. That they were Called the Illinois Regiment.


That in the forepart & he thinks probably on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1779 Capt. Mark Thomas [R18446] & Capt Slaughters companies having united with that of Capt Roberts at the aforesaid red house the oath of allegiance was administered to the troops and they some time in December Commenced their march under the command of Maj George Slaughter crossing the Blue Ridge at Ashby's Gap [Ashby Gap in Loudoun County] crossing the Shanandoah [sic: Shenandoah River] and on to Winchester. Then across the Alleganies [sic: Allegheny Mountains] over to Redstone Fort [now Brownsville PA] at the mouth of Redstone Creek on the Monongahela That some, perhaps half or more of the troops were sent down to Ewells or (Newells) store [Newell's Store at present Elizabeth PA]. That provisions were remarkably scarce. That he was sent by Maj Slaughter several times to Col. Peasys[?] Mill on Suweekly [sic: Sewickly] Creek. That they remained at Redstone Ewells and in the neighborhood until they built seven flat Boats and a number of Canoes Perogues &c. That in the forepart of about the middle of April 1780 they embarked on board of their flat Boats and reached the falls of Ohio [at present Louisville KY] about the fourth of June following. That the day after they landed they were ordered out eight in Number under Sergeant Nash Sutter, William Butts was in the Number. That they Camped on an Island 12 miles up the river. That the next day they went up two miles farther to the mouth of fourteen mile Creek, went up the Creek some three or four hundred yards tied their Perogue went further up the Creek & killed some buffaloe and was returned almost to their Perogue when they were fired upon by a Party of twenty two indians under the command of Little Turtle he then turned and ran some hundred & fifty or two hundred yards when the strap of his pantaloons caught a snag & he fell & was immediately overtaken and surrendered to the indians. He is not positive as to the day of the month on which he was captured and it is only impressed on his mind from the remarks of Mr. Butts who was a religious man and anxious to observe the Sabbath & who was also taken a Prisoner with him. from his recollection of this conversation he thinks he was taken on the 6th day of June 1780 but it may have been a day or two before or after. His life was at the moment of Capture (as it was again at the Indian town after being tied to the stake to be burnt) saved by the humane interposition of Little Turtle. He together with Butts were rapidly marched on to the Maumee town at the mouth of Eel River on the Wabash. Here he after as before stated having

been preserved by Little Turtle was adopted in to an Indian family & kindly treated until the fall of the year, when he was taken to Detroit where partly by force & partly by purchase the British under the command of Maj Dupeister (to whom Isadore Shane was Interpreter) got him from the Indians, & at this Place he first saw the famous or rather infamous Simon Girty. Here every imaginable overture failing to induce him to enlist in the Kings service he together with seven other Prisoners – Cuthbert Steele, John Angel, Stephen Shelton, William Brooks, David Brooks, Ephraim Noel, Thomas Mehan & several other prisoners whose names he does not now recollect were put on board a schooner & sent down Lake Erie to Fort Shulier[?] – and from there were marched down to the falls of Niagara. From there they were marched down to the dead water of Lake Ontario. From here by water to Fort Niagara. Here they were put on Board of the British Ship of War Seneca mounting 26 Guns The Captains name he cannot recollect, but one of the Lieutenants was named Norvell. From Here he was taken to Carletons Island [Carleton Island in St. Lawrence River] & Landed. From Here they went on board of Battax [sic: batteaux] through the Long Saut [sic: Long Sault] and on to Lashene [sic: Lachine]. Here they Landed and marched to Montreal & were immediately put in Prison where he remained through the rigors of that Northern Clime miserably fed even eating Poor Canadian horses Nearly twelve months when in consequence of the trouble given the British provision ships by the french fleet they were all like to starve to save them from which they were turned out among the farmers but as soon as spring came in consequence of some endeavoring to make their escape they were all handcuffed & again thrown into Prison. In the fall he cannot state the month Precisely they were marched up to and put upon Cote de Lake Island [probably Coteau-du-Lac] in the St. Lawrence. On this Island he remained until the next fall or about twelve months when by order of Sir Guy Carlton they were marched back to Montreal Put aboard of small vessels & sent to Quebec, where they remained in an almost starving condition eight weeks. Here he together with some 4 or 500 others were put on board a large old line of Battle ship commanded by Capt Yong[?] out which the Guns had been taken and sailed for Philidelphia but were driven by stress of weather to anchor at the Isle of Beek [sic: Ile-du-Bic]. When the Gale increasing the ship commenced dragging her anchors. They got up two but the cable of the third had to be cut & the ship drove through the straights at the rate of thirteen knots an hour & for two weeks the gale drove them at this rate right out towards the west Indies when the wind shifted & after a voyage of forty days they off the Capes of Delware [sic: Delaware] heard the report of Cannon ahead and presently saw the topsails of a ship & in a few minutes three other ships the first of which proved to be the South Carolina 60 gun ship said to be a present from Holland to the State of South Carolina Loaded with flower. The other three were British frigates he thinks two forty fours & a thirty six. The forty fours one on each side of the S.C. & the 36 under her stern. The Commander of one of the 44s hailed & commanded the Prison ship to follow him. after giving one Broadside the South Carolina struck her colours. And the ship of he which was on board ordered into New York instead of Philadelphia – where they Laid eight days. From there they saled up the North River thirty miles to Dobbs Ferry, and there we (the Prisoners) were delivered up to Col. Smith who commanded on the line on the Last day of Dec. 1782 who after taking a list of our names on the same day set us all at Liberty. From Dobbs Ferry he went to Philedelphia & thence in Feb 1783 he reached home in Culpepper County Va, where he remained until March 1784 when he emigrated to Kentucky and settled near Louisville where he resided until 1811 when he moved to Henry County Ky where he resided until about 1826 when he moved to Pope County Illinois where he resided until about 1834 when he moved to McCracken County Kentucky where he has resided ever since that part of Ballard county in which he resides at this time having been stricken from McCracken County. That including the time he was in service & a Prisoner he more than served out his full time. That having been taken Prisoner he got no discharge and as such has no documentary evidence of his services except the records of his enlistment which he presumes are on file. that he knows of no one by whom he can prove his services unless Col Bland Ballard of Shelby County Ky should be still living whose testimony if to be had will in due time be forwarded.

That he was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July 1763 according to his fathers register. That being young and verry illiterate when he enlisted he did not understand military regulations grades &c and did not pay that

attention to dates that better informed persons would have done. That by reason of the infirmity of old age he cannot now state times and dates positively & therefore begs the indulgent consideration of the Department if it shall appear that in some things he may be inaccurate & in others too indefinite. That in the main he knows he is correct.

That 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



Interrogatories propounded by the Court to the declarant Lewis Field in the matter of his application for a pension

1. Where & in what year were you born?

Ans. In culpepper Co. va. on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1763.

2. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it?

Ans My age was recorded by my father in the family bible where I often saw it, one of my sisters has or had the Bible

3. Where were you living when called into service? where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

Ans I was called into service in culpepper co. va. where I then resided. I have lived in Kentucky except a short time in Illinois as stated in my declaration. I now live in Ballard Co. Ky.

4. How were you called into service?

Ans. I enlisted in Maj Slaughters Corps.

5. State the names of some of the Regular officers who were with the troops where you served, such continental & malitia Regiments as you can recollect and the General circumstances of your service.

Ans. Gen. Geo. R. Clark was chief in command & had Colo. John Montgomery & [William] Lynn under him. the officers I served under were Col Crocket Maj Slaughter Captain Roberts Lieutenant Sanders & ensign Green. We never was connected with any Regulars or Continental troops that I now recollect of.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge

Ans. No

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your services as a soldier of the revolution.

Ans. Capt John Crice – thos. J Duffee and R D Gholson

Blandville May 7<sup>th</sup> 1844

Hon L Boyd/ Dear Friend

I take the liberty to enclose to you the application of Lewis Field of this Co for a Pension and to beg the favor of you to intercede for him with all your might, he most assuredly deserves a Pension. I wrote some weeks since to Col Bland Ballard of Ky whose father was a mess mate of Field's but do not expect he knows anything really relevant to the matter. I therefore presume the Department should at once act on the Declaration &c.

I wrote you some time since to send me the information necessary to enable me to make a regular application for the wages due him as a spy & for to obtain the land due him & his Father Daniel Field as solders in the Illinois regiment. If there is a reasonable prospect of success will you be so good as to attend to these matters.

Please give me the earlyest information as to the result of this application.

Send lots of Documents & write me all the news./ Sir Lasts[?]/ R D Gholson

[Unrelated postscript not transcribed.]

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Field Lewis

VA

S30413

Transcription by FA Weyler

06Jul2013\

*[Ed. Note: The manuscript is difficult to read. Someone with better knowledge of the people, places and terminology might well improve some guesses. I inserted some punctuation to improve readability.]*

[p2] Kentucky certificate 32.169

Lewis Field of Ballard County

Private under Capt Roberts, Col Crockett

Virginia state troops, 2 years

Issued 10Jul1844@ \$80/annum

\$1040.00 arrearage pmt

[p3]

State of Kentucky

Ballard County sct

On this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1844, personally appeared in open court Lewis Field before S.W. Upshaw now sitting in open court he being a resident of Ballard County and state of Kentucky, aged eighty years and about ten months 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 of the 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States in the Virginia state line under the following named officers and served as hereinafter stated.

That he entered the service of the United States in Capt. Benjamin Roberts' company in Major George Slaughter's Battalion or Corps as it was then familiarly called.

That he entered service by enlistment as a private for two years or it may have been three in Culpeper County in the state of Virginia and was mustered into serve at a large frame house called the Red House which was Major Slaughter's headquarters. That he cannot state the precise date but it was in the year 1779 in the latter part of the Summer or first of the fall probably in Sept or Oct of that year. That Joseph Sanders was his Lieutenant. That Robert Green was his ensign. That Joseph Crockett was his Col. But he thinks Crockett was only a Lt. Col, and George R. Clark (afterwards Brigadier Gen Clark) was the Col. Commandant. That they were called the Illinois Regiment.

That in the forepart& he thinks probably on the 8<sup>th</sup> of Dec 1777 Capt. Mark Thomas & Capt. Slaughter's companies having united with that of Capt. Roberts at the aforesaid Red House the oath of allegiance was administered to the troops and they some time in December commenced their march under the command of Maj. George Slaughter crossing the Blue Ridge at Ashby's Gap, crossing the Shenandoah and on to Winchester. Then across the Alleghanies [sic] over to Redstone

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Fort at the mouth of Redstone Creek [Ed. Note: N 40.05797 W 79.86683 the community of Newell WV is between Redstone and Little Redstone Creeks downstream from Morganton WV] on the Monongahala.[sic]. That some, perhaps half or more of the troops went on down to Ewell's (or Newell's) Store. [Ed. Note: Samuel Newell, cousin of Lt Samuel Newell of Battle of

Kings Mountain, was judge of Yohogania County VA. The Newells are often mentioned with William Henry Harrison in the index of George Rogers Clark papers. <http://sril.gradeless.com/clarkv07.htm> ] That provisions were remarkably [?] scarce. That he was sent by Maj. Slaughter several times to Col. Peay's Mill on Suweekly Creek. That they remained at Redstone, Ewell's, and in the neighborhood until they built several flatboats and a number of Canoes Perogus &c. That in the first part or about the middle of April 1780 they embarked on board of their flat boats and reached the falls of the Ohio about the fourth of June following. That the day after they landed they were ordered out eight in number under sergeant Nash. Sutter, Williams, Butts was in the number. That they camped on an island 12 miles up the river. That the next day they went up two miles further to the mouth of fourteen mile creek, went up the creek some three or four hundred yards. Tied their Perogus. Went further up the creek & killed some buffalos and was returned almost to their Perogus when they were fired upon by a party of twenty two Indians under the command of Little Turtle. He then turned and run some hundred & fifty or two hundred yards when the strap of his pantaloons caught a snag & he fell & was immediately overtaken and surrendered to the Indians. He is not positive as to the day of the month on which he was captured and it is only impressed on his mind from the remarks of Pvt Butts who was a religious man and anxious to observe the sabbath & who was also taken a prisoner with him. From his recollections of this conversation he thinks he was taken on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of June 1780 but it may have been a day or two before or after. His life was at the moment of capture (as it was again at the Indian Town after being tied to the stake to be burnt) saved by the humane interposition of Little Turtle. He together with Butts were rapidly marched on to the Moumee [?] Town at the mouth of Eel River on the Wabash River. Here he often as before stated having been preserved by Little

[p5]

Turtle was adopted into an Indian family & kindly treated until the fall of the year when he was taken to Detroit where partly by force & partly by purchase the British under the command of Major Dupossten [?] (to whom Isadore Shaw was interpreter) got him from the Indians & at this place he first saw the famous or rather infamous Simon Gisty [?Girty]. Here every imaginable overture failing to induce him to enlist in the King's service he together with some other prisoners, Cuthbert Steele, John Angel, Steven Shelton, William Brooks, David Brooks, Ephraim Neal, Thomas Mahan, & several other prisoners whose names he does not now recollect were put on board a schooner & sent down Lake Erie to Fort Shuleen [?]. And from there were marched down to the falls of Niagara. From there they were marched down to the dead water of Lake Ontario. From there by water to Fort Niagara. Here they were put on board of the British Ship of War Seneca Mounting 26 guns. The captain's name he cannot recollect, but one of the Lieutenants was named Norvell. From here he was taken to Carleton's Island & landed. From here they went on board of Bathax. Through the Long Sout and on to Lashens [?Lachine]. Here they landed and marched to Montreal & were immediately put in prison where he remained through the rigors of that Northern Clime miserably for even eating Poor Canadian horse nearly twelve months when in consequence of the trouble given the British provision ships by the French fleet. They were all like to starve to save them from which they were turned out among the farmers but as soon as spring came in consequence of some endeavoring to make their escape they were all handcuffed & again thrown into prison. In the fall he cannot state the month precisely they were marched up to Cote de Lake Island [?Cote Ste Luc} in the St. Lawrence. On this Island he remained until the next fall or about twelve months when by order of Sir Guy


Carlton they were marched back to Montreal, put aboard of small vessels & sent to Leeselass [?] where they remained in an almost starving condition eight weeks. Here he together with some [p6]

4 or 500 others were put on board a large old line of battle ships commanded by Capt. Long out which the guns had been taken and sailed for Philadelphia but were driven by stress of weather to anchor at the Isle of Beek [Ile du Bic?]. When the gale increasing the ship commenced dragging her anchors. They got up two but the whole of them had to be out & the ship drove through the straights at the rate of thirteen knots an hour & for two weeks the gale drove them at this rate right out towards the west Indies when the wind shifted & after a voyage of forty days they off the coast of Delaware heard the report of caution [?] ahead and presently saw the topsails of a ship & in a few minutes three other ships the first of which proved to be the South Carolina 60 gun ship said to be a present from Holland to the State of South Carolina loaded with flower. The other three were British frigates. He thinks two forty fours & a thirty six. The forty fours one on each side of the S.Co. & the 56 \_\_\_\_\_ her stern. The commander of one of the 44s hailed & commanded the prison ship to follow him after giving one broadside the South Carolina struck her colours and the ship of which I was on board ordered into New York instead of Philadelphia. Where they stayed eight days. From there they sailed up the North River thirty miles to Dobb's Ferry and there we (the prisoners) were delivered up to Col Smith who commanded the line on the last day of Dec 1782. Who after taking a list of our names on the same day set us all at Liberty. From Dobb's Ferry he went to Philadelphia & thence in Feb 1783 he reached home in Culpeper County Va where he remained until March 1784. When he emigrated to Kentucky and settled near Louisville where he resided until 1811. When he moved to Henry County KY where he resided until about 1826. When he moved to Pope County Illinois where he resided until about 1834. When he moved to McCracken County Kentucky where he has resided ever since. That part of Ballard County in which he resides at this time having been stricken from McCracken County. That including the time he was in service & a prisoner he more than served out his full time. That having been taken

[p7] prisoner he got no discharge and as such has no documentary evidence of his service except the records of his enlistment presumes are on file. That he knows of no one by whom he can prove his service unless Col. Bland Ballard of Shelby County Ky. should be still living whose testimony if it be had will in due time be forwarded.

That he was born on the 4<sup>th</sup> day of July 1765 according to his father's register. That being young and very illiterate when he enlisted he did not understand military regulations grades &c and did not pay that attention to dates that better informed persons would have done. That by reason of the infirmity of old age he cannot now state times and dates positively & therefore begs the indulgent consideration of the department of it shall appear that in some things he may be inaccurate & in others too indefinite. That in the main he knows he is correct.

That 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.



[routine county certification

Saml W Upshaw, JP

John Grier, T. J. Duffin, R. D. Gholson neighbors

[p8]

Interrogatories propounded by the court to the declarant Lewis Field in the matter of his application for a pension:

1. Where & in what year were you born?

*Ans:* In Culpepper [sic] Co. Va. On the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 1763.

2. Have you any record of your age & if so where is it?

*Ans:* My age was recorded by my father in the family bible where I often saw it, one of my sisters has or had the bible.

3. Where were you living when called into service? Where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

*Ans:* I was called into service in Culpepper [sic] Co Va. Where I then resided. I have lived in

4. Kentucky except a short time in Illinois as stated in my declaration. I now live in Ballard Co. Ky.

How were you called into service?

*Ans.* I enlisted in Maj. Slaughter's Corps.

5. State the names of some of the regular officers who were with the troops when you served. Such continental and militia regiments as you can recollect and the general circumstances of your service.

*Ans:* Gen Geo. R. Clark was chief in command & had Colo. John Montgomery & Lynn under him. The officers I served under were Col Crockett, Maj. Slaughter, Captain Roberts, Lieutenant Sanders & ensign Green. We never was connected with ant regulars or continental troops that I now recollect of.

6. Did you ever receive a discharge

*Ans:* No.

7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood and who you can testify to your character for veracity & their belief of your service as a soldier of the revolution.

*Ans:* Capt. John Grier, Thos J Duffin and R D Gholson

[certification by county clerk Jacob Crabtree and clergyman Willis White, JP B. H. Bennis]

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=38.37655,-85.63156&amp;z=15&amp;type=T>

Twelve mile island, Falls of the Ohio

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=40.05797,-79.86683&amp;z=12&amp;type=T>

Newell WV

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=44.179257,-76.29044&amp;z=12&amp;type=T>

Carleton Island

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=45.44315,-73.68444&amp;z=12&amp;type=M>

Lachine and Montreal

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=48.39866,-68.87054&amp;z=12&amp;type=M>

Ile du Bic

<http://mapper.acme.com/?ll=41.01294,-73.86658&amp;z=14&amp;type=T>

Dobb's Ferry

Pirogue

<https://www.google.com/search?q=pirogue+boat+plans&tbm=isch&tbo=u&source=univ&sa=X&ei=Tu3ZUZv7EqLC0QHeuoCoCw&ved=0CCoQsAQ&biw=1366&bih=665>