

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Obadiah Clarke W8609

Nancy Clarke

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS

Shelby County } On this 8th day of May 1834 personally appeared before me James C Burnett a Justice of the peace in and for Shelby County and one of the Judges of the County court for said County of Shelby Obediah Clark aged 78 years who being duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of an act passed the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832

This declarant states that he was residing in the City of Richmond Henrico County Virginia when he entered the service of the United States and served as herein stated that in the fall of the year 1776 Edward Miller of said County of Henrico Joined Capt William Duvalls [sic: William DuVal, pension application S8362] Company of Volunteers and that in the month of Nov. 1776 [sic: 1775] Capt duvall's Company was called into the service for a period of six months when the said declarant did substitute in the room and stead of the aforesaid Edward Miller and was received by the said Capt Duvall into his company of volunteers he states that in the month of Nov that said company did march from the City of Richmond under the command of John Pope Lieutenant, Capt William Duvall, and Coln Christian, the name of the Major he states he has forgotton, to Williamsburg then to York and thence to Hampton – he states that Govenor Dunmore with his fleet was lying in the Hampton Bay and the object of this army was to prevent Dunmore from landing and plundering the inhabitants near the bay shore he states that during his six month for which he had substituted that he discharged his duty as a faithful soldier and was discharged by said C apt. Duvall in the month of May 1777 [sic: 1776] –

This declarant further states that in the month of September 1777 a draft was ordered in said County of Henrico and he being in the 8<sup>th</sup> Class of Militia was drafted into the service for a tour of two months and served under Capt Samuel Price and Lieutenant Barret Price he states that they rendezvoused at Richmond and marched from that place to Williamsburg where he states that they were stationed a short time whilst they were here stationed he states a Lieutenant's Command was called for to a place called Rich Neck Lieutenant Price with his Quota of men proceeded to said place and he the said declarant having been appointed a Corporal when they started upon this tour went with said Lieut Price to Rich Neck here he states they remained about four weeks they then returned to Williamsburg where they staid a short time they then proceeded to Richmond where he was discharged in the month of Nov 1777 having served out his two months in the capacity of Corporal

The declarant further states that sometime in fall of 1778 Gen'l Lesley [sic: Alexander Leslie, Nov 1780] a Britnish Officer invaded Va. when he the said Obediah Clark was again called into the service he states that he thinks the call was made without specifying the length of time that they were called out for he states that he marched from Richmond in the month Oct under the Command of Capt Vandevall to Williamsburg and was stationed at the Capital he states that whilst they were there stationed that they frequently went out in spieing campains to see what mischief the enemy was doing in this kind of service he states that he was engaged six weeks and was discharged in the month of Nov when he returned home This declarant further states that in the year of 1781 that Virginia was invaded by [Gen. Benedict] Arnold when he was again called into the service and marched from Richmond to Williamsburg under the command of Ensign Crouch – he stats that he thinks they were called out without regard to time but for the special purpose of opposing the progress of Arnold he states that upon this expedition he was actively employed from the first day of January 1781 until the 15th day of February 1781 this declarant further states that during the summer of 1781 that he did serve thirty days as a minute man in guarding the shores of the Rivers to prevent the Britnish from landing under Capt Saml Price He states that has no documentary evidence of his service but independent of [is dependent on?]

respectable traditional evidence which he will now offer, he states that he can prove by respectable evidence that he did render the greater part of the service stated in his declaration. he states that from bodily affliction he is unable to appear in open court to make his declaration. 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 or  
[signed] O Clarke  
Ques by the magistrate answered

I was born in Henrico County Va in the year of 1756 and have a record of my age in my bible taken from the Parish register and when entered the service I was living in Richmond Va and since the Revolution I remained in Richmond until 1795 I then moved to Ky Shelby Cty where I now live and the first tour of six months I substituted for Edward Miller I was drafted twice and served six weeks each time and once I was drafted for two months and one tour of minute service I performed of thirty days and as my service was rendered upon the shores of River there were no regular officers in the service, of the militia were Capt Marsden, Capt Cooey Capt David Boles, Capt Johnston, Capt Price, Capt Duvall who was afterwards Major, and Coln Christian and Coln John Price, there were no continental regiments – the circumstances of my service that of guarding and protecting the country bordering upon Bay Shore – and I never received a written discharge but I was always verbally discharged by my respective Captains, and I will state the names of John Holland Clergyman and Robert Miller who can testify to my character for veracity and their belief of my service as a soldier of the revolution

I Benjamin Clark aged 72 years do hereby certify that I was a soldier of the Revolution my service was performed in the lower parts of Va. I further certify that Obediah Clark who has subscribed and sworn to the proceeding declaration was with me one trip to Rich Neck and that said Obediah Clark did act in the capacity of Corporal I further certify that I was in the service with him whilst at Williamsburg and the account given by said Applicant in both cases is correct as he has stated it in his declaration  
[signed] Benja Clarke [Benjamin Clarke]

NOTE: On 14 Sep 1838 Nancy Clarke, 72, applied for a pension stating that she married Obadiah Clarke in Henrico County in June 1785, and he died 27 Feb 1838. On 14 Sep 1838 her brother, Edward Miller [pension application W9571], 86, also of Shelby County, stated that he had been present at the marriage of Nancy Miller to Obadiah Clarke. Jacob Snider and Robert Miller also made supporting statements.