

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Benjamin Kidd R5906

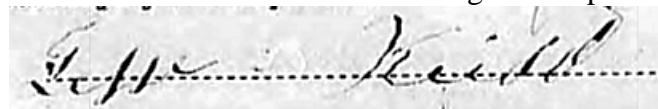
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Transcribed by Courtney L. Tucker, Benjamin's Great, great, great grandson

Prepared September 9, 1999

posted 3/16/10: *rev'd by WG 4/13/16 in italics*

On November 13, 1852, Jesse Kidd as a resident "near Mt. Airy" appeared before A. Dunnagan, Justice of the Peace in Surry County, North Carolina as the "legitimate heir" and "identical child" of Benjamin Kidd "who was a soldier in the war of the Revolution" as stated on the official form. Jesse hired Samuel M. Knight of Washington City and gave him power of attorney to "prosecute the claim of Benjamin Kidd for any amount of Revolutionary Pension, or increase of Pension that may be due." No documented resolution of the claim resides in the National Archives other than an envelope that is stamped "Rejected" and appears in the same collection of documents from which the following transcript was made.

A photograph of a handwritten signature in cursive script, which appears to read "Jesse Kidd". The signature is written on a document with a horizontal dashed line.

In June 1838, Jesse took Benjamin to see Elyah Thompson to apply for his pension. Here is my verbatim transcription of his statement (completed September 6, 1999) from a copy in microfilm files at the National Archives, M-804, Roll #1480, Pension R5906:

QUOTE

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832

State of North Carolina

County of Surry: SS

On this the 9th day of June 1838 personally appeared before me Elyah Thompson, a justice of the County Court of Surry County in the State of North Carolina, Benjamin Kid aged 86 years (he being unable to travel to court) so being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following Declaration in order to obtain the bennifit of the provision of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, that he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein after stated (to wit) I was bornd in Buckingham County Virginia in the year 1752 I have no record of my age, and only know my age from what I have been told-when called into the service I lived in Buckingham County Va- Continued to live there for several years after the Revolutionary war-then moved into Surry County NC in which County I now live.

I was Inlisted in the service of the United States in the year 1777 for three years. I think in the month of March by Capt John Nickolds or Nickles [*perhaps Capt. John Nicholas of the 1st Virginia State Regiment*]. I was promised as a bounty forty dollars in money-too suits of Cloathing per year & one Hundred acres of land, twenty dollars is all that I ever received of my bounty. I was taken sick and was not not able to march with my Capt when he marched his company off. At my recovery I was put in the company commanded by Capt Thomas Betoo and by him marched to the Long Islands of Holston, at this place I was commanded Col Christy

[*William Christian*], we was here stationed about three months. I was then put in a company commanded by Capt John Looney and by him marched to Carter's Valley. there we built a fort and guarded it for ten or twelve months. I was then put in a company commanded by Capt George Freeland and by him marched to Blackamores fort¹ near Clinch river near a place called the Elkgarden and was there stationed about three months. I was then then marched by George Brooks (I do not recollect what grade of office he held) to Wkilliys (whittiys) fort [Whitley's fort]² in Kentuckey and here Stationed one month & some few days. at this place I was commanded by Capt Whitly [*probably William Whitley*]. I was here put in a company commanded by Capt John Chisum [*John Chism or John Chisholm?*] & by him marched to Logans Station³ and here stationed one month. from this place I was marched by the afforesaid Capt Chisum to Harrodsburgh. This was commanded by Capt James Harrod. I was here stationed seven months, tho often out with skouting partys [*scouting parties*] after the Indians. we took some few Indians prisoners, but was in no General Ingagements. sometimes at this place my bread rations was four ears of corn per day & 1/4 pounds of meat when the hunters could kill it. I was then marched to the falls of the Ohio by a Capt whose name I have forgot. at this place I was put in Capt John Rogers Company & by him marched to the Opost [*present day Vincennes, Indiana*] on Waubash [*Wabash River*] I do not recollect which it was called. at this place we was under Cleark [*John Rogers Clark*], I do not recollect wahat grad office he held, here we took Hamilton [*Henry Hamilton*] & his men (102 or 103) at this place we stayed but a short time. I was now informed that we was to gard the afforesaid prisoners to Harrodsburg Kentuckey at which place we arrived in January at which place we remained with the afforesaid prisoners (Hamilton & his men) until the first of may following. I was now informed that we was to gard the afforesaid prisoners (Hamilton & his men) to Williamsburgh Va to which place we now started. I still remained in Company commanded by the afforesaid Capt John Rogers. The Army was now commanded by Col Richard Callaway. as we marched and come near lynchburgh Va [*Lynchburg Virginia*] I was Informed all that had relations near could go and see them accordingly I received a written Discharg I do not recollect whether my Capt Rogers spigned it or Col Callaway but I lost it long ago. The officers was to go and draw our mony and come back and pay us-and was all to go to Kentucky together as it was a rich Desireable Country-but I have never seen Officers nor money from that day to this. I do not recollect the names of any other Officers but those already mentioned-I served three years as a private for which I claim a pension-I know of no person by whom I can prove my services, nor have I any Documentary Evidence thereof-

I am known to a Clergyman residing in my neighborhood William Howard Esq who can testify to my Character for Varasity. I hereby relinquish every claim whatsoever to a pension or anuity Except the present-Did as that my name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state, Territory or District,

Sworn to and subscribed the day & year afforesaid

his
Benjamin K Kidd
mark

E Thompson Esq
UNQUOTE

¹ *Blackmore's Fort near present Fort Blackmore in Russell County, was built on the land of John Blackmore, who came from Fauquier County with his brother Joseph Blackmore.*

² *Fort built by Col. William Whitley in 1781 two miles northwest of Crab Orchard, Lincoln County, Kentucky.*

³ *In Lincoln County, KY, about 1 mile west of Stanford, KY.*

Mr. Thompson also took the testimonial of the two men mentioned by Benjamin as follows:

QUOTE

We Silas Jones- a clergyman residing in the Cty of Surry N.C. and William Howard a resident of said County do hereby certify that we are well acquainted with Benjamin Kidd who has sworn to and subscribed the foregoing Declaration that we believe him to be 86 years of age, that we believe him to be a man of veracity-that we have heard it current reported that said applicant was a soldier of the Revolution, that that report is believed in his neighborhood and that we concur in that belief. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year afforesaid

Silas Jones a preacher
of the Baptist Denomination
Wm H. Howard

And I Elyah Thompson declar my opinion after investigating of the matter of the application of Benjamin Kidd for a pension had before me, a Justice of the County Court of Surry in the state of NC that the foregoing are the proceedings on the same. I further declare that after a full investigation of the matter and putting the interrogatory requested by the war department that the said applicant was a soldier of the Revolution and served as he states I further certify that the said applicant is unable on account of grate age & infirmity to travel to court,- I also certify that whose name appears to the above certificates is a clergyman residing in this county (Surry NC) and that William H Howard whose name also appears to the said certificate is a respectable resident of said Cty and that the statement sworn to and subscribed by them is intitled to ercerdit (a credit?),

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year afforesaid
E Thompson Esq

Supplemented by Will Graves 4/13/16

[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change has been made. Corrections or additional notes have been inserted within brackets or footnotes. Blanks appearing in the transcripts reflect blanks in the original. A bracketed question mark indicates that the word or words preceding it represent(s) a guess by me. The word 'illegible' or 'indecipherable' appearing in brackets indicates that at the time I made the transcription, I was unable to decipher the word or phrase in question. Only materials pertinent to the military service of the veteran and to contemporary events have been transcribed. Affidavits that provide additional information on these events are included and genealogical information is abstracted, while standard, 'boilerplate' affidavits and attestations related solely to the application, and later nineteenth and twentieth century research requests for information have been omitted. I use speech recognition software to make all my transcriptions. Such software misinterprets my southern accent with unfortunate regularity and my poor proofreading skills fail to catch all misinterpretations. Also, dates or numbers which the software treats as numerals rather than words are not corrected: for example, the software transcribes "the eighth of June one thousand eighty six" as "the 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of North Carolina Surry County

This day personally appeared before me Elijah Thompson one of the Acting Justices of the Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions for the County and State aforesaid, Presley Holder of the County and State aforesaid, aged about Eighty-five years, who after being sworn in due form of law deposeth and saith as follows: That he was well acquainted with Benjamin Kidd (now of Surry County, N. C.) who was a soldier of the Revolutionary War and is an applicant for a pension from the United States: that he knew him during the Revolution and resided in about one mile of him in Pittsylvania County, Virginia: That he well remembers being present with said Benjamin Kidd at a Collection of men in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, where the said Kidd entered into the service of the United States: That soon after the said Kidd left and went, as it was understood, into the Army of the United States: That the said Kidd was absent two or three

years and when he returned he was regarded by the neighbors as having been in the service of his Country during the whole of his absence: He further deposes that he believes that said Benjamin Kidd did serve as a soldier in the Revolution.

Sworn and subscribed this 29th day of September 1845 before me

S/ E. Thompson, JP

S/ Presley Holder, X his mark