

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McKinney R6768

Polley McKinney

f44VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/6/13

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 2]

Kentucky John McKinny

Heretofore a state pensioner of Virginia, allowed by that state, at the rate of \$6.25 from the year 1800 to the 11 January 1817.

Inscribed on the roll of Kentucky by authority of the acting Secretary, at \$8 per month to commence on the 17th January 1817

Certificate of pension issued the 27th January 1817 and sent to the Honorable General Joseph Desha and Colonel Richard M Johnson Members of Congress for Kentucky, City of Washington.

Arrears to 4th of March 1817

1 month 19 days

\$12.90

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In Council July 11th 1787

It appearing that John McKinney comes within the requisitions of the Pension Law.

It is advised that he be continued on the List of Pensioners with an allowance of 15 pounds per annum, to commence on the first day of January 1786

Copy from the Journal

Test

S/ Wm Robertson, Clerk of the Council

[p 6]

January 27th 1816

I do Certify that I am personally acquainted with the within named John McKinny and that he is much debilitated by several wounds received which wounds I have always understood he received while in the service of his country.

S/ Jos. Desha¹

¹ DESHA, Joseph, (brother of Robert Desha), a Representative from Kentucky; born in Monroe County, Pa., December 9, 1768; pursued preparatory studies; moved to Kentucky with his parents, who settled in Fayette County in 1779, and later in 1782, they moved to Tennessee and settled near Gallatin, Sumner County; returned to Kentucky in 1792 and settled in Mason County; served in the Indian wars under Gen. Anthony Wayne and Gen. William H. Harrison in 1794; returned to Kentucky and engaged in agricultural pursuits; member of the State house of representatives in 1797 and 1799-1802; served in the State senate 1803-1807; elected as a Republican to the Tenth and to the five succeeding Congresses (March 4, 1807-March 3, 1819); chairman, Committee on Public Expenditures (Fifteenth Congress); was not a candidate for renomination in 1818; unsuccessful candidate for Governor of Kentucky in 1820; served as major general of Volunteers under Gen. William H. Harrison at the Battle of the Thames; on his return to civil life he was elected Governor of Kentucky and served from 1824 to 1828; lived

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The affidavit of James Wallace of the County of Fayette and State of Kentucky states that he is in his 71st year of age, and came to Kentucky in the year 1785. He and Captain John McKinney deceased were cousins, our mothers were sisters, he living in Augusta County & I living in Rockbridge County when I first became acquainted with him, which was in my early boyhood. I this affiant was at the marriage of the said John McKinney with Polly Trimble in the said County of Augusta, which was in the fall of the year 1785. That same fall this affiant came to the State of Kentucky in company with the said John McKinney & his wife. Some years afterwards he moved to & settled in the present County of Bourbon where he lived until his death & this affiant visited him during his last illness. This affiant lost his wife in the year 1823 & it was a year or 2 afterwards that Captain McKinney died. He had lived there for some years before his death & his residence is within a few miles both of Andrew Scots & Thomas Scots. This affiant always understood & believes that said Captain John McKinney was in the war of the Revolution & in the battle of the Kanhawa point [Kanawha Point or Battle of Point Pleasant, October 14, 1774]². The Counties of Augusta & Rockbridge before spoken of & in the State of Virginia. Given under my hand & seal this 3rd day of May 1841.

S/ James Wallace

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Wallace". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative flourish at the end.

[p 11]

State of Kentucky Sct.

On this 21st day of June 1841, personally appeared before the undersigned, a Justice of the County Court of Bourbon County & State aforesaid Polley McKinney, a resident of the County & State aforesaid and aged eighty-one years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on her oath, make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed 7 day of July, 1838, entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows;" that she is the widow of John McKinney, who was a private in the revolutionary Army. The particular services performed by him, she cannot remember or describe with certainty – But she states that during his life he drew a pension for his services rendered in the revolutionary war from the general Government of the United States, and the papers evidencing the fact, she supposes or in the proper Department at Washington City, and she refers to them for greater certainty.

She further declares that she was married to him, the said John McKinney on the 13th day of September, in the year 1785; that her husband the said John McKinney, died on the 27th day of September 1825; that she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first of January 1794, viz.: at the time above stated.

S/ Polley McKinney

on his farm in Harrison County until his death near Georgetown, Ky., October 11, 1842; interment in Georgetown Cemetery. <http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=D000271>

² This battle took place before the Revolutionary War. It was fought during the campaign conducted by Lord Dunmore (John Murray, last royal governor of VA) against the Shawnee and Mingo Indians in what is now West Virginia.

Dolley M. McKinney

[p 17: statement by James H McKinney that in September 1840 he left in a law office the certificate issued to John McKinney for a pension at the rate of \$8 per month. His relationship, if any, to the veteran is not stated.

James H. McKinney

[From [bounty land records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 88 page file

At a court held for Augusta County September 20th, 1785

John McKinney who has been allowed a pension of ten pounds per annum in consideration of wounds and Injuries received in the public service, appeared in Court and the Court are of Opinion that he (having lost the use of one arm and other parts disabled) is not able to procure a Sustenance by Labor & that he ought to be allowed the sum of five pounds per annum in addition to his former pension – which is ordered to be certified.

A Copy

S/ J. Lyle, D. Clk

[pp 3-4; split image]

I Do Certify that John McKinney was in the militia under the command of Colonel Chas. Lewis [?]³ in Capt. Geo. Moffett [George Moffat] in fall 1774, that Captain Moffat & Kell [?]⁴ the officers that Served in the battle of the 10 Octr. 1774; Reported that the Sd. McKinney Rec'd a Number of wounds in the Sd. Battle, which to my knowledge on his Return which was not 'til the Spring of the year 1775, he was then in a very low state, & Continued so for many years under the Care of Doctors & Rec'd an annuity of Ten Pounds & after an addition of five pounds from the Public. Given under my hand this 11 July 1787.

S/ James [?] Mathews

James Mathews

[p 6]

On examination of John McKinney find, he has received a number of wounds – to Balls having passed through the thick part of the left thigh & sworn & lacerated them in very great degree, ? Loss of substance & a firm adusion near the middle of the bone, so as to impede free motion &

³ *Chas. Lewis*

⁴ *Kell*

our of the part, ? Ball as also passed through the left wrist & formed a perfect ankylosis of that Joint – a depression of the Ribbs under the left scapula, which he complains greatly of, & I believe with cause, in short his disability is extremely great ? bare subsistence by labor. He says he received those wounds in the militia at the Battle of Point Pleasant in the year 1774. He appears to be about 30 years of age.

S/ W. Foushee



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I do with the advice of the Council hereby certify that John McKinney aged about 30 years, late a Private in the Militia of Augusta County previous to the Revolution, was disabled at the battle of Point Pleasant, by to balls which passed through the thick muscles of the left thigh and tore & lacerated them in a great degree and that he is allowed the sum of 15 pounds yearly, to commence from the first day of January 1785.

Given under my hand as Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia as the Governor being absent at Richmond this 11th day of July 1787

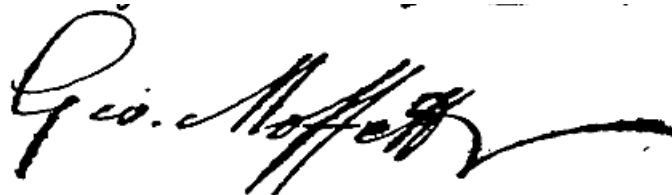
S/ T. Meriwether

S/ Beverly Randolph

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I do hereby certify that John McKinney, of my company on the campaign commanded by Colonel Andr Lewis [Andrew Lewis], in 1774 was badly wounded through both thighs & the left wrist in the battle with the Indians at point Pleasant. Given under my hand this 3rd day of August 1787.

S/ Geo. Moffett



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I do hereby certify that Mr. John McKinney now of Fayette County Kentucky, Pensioner of the State of Virginia as appears by a Certificate from his Excellency Beverly Randolph dated July 11th 1787 upon application to me this day to examine his wounds do in consequence thereof judge him incapable of procuring his Livelihood & from the present appearance of them I am of opinion that there is no probability of his being capable to do so in the future.

Lexington, Kentucky June 17th 1789

S/ John Jones Slater, M.D.



[p 18: September 9, 1789, Doctor Basil Duke, M.D. gave a certificate substantially identical to that given by John Jones Slater above.]

[p 20]

Richmond 26th November 1790

On the examination of the within named John McKinney who appears to be about 33 years of age, find that Several Balls appeared to have passed through the left thigh in different directions, some of them near the Groin – that very considerable loss of substance in the muscles as well a part of the Bone has greatly weakened the Lamb & caused unnatural adhesions to the Bone in a great degree. – Several other scars appear which I have no doubt must have arisen from painful & perhaps, from those situation, dangerous wounds – though at present they do not seem to be very prejudicial – but the left hand has become almost totally useless by a ball having passed through the wrist which has formed a perfect ankylosis of the Joint with great contraction of the fingers prevents all motion of the hand. He says he received those wounds at an engagement with the Indians at point Pleasant – the disability of this man to supply himself by hard labor only is manifestly great & his [interlined word indecipherable] suffering certainly claimed the attention of his Country.

S/ W. Foushee

[the bulk of the papers in this file consists of documents required for the annual administration of the pension due the veteran up until and through the year 1817.]