

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Robertson (Robert) McKinney R873

Mary Bettisworth¹ f25VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

5/7/13

[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.]

State of Kentucky Adair County: SS

On this 3rd day of July 1846 personally appeared before me Eli Wheat a Justice of the County Court of Adair County, it being a Court of record, Mary Bettisworth a resident of said County of Adair, aged, from her best information seventy-four years the 14th day of last May, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the act of Congress passed July 7, 1838 entitled "an act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows;" That she is the widow of Robertson McKinney (sometimes called and written Robert McKinney) who was a Soldier in the war of the revolution, in the Virginia State line, she does not know to what Regiment he belonged – but she has often heard him speak of one of his Officers either Captain or Major whose name was John Mazerett. She cannot tell precisely when he entered the Service or when he left the Same, but she has often heard him say (and does not doubt) that he served in the State line as a soldier for four years and was regularly discharged.

She thinks he lived in Westmoreland County Virginia when he enlisted. She states that she has no documentary evidence in support of the claim. She further declares that she was married to said McKinney as near as she can now recollect about 55 years ago, Say in 1790 or 1791. She is illiterate and has no record of her age but states that she lived with said McKinney from their marriage until his death very nearly 30 years, wanting only a few months and her said husband, the aforesaid McKinney died in Adair County Kentucky on the 7th day of February 1821. She therefore states that her marriage with said McKinney took place in 1790 or 91. That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but the marriage took place previous to the first January 1794. They were married in Campbell County Virginia, and she has no record evidence in her possession of the marriage. The Parson who married them was named James Mitchell.

She further declares that about 9 or 10 years after the death of said McKinney she intermarried with Charles Bettisworth and that said Bettisworth according to her best recollection, died on the 12th of June 1843. And that she has not since married that since his death has been and still is a widow.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year aforesaid before me

S/ Eli Wheat, J. A. C. C.

S/ Mary Bettisworth, X her mark

[p 7: copy of a marriage bond dated October 6, 1791 issued to Robinson McKinney and Thomas Franklin in Campbell County Virginia conditioned on them marriage of Robinson McKinney to

¹ Former Widow

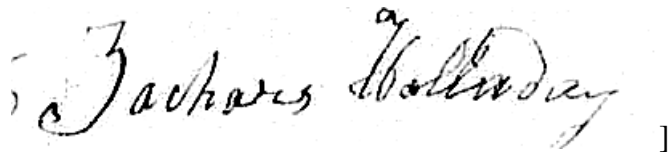
Mary Suttentfield.]

This is to Certify, That it appears from a List in this Office of such Officers and Soldiers of the Virginia State Line, during the Revolutionary War, as settled their Accounts, and received Certificates for the balance of their Full Pay, according to an Act of Assembly, passed the November Session 1781, that a Certificate issued on the 4th day of July 1783, in the name of Robert McKenny, as a Soldier of Artillery for £83.8.0, which Certificate appears to have been delivered to __ and was given for services prior to the 1st January 1782.

Given under my hand, at the Auditor's Office, Richmond, this
9th day of July 1846.

S/ Jas E. Heath, AUDITOR

[p 20: Zacharias Holladay² gave testimony in Adair County Kentucky that he was well acquainted with the veteran and his wife; that he knows they lived together as man and wife until the death of Robert or Robinson McKinney; that he conversed with McKinney and heard him say that he served 2 years in the Revolutionary war and was at the siege of Yorktown; that he, the affiant, was also at Yorktown and from conversation with McKinney believes that he must have been there also, but the affiant has no recollection of having been acquainted with him at that time.

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² FPA S31141