

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of Frederick Kestler S16177

PA VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

State of Indiana }
Clark County } Ss

On this [blank: 22nd] day of October 1832 personally appeared before the Hon' e. John F Ross president & John Carr and Samuel Prather Associate Judges of the Circuit Court of Clark County now sitting Frederick Kestler a resident of said County & State aged 72 years, 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 passed June 7 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He enlisted in the year 1776 for three months & entered the service under Capt. John Clark, Lieut. Wolf & Colo Potter in Northumberland County State of Pennsylvania marched to Philadelphia & from that to Trenton, was at the Battle of Trenton [26 Dec 1776], & marched from thence to Morristown & thence to the hills near Spanktown [now Rahway NJ] on the Jersey line where he was stationed for winter & at the expiration of the three months was discharged. In the year 1777 he entered the service in Lancaster County Pennsylvania as a substitute for one Johnson under Capt. John Rutherford & joined General [James] Potter's troops of Pennsylvania at Chestertown, near Philadelphia, & marched from thence to the lower ford of the Brandywine, was at the battle of Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] & retreated to Chestertown – from thence marched up the Schuylkill at the sign of the Bull & thence marched up the Schuylkill to the White Horse & from thence to a place called the Yellow Springs [near present Chester Springs PA] & from thence marched to a place called the Trap, where he was stationed about a week when his term of two months expired & he was discharged. He enlisted for a term of seven months in the year 1778 in Northumberland County Pennsylvania to guard the frontier settlements against the depredations of the Indians & entered the service under Capt. John Dougherty Lieut. William Hedding & was stationed at Black's fort on the Western branch of the Susquehannah river in Northumberland County – he was at Freeland's fort at the time it was burned by the British & Indians – at the expiration of the seven months he was discharged at Black's fort. He enlisted at Staunton Augusta County, Virginia on the 1st of April 1781 under Capt. Thomas Boyer [sic: Thomas Bowyer BLWt268-300] recruiting officer, for during the war, entered the service under Capt. Johnson, Lieut Stover, marched to Winchester barracks & from thence marched down to Point de Fork barracks on James River [sic: Point of Fork at the confluence with Rivanna River] where he remained until in November, after the surrender of Cornwallis at Little York [Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] when he was finally discharged.

He further states that he has no documentary evidence, and knows of no person living who can testify to his services.

He further states that he was born in Lancaster County in the State of Pennsylvania in the year 1760. has no record of his age. He was living in Northumberland County Pennsylvania when he entered the service the three several times first above named, & resided in Augusta County Virginia when he enlisted the last time. After the War he removed to the State of Georgia, in Wilkes County, where he lived 20 years – then removed to the State of Kentucky where he lived about three years then removed to Jefferson County Indiana Territory where he resided until last fall when he moved from Jefferson County to Clark County Indiana about three miles from his residence in Jefferson – where he now lives. He knew Gen'l.

Washington Gen'l. [Israel] Putnam Gen'l. [Peter] Muhlenberg. He does not recollect the names or numbers of any Continental or militia regiments with which he served. He further states that he is known to Henry Boyer & John Brinton who reside in his neighborhood & can testify as to his character for truth & veracity & their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution. He hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state

Frederick hisXmark Kestler

NOTE: The file contains a power of attorney that reads in part as follows.

“Know all Men by these Presents, That we, Susannah Giltner Samuel Kestler, & Emanuel Kestler, heirs of Frederick Kestler deceased, who was a Revolutionary Pensioner of the United States on the Rolls of the Indiana Agency, at the rate of 66 dollars & 66 cts pr. annum, and who died in Clark County in the State of Indiana on the 9th day of March AD 1836; also heirs of Catharine Kestler, (widow of the said Frederick Kestler,) who was also a pensioner, after the death of her said husband, at the rate of one half the amount per annum, that was drawn by her said husband, and who died on the 20th day of February AD 1837, in Clark County, Indiana... [power of attorney follows, witnessed by Andrew J Giltner and Tirsah Giltner]

No pension application by Catharine Kestler was found.