

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of Samuel Kennerley (Kennerly) S16900

VA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris. Revised 17 Aug 2014.

On the 11th day of November in the year 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the Court of Botetourt County now sitting Samuel Kennerly a resident of the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia aged near eighty one 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 7th 1832 that he was born in the County of Culpepper [sic: Culpeper] and State of Virginia and that from his Fathers register (which he has not now in his possession nor does he know what has become of it) it appears that he was born in the month of March or February 1754 that he resided several years in the County of Culpepper after his birth and then removed to the County of Augusta in the State of Virginia where he resided several years and removed from there to the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia where he has ever since resided and still resides that he Volunteered under a Captain Patrick Buchhanan [sic: Patrick Buchanan] of the County of Augusta and State of Virginia and marched in his Company in the month of June 1777 or 8 [sic] through the South Western part of Virginia and a part of what he supposes was then the State of North Carolina (but now the State of Tennessee) to the Tennessee River in what was then the Cherokee Country (a distance of about five hundred miles) against the Cherokee Indians who had been very troublesome in molesting our South Western Frontier this operation against the Cherokee Indians was Commanded by Colo. William Christian who after his forces had rendezvoused at the big Island of Holstine River [sic: Long Island in Holston River at present Kingsport TN; Oct 1776] marched into the Cherokee Indian nation on the Tennessee River and burnt the Tents and Villages and Corn (which was then ripe) of the Indians. The Company of Capt. Buchhanan in which he marched started in the month of June 1777 or 8 on this expedition and returned in the month of November so that he served five months in this expedition during which time he was exposed to great hardships danger and fatigue the march of the troops being almost entirely after they crossed the Alleghany through a wilderness and in the Country of a Savage Enemy He says that he again Volunteered and entered the service in a Company Commanded by Capt. Thomas Rowland in the County of Botetourt and State of Virginia in the month of January 1781 and marched under him into the State of North Carolina and joined the Army of General Green [sic: Nathanael Greene] five days after the battle of the Cowpens [in South Carolina on 17 Jan 1781] and continued in his army until after the Battle of Guilford [sic: Guilford Courthouse NC, 15 Mar 1781] which battle he was in and took from a British officer his cocked hat & feather, he was wounded by a ball on the side of his head after this he was sent to a hospital at Colo. [Peter] Perkins on Dan River [at Berry Hill in Pittsylvania County VA] where he remained nursing and attending to the wounded after his own wound was cured between 7 & 8 weeks when he was discharged in the middle of May so that he was during this tour four months in service and five months in the Cherokee expedition aforesaid will make altogether nine months that he was in the service of his Country during the Revolutionary war. He says that Colo Otho Williams [Otho Holland Williams] Colo Wm Washington [William Washington] & Colo Henry Lee were some of the regular officers in addition to those he has mentioned who were with the troops at Guilford. He says that he received a discharge from the service in writing in both the tours he made but has lost them. He says that William Kennerly [pension application S8781] who is now in Court knows him and knows that he served in the Cherokee expedition and in the Campaign of 1781 under General Green in North Carolina and Peter Bricky [Peter Brickey R1192] & Colo Wm Anderson [William Anderson] who was also in the Army of General Green in the same Campaign (& are now in Court) have been long acquainted with him and know that he served in the said Campaign and Mr. Bricky knows that he was in the battle of Guilford and was wounded and Colo William Anderson Colo James Cartmill and John Moore who have long known him can testify to his character for veracity and their belief of his services as a Soldier of the Revolution. 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 – Sworn to & subscribed the day aforesaid in open Court
S. Kennerley

We William Kennerley & Peter Brickey do hereby certify that we were acquainted with Samuel Kennerley during the Revolutionary War the former and the said Samuel are Brothers and were raised together that he saw him start to join the army of General Green in the state of North Carolina some time before the battle of Guilford and after his return he saw the bullet hole in his hat and the scar of the bullet in the side of his head where he was wounded. He also states that he knows that his brother Samuel marched in the Company of Capt'n Patrick Buckhanan under the command of Colo William Christian from the County of Augusta in the month of June 1777 or 8 in an expedition against the Cherokee Indians on the Tennessee River and he thinks that he return from that expedition in the month of November following. Peter Brickey states that he knew the said Samuel Kennerly before he marched into North Carolina to join General Green that he was in the Army of Gen'l Green with him and served part of the time with him under Captain Thomas Rowland. that he knows that he was in the Army and he saw him engaged in the battle at Guilford his Cocked hat shot through with a bullet and the wound made by it in the side of his head he parted him shortly after the battle of Guilford and does not know how long he remained in the army. Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid in open Court

Wm. Kennerley

Peter Brickey

NOTE: In the file is a letter dated 18 June 1844 stating that "Mr Samuel Kennerly late of Fincastle Botetourt county Virginia emigrated to St Louis Missouri some four or five years ago and died there some four months after his arrival. His son Samuel Lockhart Kennerly while acting as the Executor of his father placed the pension papers in my hands for the purpose of having the amount due collected." A Treasury-Department document states that the child of Samuel Kennerly received his final pension payment up to the date of his death, 3 Feb 1840.