

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Kelly S16903

f31VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/10/13

[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. The word 'illegible' or 'indcipherable' 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.]

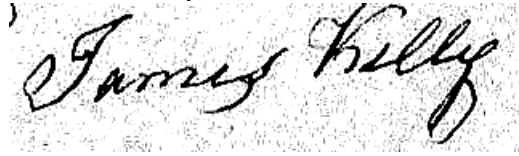
State of Missouri County of Cooper

On this 9th day of May in the year A.D. 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Judges of the Cooper County Court now sitting James Kelly a resident of this County of Cooper aforesaid aged seventy-six years last August who being 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 entered the Service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. Sometime in the month of September in the year 1777 he entered the service as a volunteer and in the capacity of a private Soldier under the command of Samuel Lewis Lieutenant and Archibald Woods Captain of a Company of Virginia Militia from Greenbrier County Virginia – and his Company remained at Rich Creek Fort for the purpose of defending the frontiers against the Indians and that he had several skirmishes with the Indians while there, where he remained doing duty as aforesaid defending the frontiers against the Indians three years – when a draft was made sometime in the year 1780 he thinks in the month of September in the Town of Fincastle Botetourt County Virginia for three Companies to serve under the command of General Clark [George Rogers Clark] of the Continental Troops who was about to march against Fort Detroit as they were informed, and at the draft aforesaid one Adam Caperton was drafted, whose place this declarant took as substitute being permitted to leave the aforesaid Company of Archibald Woods only upon the condition that he joined the regular Troops; that he thus entered the regular Service under the Command of John Henderson Captain, John Woods Lieutenant & John Hall Ensign and Andrew Hamilton militia Major – that they then marched from Greenbrier County to Fort Chisel [Fort Chiswell] in Montgomery County Virginia, where the 3 companies from Greenbrier County among whom was this declarant as aforesaid, under the command of Major Hamilton joined Major Quirk [Thomas Quirk] of the Continental Line who took the Command of all the Companies that rendezvoused at Fort Chisel; that they thence marched to the Block house on Holston River, where John Henderson, the Captain of the Company to which this declarant belonged resigned his commission, and John Woods the Lieutenant was promoted to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Captain John Henderson, and Ensign John Hall was promoted to the lieutenantancy and James Kelly this Declarant was elected and promoted in some of his Company after having served as aforesaid three months as near as he can now recollect, and after remaining near three days at the Block

House they marched through Moccasin Gap, Over Wallers Ridge [?]¹ and Powells Mountain into Powell's Valley, thence to Cumberland, thence to Colonel Logan's [Benjamin Logan's] in Kentucky; thence this declarant with 25 men was sent to McAfee's Station on Salt River, where they remained fighting the Indians 2 or 3 weeks, thence they were called to McMurtry's Station [?]² at the mouth of Dicks River, where they remained 4 or 5 weeks, from thence they were ordered to Lexington now Kentucky where they were all discharged sometime in the month of August in the year 1781 as near as he can now recollect. This declarant served as above stated three years and eleven months; three years and one three months a private and eight months as Ensign. And the declarant further states that he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. And that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the Pension Roll of the Agency of any State.

S/ James Kelly



Questions by the Court

1. Where and in what year were you born?

Answer. In the Ireland in the month of August in the year 1756 and landed in America in the year 1773 and took the Oath of Allegiance to the United States in the year 1777 –

Question 2nd Have you any record of your age, if so, where is it?

Answer. I have no record of my age – having head all my books, papers and property burnt while living in the State of Kentucky.

Question 3rd – Where were you living when called into service where have you lived since the revolutionary war & where do you now live?

Answer. I was living in Greenbrier County Virginia when I first entered the Service – I have lived since the war in Virginia, Kentucky and for the last 13 years I have & do now live in the State of Missouri.

Question 4. How were you called into Service, were you drafted, did you volunteer, or were you a Substitute, and if a substitute for whom?

Answer. I volunteered & served as such under Captain Archibald Woods for 3 years. I then volunteered to serve as a substitute in the place of Adam Caperton and served as stated in my declaration 11 months longer.

Question 5th. State the names of some of the Regular Officers who were with the troops where you served; such Continental and militia regiments as you can recollect, and the several Circumstances of your Services?

Answer. My declaration will state that as well as I can now recollect (read it)

Question 6. Did you ever receive a discharge from the Service and did you ever receive a commission?

¹ Over Wallers Ridge

² McMurtry's Station

Answer I never received a written discharge, nor a written commission.

Question 7. State the names of persons to whom you are known in your present neighborhood & who can testify as to your character for veracity and their belief of your Services as a soldier of the Revolution?

Answer General Charles Woods, John Briscoe Esquire, David Jones Esquire, Reverend John R Longan & many others

subscribed and sworn to the day and year aforesaid

S/ James Kelly

[Justinian Williams, a clergyman, and Martin Jennings gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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State of Missouri County of Cooper: County Court February Term 1834

I James Kelly of the County of Cooper and State of Missouri the claimant of a Pension under the Act of Congress passed June 7th 1832, in the attached declaration, do hereby disclaim my right to a Pension under said Act as an Ensign in the Army of the revolution and claim a pension under said Act as a private alone for the period of three years and three months, the period specified in my said declaration, and do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or Annuity except the present. This 6th day of February A.D. 1834

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

S/ James Kelly

[Of veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$36.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 11 months in the Virginia service.]