

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Daniel Keels S18071

f27SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/15/09: rev'd 3/26/16

[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 'indecipherable' 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.]

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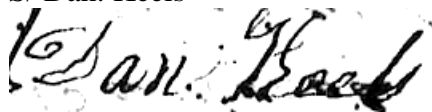
State of South Carolina Sumter District

Personally appeared in open Court on the thirty first of October 1832 the Court of Common Pleas for Sumter District now sitting Daniel Keils [sic] 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 the 7th of June 1832. This applicant says that he was born in Williamsburgh District State aforesaid that while very young he was brought into Sumter District where he has resided ever since and now resides and is now 75 years of age that he entered the Service of the United States in South Carolina under the command of General Williamson [Andrew Williamson] where he remained some months that Colonel Singleton [Lt. Col. Matthew Singleton] commanded the Regiment Captain John Nelson [John Neilson] his officer -- that he was a drafted militia man. That soon after Gates defeat [Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]¹ or in Spring after he joined General Marion's [Frances Marion's] Brigade where he remained in service alternately until the British left Charleston -- and this applicant do hereby relinquish every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and that his name is not on the pension Roll of any agency of the States. That he served Two years.

Sworn and subscribe to the day above mentioned in open court

S/ BJ Earle, Presiding Judge

S/ Dan. Keels



We, William McElveen² and John McDonald³ of State and District aforesaid do hereby certify that we were well acquainted with the within named Daniel Keels during the Revolutionary War and do know that he served a Revolutionary [soldier] as stated that we served [with] him much of the time and believe him to be of the age stated by him.

Sworn and subscribe to in open Court the day and year within written areas.

S/ BJ Earle, Presiding judge in open court

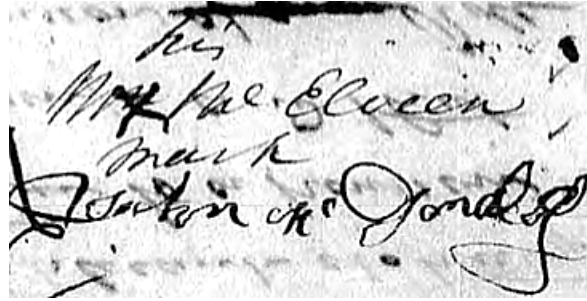
S/ Wm McElveen, X his mark

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

² [William McElveen S21880](#)

³ [John McDonald S18115](#)

S/ John McDonald

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John McDonald". The ink is dark and the paper shows some texture and slight discoloration.

[Moab Hewitt, a clergyman, and Robert Roberts gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

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Additions by way of amendment to the declaration of Daniel Keels for a pension

On this the third Monday in May 1833 appeared before me William D. Martin one of the associate Judges of the said State, now holding a court of Common Pleas & Sessions for district of Sumter, Daniel Keels who being duly sworn, deposes & saith, that he served not less than two years in the Revolutionary war -- that he has no record of his age, -- that he did not receive any written discharge from the Service & that he refers to Moab Hewitt, John McDonald, William McElveen & various others in his neighborhood who can testify to his character for veracity, and their belief of his services as a soldier of the Revolution.

Sworn to in open Court the day & year above written.

S/ Wm D. Martin, Presiding judge

S/ Dan Keels

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan Keels". The ink is dark and the paper shows some texture and slight discoloration.

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South Carolina Sumter District

On this twenty seventh day of September, in the year of our Lord 1837, personally appeared before me, John Hanks, one of the Justices of the Quorum for said district; Daniel Keels, Senior, a resident of said district & state, aged about eighty-two years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832, make the following declaration: as an amendment of the declaration which he sent to the War Department in 1833. --

That he entered the service of the United States, as a private, under the following named officers & served as herein stated.

As to his first tour -- he was placed under the command of Colonel Richardson [Richard Richardson] & Captain Gordon [Moses Gordon] & the first movement they made was to the Upper part of said State where they encamped for two months among the mountains, at a place known as "Snowy Camps."⁴ During this time they took as prisoners a body of Tories commanded by one Colonel Fletcher [sic, Thomas Fletchall]. At the end of these two months, they were all discharged & sent home. --

His 2nd -- 3rd -- & 4th tours were to the City of Charleston & from there to Ashley River under the above-named officers, during each of which tours he was out one month -- making in

⁴ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_snow_campaign.html

the whole three months. During this time, there was no fighting nor any prisoners taken or captures made. At the end of each tour they were regularly discharged & sent to their homes.

His next tour was to the town (then village) of Beaufort, under the command of the officers above -- Stated together with Colonel Kershaw [Eli Kershaw]. They remained at that place one month, without having affected anything. They were then discharged.

The next tour he made was to Purrysburg under Captain Nelson's command & from there to the Sisters Ferry on Savannah River; thence to Hudson's ferry on said River. All these movements were made during two months, which was the length of time he served at this tour, during which there was no fighting.

After this period, he was again called out & went to Augusta, Georgia, where he staid four months. He was not engaged in any battle or skirmish although there were skirmishes between the British & others of his party. All the names of the officers which he recollects on this tour, our General Williamson -- Colonel Singleton -- Major Fullwood & Captain Nelson. --

After this tour of service, he was placed under the command of Colonel Richardson (the names of the other officers he does not remember) & marched to Wadboo Swamp in Charleston District & was out four months. No engagement or skirmish took place during this period. --

From old age & extreme loss of memory, he is unable to state but months & years in the above stated services were performed. All that he can say is that his tour to Purrysburg, he thinks was in 1778 & his tour to Augusta in 1779. The reason why his other amendment to his said declaration was made at so great a period & why his present amendment has been delayed so long, is to be attributed to his extreme old age & bodily infirmity & the great distance he lives from the Court House of said district & the difficulty which he finds in getting here.

Sworn to before me at Sumter Court house on 27th September 1837

S/ John Hanks, QU

S/ Dan. Keels

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South Carolina Sumter District:

Personally appeared before me Daniel Keels Senior and being duly sworn, saith, That he can assign no reasons why his name is not entered on the Comptroller's Office in Columbia, unless it was through neglect of his not going forward at the close of the war and proving his services as many others did not, for he had no expectations at that time of ever receiving a pension for his services: nor he never did receive a cent for his services in the war, nor never knew any other militia man that did, they were Continental soldiers that served in the Revolutionary war that received wagers [sic], and I suppose that there were indents handed in after the close of the war for their services, and there are others drawing pensions whose names are not on record.

Sworn before me July the 9th 1839

S/ CT Goodman, QU

S/ Dan Keels, Sener [sic]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$53.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 16 months in the South Carolina militia.]