

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Kidd S18481

f17VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/21/13

[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 '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.]

State of Virginia Nelson County: to wit

On this 24th day of December 1832 personally appeared in open court before the Court of Nelson County, now sitting, James Kidd a resident of said County and State aforesaid aged 66 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 entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

He substituted for Isaac Bryant who was a Stewart [steward] for Colonel Nicholas [probably William Nicholas] of Albemarle County in said State, and entered the service under Colonel __ Richardson of the Militia, Major __ Woods, Captain James Woods, Lieutenant Horsley Goodman, Ensign Woods, all of the Militia, in the month of March 1781 at which time he was not fifteen years old by about a month. He resided when he entered the service in the County of Albemarle and State aforesaid, and rendezvoused at Sneeds Tavern [Sneed's Tavern or Snead's Tavern] below Charlottesville in said County, there was three companies rendezvoused at that place, the other Companies were commanded by Captain Miller & Captain Taliaferro, the Companies were then marched by the way of the three notched road to Richmond and was sometime on the march, to & fro, before they arrived at Richmond, where they drew arms and joined the Army under General Nelson [Thomas Nelson] and was some time under General Lawson [Robert Lawson], the forces then marched to Bottoms bridge, the British Army was then on the South side of James River marching to and fro, making feints, as I was informed to deceive our forces, the forces were constantly moving, at one time they marched to New Kent Courthouse, and then on the road towards Williamsburg, the British then made a feint, and it was said they were returning to Richmond, the forces were then divided some came up the Meadows Bridge, to keep in hearing of the British, and some took the road towards Richmond & some were left below New Kent Courthouse as a guard, at this time he was taken sick and remained sick North of the road, that leads from New Kent Courthouse to Williamsburg. How long he was sick he does not recollect but it was several weeks, after he had partly recovered Lieutenant Horsley Goodman & Sergeant Clarke called for him and he went with them to four Miles Creek below Richmond where he joined the Army again under the same Officers, about this time his tour of service of three months was about expiring, and Captain Nailor beat up for volunteers to join a Company to go down near to James town, he states that he was the first who stepped out as a volunteer, the Company was formed and marched down by the Meadows Bridge, by the right hand road near the James River, near to James Town where the Company remained some time as

a guard, until the news came, that the British forces were crossing the River at James town part of them did cross, it was then that orders that the whole forces should unite, but General Waine [Anthony Wayne] brought on the action first [veteran may be referring to the action at Jamestown Ford on July 6, 1781]. General Lafayette laid with his forces on the opposite side of a morass, as a reserve – the battle with Wayne was of short duration, the British embarked and went to York; at this time the news came that the British forces who remained on the South of James River were returning towards Richmond, when the Company under Captain Nailor in which he was, with several other companies were ordered back to Richmond to guard it; and the Companies marched as far back as the Malvern Hills, at this place he was again taken very sick, and he was sent by Sergeant Dudley & Moore to Richmond to get a hospital & medical aid. I was received by the Doctor and in a very few days it was reported that an insurrection of the Negroes was about to break out at Richmond to be aided by the British. He was then put into a Baggage Wagon, and went with several single Wagons, & guards to each, and was finally left at Colonel Boswell's Tavern in Louisa, at that place the wagon in which he was, by some means got on fire, and before they could get him out he was very badly burnt on his shoulders & back, at that time unable to help himself and he stayed there until his friends heard from him and they sent for him and he got home sometime in the early part of October having remained in the service a little upwards of six months. He has no documentary evidence to support his claim having never received a discharge, nor did he ever receive a dollar from his Country for his services. He remained disabled to work for fifteen months after he got home and is now a cripple from the burn & disease. He states that he only recollects one man by whom he can prove he was in the service of his Country, and his name is Richard Hare, who was in the service with him: he was in the same company with him whilst under Captain Woods.

The following interrogatories were propounded to the applicant by the Court, and answered as follows to wit:

1st where & in what year were you born?

Answer. I was born in Granville County North Carolina (& my father shortly after moved back to the County of Albemarle), and was born April the 22nd 1766.

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

Answer – My father had a record of my age, but where it is now, I know not.

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

Answer. I was living in Albemarle County when I entered the service and have continued to live in that County & the County of Nelson ever since.

4th. 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 was first a substitute for Isaac Bryant and afterwards a volunteer under Captain Nailor.

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 general nature of your services?

Answer. I was with General Nelson & General Lawson and performed the service as stated in the preceding declaration.

6th. Did you ever receive a discharge from the service, and if so where is it?

Answer. I never received a discharge I was sick when the Company was discharged & not with them

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

Answer. Richard Hare,¹ who knows I was in the service, and Captain John H Mosby.

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 and subscribed the day & year aforesaid

S/ James Kidd²

[Richard Hare and John H Mosby gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Nelson in the State of Virginia James Kidd who being duly sworn deposed and saith that when he substituted for Isaac Bryant who was steward for Colonel Nicholas in the month of March 1781 although he was not quite fifteen years old yet he was well grown and no doubt was believed to be capable of service; no questions were asked about his age, and he presumes there would not have been much difficulty in getting [paper damaged and text illegible] received in the room of Colonel Nicholas' steward as Colonel Nicholas stood high and had public duties to perform himself. And he states that when he volunteered under Captain Nailor he heard no inquiry made about age, they wanted volunteers and he was then in the service he presumes he was considered a good Volunteer. – He would here state that he never knew anyone refused to be received in the Army who was able to raise a musket – Soldiers were wanted and so far as he knows, all were received who were willing to enter the service when the relations made no objections. He was not drafted but served as a substitute and went as a substitute – at the [paper damaged and text illegible] the age of ~~eighteen~~^{sixteen} only applied to such as should be drafted and not to willing substitutes or volunteers. He again states in the most solemn manner that he served as set out in his Declaration, that it is upwards of six months (a little) but no claim for a longer time) first as a substitute for three months or nearly so and secondly as a volunteer under Captain Nailor under whom he remained as stated in his declaration until sometime in the early part of October he having first entered the service in the month of March 1781 preceding and for such service I claim a pension.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 17th day of August 1833

S/ Wm Horsley

S/ James Kidd

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Kidd". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the printed name "S/ James Kidd".

[Facts in file: Veteran left a widow named Lucy but the place and date of their marriage is not contained in the documents in this file.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$20 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 6 months in the Virginia militia.]

¹ FPA S8697. This file contains no separate affidavit given by Hare in support of the veteran's claim other than the standard supporting affidavit given by him.

² the handwriting for the signature is identical to the handwriting in the body of the document itself, consequently I do not believe it is the actual signature of the veteran