

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Mathew Kuykendall [Kaykendall] S30518

f32NC/SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 11/6/09 & rev'd 5/3/16 & 10/7/18

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 4]

State of Kentucky, County of Butler: Sct.

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of November 1832, personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Butler County, now sitting, Mathew Kuykendall, a resident in the County of Butler and State of Kentucky, aged 74 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefits, of the Act of Congress passed June 7<sup>th</sup> 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named Officers and sworn as herein stated. That sometime in the month of June 1776, he volunteered in an expedition ordered by the Governor of North Carolina against the Cherokee Towns from that state – but he resided in what was called York District in South Carolina when he entered the service, and was persuaded to do so by his uncle who commanded the company in which he served on said expedition. That he served under Captain Joseph Hardin (of Cavalry)<sup>1</sup> Lieut. Peter Sides (or, Sites). There was also another company of cavalry on the expedition, commanded by Capt. Mabin [sic, Robert Mebane], but does not recollect any Field Officers taking the command of the two companies. The expedition<sup>2</sup> was commanded by Gen. Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford], who lived near Salisbury, N.C. That he rendezvoused at Henry Whitmire's [?] on the south fork of the Catawba River, and joined the main army under Gen. Rutherford at what was called the head of the Catawba River and - marched across French Broad River, & Pigeon [River] into the Cherokee Country, where they burnt their villages and destroyed their corn and returned to North Carolina having served about four months from the date he volunteered until his return – when he returned to York District in S. Carolina, where he resided. That during this expedition he was in no battle, the Indians always avoiding them but they killed some, and took some prisoners. There was no Continental companies on this expedition, being entirely militia men. That he afterwards moved to Burke County in North Carolina where he resided, when he was ordered by Col. Charles McDowell (after was General) in February or March 1780, to raise

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<sup>1</sup> J. D. Lewis lists this officer as Joseph Herndon of Surry County NC. See [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc\\_patriot\\_military\\_captains.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/nc_patriot_military_captains.html) but Larry A. Rickert, a descendent of Kuykendall, notes that the uncle of Kuykendall who likely is the relative who enticed him to volunteer in the expedition was his uncle Captain Joseph Hardin of the New Acquisition militia. Since Kuykendall says he lived in York District (which didn't exist at the time of Revolution but which was part of the New Acquisition) it is much more likely that the officer named by Kuykendall was indeed Joseph Hardin. Thanks to Larry for pointing out.

<sup>2</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cherokee\\_expedition\\_1776.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776.html)

a company for the protection of the County against the Tories – which he did, and commanded the company between three and four months, and was in active service nearly the whole of the time. That about June 1780, he volunteered under Capt. Joseph McDowell of the Burke County Militia, where he resided, and served until after the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780],<sup>3</sup> as a private, but does not recollect the day. That he served in said company under Col. Charles McDowell (afterwards General) and joined him at the head of Cane Creek, in Burke County – where he was in an engagement with a party of British and Tories under Dunlap and was defeated by them.<sup>4</sup> That after the defeat, he marched up Catawba River, to Catha's where he remained a few days, until they heard of the British and Tories under Ferguson [Patrick Ferguson] being in pursuit, when he crossed the Blue Ridge to Yellow Mountain, and thence to Watauga River – where he remained until joined by the troops of Cols. Campbell [William Campbell], Shelby [Isaac Shelby] and Sevier [John Sevier] and then marched back across Catawba River to Kings Mountain, where Ferguson was defeated, but was not in the engagement in consequence of having gotten leave of absence to see his family as he passed through the county, and as he returned to rejoin his company, he met Col. Charles McDowell, who informed him that he need not proceed, as there would be no fighting until his return. He, Col. McDowell, was then on his way to see Gen. Rutherford to procure an appointment for one of the said Colonels to command the expedition, but in his absence they attacked and defeated Ferguson at Kings Mountain – about eight miles from which place, and after the battle, he re-joined his company under Capt. Joseph McDowell. That he marched with the prisoners through Burke County to Wilkes County, where some of the Tories were hanged, and others paroled – when the troops were disbanded, he having served about four months, but will not be certain as to the precise time. That previous to the last mentioned expedition, he volunteered under Capt. Joseph McDowell, in an expedition of between three and four weeks, against the Tories, and met them at Ramsour's Mill [June 20, 1780]<sup>5</sup> on the South Fork of the Catawba River, in N.C. under John Moore, a distinguished Tory, and defeated them. That in the early part of December 1780, he volunteered, for five weeks to join Gen. Morgan [Daniel Morgan] – he does not recollect the day, but recalled distinctly that his five weeks were out the day after the battle at the Cowpens [January 17, 1781].<sup>6</sup> That he served as a private under Capt. Murray [probably William Murry of Burke County] and Major Joseph McDowell, who had been promoted. That he joined Gen. Morgan at Pacolet River in South Carolina, and retreated to the Cowpens, where he arrived on the 16th of January 1781, and on the next day, about sun rise, this engagement commenced, which resulted in the defeat of the enemy and in which battle he was wounded in the right arm, which has ever since disabled him from using it to advantage. After the battle, he was discharged, and returned to Burke County, N.C. where he resided. That he was born in Mecklenburg County N. Carolina, the 24th day of October 1758. He is not certain that he has any record of his age, he had one, taken from the record made by his father but does not know where it is. That he lived a few years after he was wounded at the battle of the Cowpens in Burke County N.C. when he moved to Washington County in said state, and lived there three or four years, when he moved to Davidson County, Tennessee - and lived there eight or ten years –

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<sup>3</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_kings\\_mountain.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_kings_mountain.html)

<sup>4</sup> Veteran appears to be describing the engagement at Cane Creek on September 12, 1780, but the forces in that engagement were commanded by Major Patrick Ferguson, not by Captain James Dunlap of the King's American Regiment. [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_cane\\_creek.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cane_creek.html). Dunlap was at Cane Creek but he was under the command of Ferguson at that time.

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_ramseurs\\_mill.html](http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_ramseurs_mill.html)

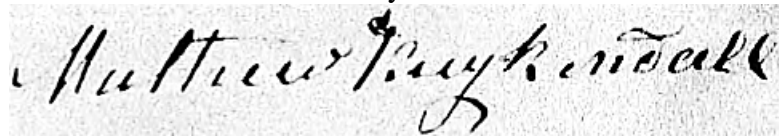
<sup>6</sup> [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution\\_battle\\_of\\_cowpens.html](http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_cowpens.html)

when he moved to Logan County, (that part of which is now Butler County) Ky where he now resides. That on his return from the first expedition against the Cherokee Towns, he received a written discharge, which is lost, but does not recollect by whom signed – and does not recollect whether he received any other. That he received no commission, but was called upon by Col. Charles McDowell, of Burke Co. N.C. and directed to raise his company for the protection of the County, as before stated - for which service, he received his pay-certificate as well as for the men who served under him. That he is acquainted with Rev. Joseph Taylor Thomas Lawrence in his present neighborhood who can testify as to his character for veracity, and their belief of his service 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 and subscribed this day, and year aforesaid.

S/ Mathew Kuykendall

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mathew Kuykendall". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with some flourishes at the end of the name.

[Joseph Taylor, a clergyman, and Thomas Lawrence gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[The original of the following document is extremely faint: consequently this transcription should be used with caution. The images posted on Ancestry.com are considerably better than those posted on Fold3.com.]

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State of Kentucky Butler County: Sct.

On this 13th day of May 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Court of Butler County now sitting Mathew Kuykendall a resident in the County of Butler and State of Kentucky being duly sworn according to law deposes and saith that by her reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his service but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned below and in the following grades, for four months he served as a Captain & for ten months and three days I served as a private and for such service I claim a pension. That he has no documentary evidence and that he knows of no person whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service. He also deposeth and saith that when his first term of service expired in October 1776, he received a written discharge which he has long since lost and does not recollect by whom signed but recollects distinctly that it was handed to him by his Captain Joseph Hardin. That in February or March when he raised his company for protection against the Tories, he received no commission but was only ordered to raise the company by Colonel Charles McDowell -- which he executed. That in October 1780, when his tour of service expired he does not recollect whether he received a written discharge or not, but believes that he did not but that the men were discharged by a general order. That for his four weeks service he does not believe that he received a written discharge and for his service of five weeks -- he does not recollect of receiving a written discharge.

Sworn and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Mathew Kuykendall

*Matthew Reynolds*

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private in the North Carolina and South Carolina militia, 4 months as a private in the Cavalry and 10 months as a private in the Infantry.]