

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements

Pension Application of Leonard T. Kerby S31183

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } Sct.

Warren County     }

On this day, the 23<sup>d</sup> of July 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the Justices of the County Court of Warren County, now sitting Leneord T. Kerby a resident of s'd County and State aged seventy two years on the 4<sup>th</sup> of October next, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following decleration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed 7<sup>th</sup> June 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herin stated.

1<sup>st</sup> That he entered the service from the County of Henry and State of Virginia as a substitute for his father David Kerby in the Company of Capt Brice Marten [sic: Brice Martin] - the Lieutenants names in whose company were Marvel Nash & John Davis. We marched from Henry C.H. in company with Capt Lyon to the mouth of Walkers creek on New river. It was about the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1778 that he joined the army on a three months tour. He aided in building the fort at the mouth of the Creek and continued there, fighting the Shawnee Indians - both night & day - till the expiration of the tour. Capt Lyons did not continue with Capt Martens company but was stationed at Capt George Paris' [sic: George Pearis's fort near present Pearisburg]. Cols Roberson & [William] Preston superintended the forces stationed on the River. He was discharged by his Capt at the expiration of his tour.

2<sup>dly</sup> He volunteered into the service on a tour of 20 or 30 days, about the 1<sup>st</sup> of Febuary 1781 from the same County & State under the command of Capt. James Terrence [James Torrance or Tarrant] - Major Peter Haston [sic: Capt. Peter Hairston] & Col. [James] Lyon - intending to join Gen Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], then stationed on the Va. side of Dan River opposite to Lord Cornwallis. He rendezvoused for this purpose at Capt Shaws. There was a Capt Crite [sic: Haman Critz] & Capt Marten [Brice Martin] with their companies on this tour. He marched to William's mill on Sandy Creek [Sandy River in Pittsylvania County] and was here discharged - Gen. Green refusing to receive a regiment whose term of service was so short. He rec'd. a discharge from his Captain.

3<sup>dly</sup> He had scarcely reached home after the foregoing tour when Gen. Green required an additional force, and yr applicant again entered the service as a substitute for Joel Estridge in the company of Capt Geo Haston [sic: George Hairston], Joshua Renfro Left [Lieutenant] & the regiment of Maj [George] Waller & Col Pen [sic: Abram Penn] marched from Henry C.H. under their direction to the Head quarters of Gen Green a few miles from Guilford CH (NC) - the battle at Guilford having just been fought [Battle of Guilford Courthouse, 15 Mar 1781] After joining the main army he was detached into Col Randon's [sic: probably John Holcomb's] regiment & Gen [Robert] Lawson's brigade, Maj [St. George] Tucker being his Major - on account of the great loss of men which had befallen that regiment in the recent battle. We then marched after Cornwallis to Ramsays [Ramsey's] Mill on Deep river, where Green expected to overtake him - But Cornwallis crossed the river on rafts of rails in the night- moved on with his main body, left Tarlton [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton] to defend his tempory bridge - and defeated Green of his hope. Here Lawsons brigade was discharged, but our company's time not being out Capt Haston was ordered down on Cape Fear River and joined Col. Lee's Regim't of Infantry [infantry attached to Lt. Col. Henry Lee's Legion]. Having staid with Col Lee until near the expiration of our tour he wishing to march into S. Carolina & unwilling to take with him troops whose term of service had so nearly expired, told Capt Haston that if he would prevail on 12 of his men to enlist for Two months to march with him to the south, he would discharge his company. Capt Haston consented to the proposition and yr applicant was selected to go with him - which he did do — Col Lee promised us a good horse & suit of clothes. He mounted us & marched us through the swamps of drowning Creek, Wackama [sic: Waccamaw River], Big Pedee [Great Pee Dee] & Little Pedee [Little Pee Dee], one half of our time mired in the quagmires & getting over the obstacles the enemy had placed in our way & the other half fighting the tories until we joined

Gen. [Francis] Marion at Doct Purvis's on the road from Campden to Charlston [in Clarendon County SC between Camden and Charleston, 14 Apr 1781]. On the next day Marion & Lee marched up Santee river to Wrights Bluff, where the British & Tories were forted [Wright's Fort]. This we besieged for 9 days & finally captured it taking Col McCoy [sic: James McKay with about 300 british and two companies of Tories all of whom (the tories) were killed except their two Captains Ned Lutten & Ben Gess. This affair took place about the 1<sup>st</sup> of May [sic: 15 - 23 Apr]. Thence he was sent off with the sick & wounded under the care of a Doct Gwin, about 3 miles from the fort where he remained till he was discharged. He left home on this tour about the last of Febuary or first of March and was discharged about the last of June 1781. His discharge by a Col. Richardson who he thinks was a continental officer [possibly Richard Richardson of Marion's Partisans], and who had been sent by Col. Lee to the temporary hospital where yr applicant was stationed for the purpose of giving him his discharge. Some of the sick & wounded were regulars belonging to Col Lees regiment of Infantry. One was named Asberry, one named Henson Benwinkle & another Wells &c. Your applicant must beg leave to say that the horse furnished him by Col Lee was by Col Lee taken away and the suit of clothes promised was never furnished by him

4<sup>thly</sup> He was again drafted on a three months tour from the same county & state about the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1781 under Capt James Terrence, whos Lieutenant was named Reuben Daniels. He was ordered out by Col Penn to guard a body of Prisoners mainly taken at the Eutaw Springs [SC, 8 Sep 1781]. He took possession of these prisoners at Henry C.H. and marched with them near Winchester (Va) where the news of Cornwallis' surrender reached them, and the prisoners being destitute of shoes, clothing &c were put out upon the farmers & cuntry people who were required to keep them safely and return them or release them when required. Our company was discharged and our discharged signed by my Captain. Your applicant has none of his discharges - some years ago his house was burnt down & they with nearly all other of his papers burnt with it. His age is recorded in the family Bible now in the possession of James Kerby [pension application W9489]. He moved from Pittsylvania county where he was born to S., Carolina & then to Ky, then to (Tenn) & then back to Ky — He can not procure the certificate of a preacher.

He hereby relinquishes his 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. The certificate of Tho. Rogers & F Potter is here annexed.

Leonard T hisXmark Kerby

I Jesse Kerby a resident of the State & County afsd do hereby certify that I served two tours in the army of the Revolution with the above named Leonard T Kerby — the first of which commenced about the 1<sup>st</sup> of Febuary 1781 and lasted about one month the other commenced about the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1781, and lasted about three months. We both went from the same county, under the same officers, & performed the same services on those tours as above stated. I likewise know of the s'd Leonard T Kerby's starting & returning on the other two campaigns he has mentioned and from the reputation of the Cuntry & the particular report of his comrades on their return I verily beleieve he performed the services & served the tours as are by him declared & sworn to.

Jessee hisXmark Kerby

NOTE: A Treasury Department document states that the Administrator of Leonard T. Kerby's estate was given the final pension payment up to the date of his death on 15 Sep 1842.