

## Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McKenney (McKinney, McKinne) S31848 f40SC [sic, Ga.]

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/22/09: rev'd 1/20/17

[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 8]

State of Georgia Lincoln County

On this 23rd day of October 1832 Personally appeared in open Court before William H. Crawford Presiding Judge of the Superior Court of said County and State now sitting John McKinne a resident of the said County & State who was born according to the register of his father the 15th day of December 1759 in Amelia County, State of Virginia and is now in his 73rd year of his age, And 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.

That in the year 1777, deponent was drafted as well as he can now remember as to dates, to perform a tour of duty on an expedition to Florida, by the order of General Elbert [Samuel Elbert of the Georgia militia],<sup>1</sup> but on account of sickness, was unable to march, but soon after was enabled to perform duty, and taken in a tour against the Creek Indians to Measles's ferry on the Ogeechee [River] and there remained with the detachment as well as he now remembers two months or thereabout. When the detachment under General Elbert returned from Florida, deponent was released & returned home to the County of Burke where his father then lived in Georgia. In the same year deponent was again called into service to Guard the Frontier, was under the Command of Lieut. Fann, who was in command at Morgan's Fort on the Ogeechee on a three months tour by draft which he served out. About this time the father of deponent removed from Burke to the Uchee Creek, then Richmond now Columbia County, where he remained with his father a short time, when the British arrived in Augusta the exact date deponent can't state, but it being unsafe at the time to remain out of service he went as a refugee & volunteered himself with General Williamson's [Andrew Williamson's] detachment in South Carolina, where he remained a short time, when an attempt was made by a Capt. Inman to raise a volunteer Company of such as had fallen in with General Williamson with such [several words missing at the bottom of the page due to the paper being torn] unite as volunteers, and the company was formed and soon after marched and joined with General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln] at the three Runs South Carolina, from which General Lincoln in a short time moved his detachment to Rutledge's plantation, same state, where he remained some time, and again resumed his march towards Charleston. Capt. Inman with his volunteers was permitted by

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ourgeorgiahistory.com/wars/Revolution/revolution11.html>

General Lincoln to return to Georgia, which was done, and the company dispersed with the express understanding to rally at any point, he would designate, as the understanding and intention of the formation of the Company was for safety to themselves and the speedy rallying to places where their services would be required as they were principally mounted men, in this situation they were at divers times called out at short periods of a few weeks in service, and again permitted to return recruit themselves & horses & await further orders of their Capt. or a General order from some commander and as emergencies or necessities required and safety compelled.

Sometime in the year 1779, deponent was called into service by a requisition made to proceed immediately to the Siege of Savannah. Capt. Charles Crawford commanding the draft from Columbia County to which Company deponent was attached and remained at Savannah during the Siege<sup>2</sup> and attempt to storm the fortifications at that place, at which time deponent, was one of the Main guard and did not anticipate in the principal engagement. The Americans being unsuccessful, withdrew and the militia called out to aid in that attack, suffered to return and deponent also returned, in which tour he served about three months, he was then for a considerable time in the same situation as before the last campaign, occasionally on tours for a few days, and again at his father's where he made his home when not in service. Whilst at home he was taken prisoner by the Tories and carried to Brown's Fort at Augusta, who placed him in confinement a few days, and then suffered him to return home on parole, he would here state that he should have avoided being taken prisoner, had he been able to have proceeded with the refugees over the mountains under Col. Clark [Elijah Clark] he at that time having lost his horse, remained at home endeavoring to obtain one at the [words missing as a result of a tear in the paper] was taken as a prisoner.

[Words missing as a result of a tear in paper] Some time deponent believes about the last of March 1781, Col. Clark returned to Georgia, and immediately laid Siege to Augusta, deponent immediately burned his parole, and volunteered in Capt. Walk[tear in paper but he refers to a "Capt. Walker" later in this application] Company, which was attached to Col. Clark's Regiment and remained with them during the Siege of Augusta, having after he arrived at Augusta caused himself to be transferred to Capt. Harris's Company, where his County men & fellow soldiers were principally but under the same command the 5th June 1781 deponent believes the Siege ended in a capitulation, the militia was then permitted to return home deponent with them, in this tour he was in service between 2 & 3 months.<sup>3</sup>

A short time deponent having received the appointment of Lieutenant in Capt. Harris's company was called upon with four of his company by the Commander at Augusta General Jackson to proceed to the High Hills of Santee to General Greene [Nathanael Greene] for ammunition which duty he performed and was discharged by General Jackson and returned again home where he remained the balance of the season being out once or twice in the year under Capt. Ledbetter after Tories, in the month of December 1781, deponent's father removed again from Uchee to Wilkes County now Lincoln to where deponent now lives & deponent with him.

In the year 1782 deponent was drafted on a three months Tour against the Indians in Major Cunningham's Battalion and was again in Capt. Walker's Company he being absent Lieut. Harper was in command, they met with General Pickens at the Cherokee Ford on Broad River who was Commander -- and performed the Tour in the Cherokee Country destroying their towns,

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<sup>2</sup> Battle of Savannah September 16-October 9, 1779 <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790916-savannah/>

<sup>3</sup> Siege of Augusta (second/Clarke) [May 22-June 6, 1781] <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/810522-augusta/>

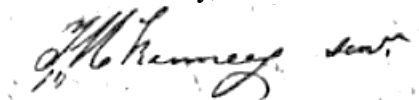
huts etc. engagement took place with the Indians.

Deponent further swears that he has no documentary testimony by which he can prove his services, in the whole or part nor is he enabled to prove by living witnesses his entire services but will be enabled by the affidavit of Michael Smally of Columbia County a part of the services also by the affidavit of Thomas Laverett of Troup County another portion of his services and by the certificate of Dr. Nathan Crawford of Columbia County the son of Capt. Charles Crawford with whom deponent served his knowledge of his reputation of deponent as a Revolutionary character & the same by the Rev. John H. Walker & William C. Stokes deponent further swears that he has been at a loss to sit forth the precise dates and the actual number of days or months in each tour but he can, and does most solemnly avow on his oath that from the year 1777 to the year 1782, he was continually either in actual service or placed in situations more unsafe, that those who were active at the time in behalf of their Country were in most danger when at home from the Tories and disaffected, who abounded at that time in Georgia and South Carolina, and caused the deponent to volunteer often in the service When not actually called upon, by draft on tours and he can't with precision set forth the various times he was on duty at short intervals, but is certain his actual services would far exceed 2 years, that he is not on the pension Roll of any Agency of any State, and hereby relinquishes all but the present.

Sworn to in Open Court the 23rd of October 1832

S/ Peter Lamar, Clerk

S/ J. McKenney, Senr.



[John H. Walker, a clergyman, and William C. Stokes gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[Facts in file: veteran died August 15, 1837; there is no family data in his file.]

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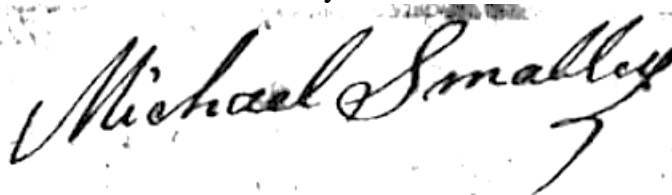
State of Georgia Columbia County:

Personally came before me a Justice of the Inferior Courts in & for said County Michael Smally who being duly sworn saith that he was acquainted with John McKinne Senior who is an applicant for a pension under the provision of the Act of Congress of 7 June 1832, that he knew him whilst in actual Service in Capt. Harris Company at the Siege of Augusta at which place deponent was a Soldier, that he also knew the said John McKinne whilst in Capt. Crawford Company and has been acquainted with the said John McKinne since the American Revolution, that he believes him a man of truth, deponent further believes that he did perform the duties set forth in his declaration.

Sworn to this 17 day of October 1832

S/ Nathaniel Bailey JIC

S/ Michael Smalley



[p 19]

Georgia Troup County: Personally came before William W. Carlyle an acting Justice of the peace in & for said County Thomas Leveritt<sup>4</sup> who after being duly sworn deposed and saith that he was personally acquainted with John McKinney of Lincoln County Georgia during the Revolutionary war, with Great Britain & America, and deponent further states that said John McKinney rendered services in person as a soldier with this deponent under the Command of General Elijah Clarke which services was rendered between the year 1777 & 1782 under the Command of General Pickens also and was considered a good Whig.

Sworn to & subscribed before me this 3rd September 1832

S/ William W. Carlyle, JP

S/ Thos. Leveritt

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thos Leveritt". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 22]

State of Georgia Lincoln County:

Before me a Justice of the peace in and for said County & State personally appeared John McKinne a resident of said County & State, and an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832 who being by me duly sworn deposed & saith that by reason of old age and the consequent loss of memory he cannot swear positively as to the precise length of his services in the different Tours performed during the Revolutionary war against the British Indians & Tories, and after against the Indians but according to the best of his recollection he served not less than the periods mentioned in his first affidavit and 2nd explanatory thereto and now repeated and further explained --

In the first draft in which deponent was called out intended for the Florida Campaign, but on account of sickness did not march with the troops but soon after deponent so recovered as to be enabled to march and an alarm having been made in consequence to the depredations of the Indians, after the marching of the Troops to Florida, another call was made by what authority deponent cannot say but those who did not march under the draft made by Gen. Elbert's call were ordered out and marched under command of a Lieut. Bird who continued to command until the return of the troops before mentioned who started to Florida, at Measles ferry -- we were principally stationed during this campaign it was in the year 1777 deponent was a private and served not less than 2 months.

In the same year deponent was again drafted on a 3 months Tour as before stated, and marched under command of a Lieut. Fann, to Morgan's Fort who continued to command until the expiration of the time for which we were called out guarding the frontier etc. and served out the time.

Some short time thereafter the British arrived in Augusta as recited before deponent can't recollect the date he deponent with others from Georgia went over to South Carolina and joined General Williamson as refugees and so remained until Capt. Joshua Inman proposed to form a company of volunteers of refugees; Capt. Inman was brevetted as we understood was recognized by General Williamson as well as General Elbert and continued in that capacity as a volunteer

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<sup>4</sup> I believe this to be the same man whose widow filed for her pension in Troup County, Georgia. See [Thomas Leveritt W4264](#)

Company of refugees under the same the time the Company volunteered for deponent does not recollect whether it was limited duration or during emergencies, there was an election for officers notwithstanding we volunteered under Capt. Joshua Inman as the other officers were to be chosen they were all elected & Joshua Inman continued as Capt. Shadrach Inman Lieut. and John Fann 2nd Lieut. the other officers deponent does not distinctly recollect whilst with General Williamson we were ordered by that officer to proceed to Burke County and surprise a party of Tories said to be gathering to unite with the British at Augusta we performed that duty surprised them took the commander whose name was Col. Henry Sharpe, who was wounded and died before we could reach headquarters again with Williamson and several other prisoners were taken and some killed on both sides. Our company were mounted man each furnishing his horse, our arms were principally found by the individuals of the company; we soon after this expedition were permitted to move & joined with General Lincoln at the Three runs South Carolina and marched with him soon thereafter to Rutledge's Plantation, whilst with General Lincoln there our company was continued daily as a reconnoitering company from Rutledge's plantation to Dorchester, four holes and to various points watching the movements of the British & Tories and remained until General Lincoln moved towards Charleston and Capt. Inman permitted or directed deponent can't state positively which to return to recruit the horses, of his company, which had become worn down & poor we came to Cracker's Neck & guarded at Emery's ferry on [one or 2 indecipherable words] about 30 miles below Augusta for some time, and from there returned to our homes with the understanding mentioned in the former affidavits to recruit ourselves & horses & unite at any point designated by our officers deponent declares on his oath that he served not less than 9 months in this tour previous to the permission to disperse & recruit and performed as a private some short time acting as Sergeant.

Deponent whilst at home was again called into the militia draft from Columbia County under Capt. Crawford to the Siege of Savannah in which tour deponent served 3 months as private and on his return home was attached and so considered himself bound to unite with Capt. Inman when required, but had unfortunately lost his horse. When the Capt. Inman with all the refugees had to flee over the mountains, deponent determined so soon as he could get a horse to follow but before he succeeded was taken prisoner by the Tories, and carried to Brown's Fort Augusta & confined a few days and paroled as before stated and remained until the return of Col. Clarke and the refugees who laid siege to Augusta early in 1781 as deponent now believes, he immediately burned his parole & united with those volunteering in Capt. Walker's company & after joining with Capt. Harris in which campaign deponent served between 2 & 3 months, as a private in the Militia.

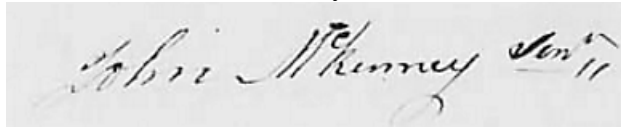
Deponent some time in the year 1781 received the appointment of Lieutenant in Capt. Harris Company of Columbia County and was ordered by General Jas Jackson [James Jackson] then in command at Augusta to proceed to High Hills of Santee with a squad of men to General Greene for ammunition in this expedition deponent was in service over 2 months being detained in getting the ammunition and in scouting parties with Capt. Ledbetter, the latter of the year 1781 deponent can't state the time they were mounted & went & returned expeditiously.

In 1782 deponent served a 3 months Tour as before stated under General Pickens of South Carolina in Capt. Walker's company as a private, Lieut. Harper in command.

Deponent further swears that he was not engaged in any other matters or business to take him into service but the cause of freedom on which side he had enlisted and persevered to the end, that he is old and greatly debilitated, unable to labor and does really need assistance that all his Associates & brother soldiers are dead or removed by whom he could prove his services

unless those who have testified in his behalf that now come to his knowledge.  
Sworn to before me the 24th of January 1834  
S/ Elijah Frazer, JP

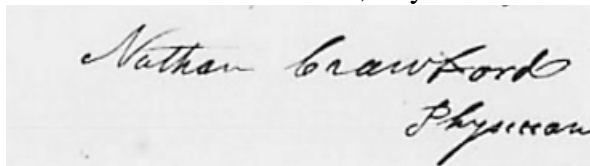
S/ John McKenney Senior

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John McKenney Senior". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

Georgia Columbia County: Being called on by John McKenney Esquire to say what I know of his services in the old revolutionary war can say I distinctly remember the family as warmly attached to the Whig interest & supporting it under all the dangers & privations incidental to that bloody turmailing [sic?] time. The father I more distinctly knew, & have heard & believe the bearer generally was in militia Service, & at one time served under the captaincy of my venerable father after that he was said to have been under the command of Capt. Harris deceased whom I well knew; & ended his duty under Capt. John Ledbetter<sup>about the end of the war</sup> whose person then was well known to me. He has filled several offices under our own government & discharged the duties to the satisfaction of the Community. His word is entitled to good Credit as his olden Services are I believe to full pay.

1832

S/ Nathan Crawford, Physician

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nathan Crawford" with "Physician" written below it. The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 28]

State of Georgia of Lincoln County:

Personally came before me Elijah Frazer a Justice of the Peace for said County & State William Linville<sup>5</sup> who resides in the same County and State and who being duly sworn according to law deposes and says, that he has been personally acquainted with John McKinnie who is a citizen of the same County & State for 40 years or thereabout, and who is an applicant for a pension under the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832, that the said John McKinnie has supported & uniformly born the character of an honest man deponent further swears, that in the tours of duty which he himself performed during the American Revolution & for which he has received a Certificate of pension, that he was well acquainted with Capt. Inman with whom the said John McKinnie sets out as having volunteered with & who commanded a volunteer company principally Georgians, that General Elbert under whose command deponent was immediately connected united at Liberty Hill in South Carolina with General Williamson from since the detachment removed to the Three Runs South Carolina and from thence to Rutledge's Mills, that the Company of Capt. Inman continued to that place: and deponent further swears that the circumstances attending the movements of the Army and various transactions attending said movements of which he has conversed with the said John McKinnie at various times has fully convinced him, and he does verily believe on his oath that he did serve as set forth in that Campaign, deponent further swears that from his knowledge of the said John McKinnie & his

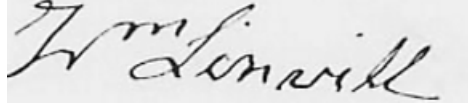
<sup>5</sup> [William Linville \(Linville\) W5321](#)

character generally, that he has served his Country as set forth in his application to which he has sworn.

Sworn to & subscribed before made this 10th of May 1833

S/ Wm Frazer, JP

S/ Wm Linvill

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm Linvill". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

State of Georgia Lincoln County

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service for 2 years in the South Carolina [sic Georgia] militia.]