

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Kelly (Kelley) S35489

f27NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/28/07: rev'd 3/31/16

[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.]

State of Kentucky, Perry County: Sct.

On this 17th of May 1827, Personally appeared in open Court, it being a Court of Record made so by act of Assembly of Kentucky pursuing according to the course of the Common Law, possessed of unlimited jurisdiction, for the 15 Judicial District & in the County aforesaid before the Honorable Joseph Eve, one of the Circuit Judges of the Commonwealth of Kentucky in & for said 15 Judicial District, John Kelly, a resident Citizen in said County aged seventy-two the 22 of August next, who being first sworn according to law, doth make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provisions made by the Acts of Congress, of the 18th of March 1818 and the 1st of May 1820: that he, the said County enlisted for the term of during the Revolutionary War, on the ___ day of July 1777 in the State of North Carolina in the County of Halifax, & at a place called the town of Halifax, in the Company commanded by Captain Joel Walker (a recruiting officer) in the Regiment commanded by Colonel ___ Davidson [probably then Lt. Col. William Lee Davidson] it being the 7th Regiment in the line of the State of North Carolina on the Continental establishment. Shortly after he was enlisted by Captain Walker aforesaid he was placed in the said Regiment aforesaid in the Company commanded by Captain Tilmon Dixon [Tilghman Dixon] – he does not know that Captain Walker belonged to the 7th Regiment but believes he did. After he was placed in the said Regiment aforesaid he was marched to the place, now Washington City at which place the Regiment remained some time when the Regiment was marched to the Valley Forge in Pennsylvania and there continued until the British Army marched to Monmouth Court house [June 28, 1778]. At the Valley Forge ten regiments of the North Carolina line was reduced to two & he was placed in the first Regiment – some length of time after, he was taken with his company aforesaid & joined a Regiment (under General Anthony Wayne) Commanded by Colonel ___ Flury [Lt. Col. Francois de Fleury] & was at the storming of Stony Point [July 16, 1779].¹ When he & his company joined said Regiment they were placed under Captain Joshua Bowan [Joshua Bowman] – he remained in said last mentioned Regiment about one year and his company received orders to march to Charleston in South Carolina, where the said Company rejoined the first Regiment aforesaid under the Command of the said Captain Bowan.

At Charleston he was taken a prisoner [Charleston South Carolina fell to the British on May 12, 1780]² and remained so five months when he made his escape & returned to the place of his enlistment, where he was ordered by Colonel Nicholas Long in the Service of the Quarter Master department in the line of North Carolina as he understood on Continental establishment-- he remained in said department until the treaty of peace when he was discharged in Halifax

¹ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790716-stoney-point/>

² <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/800401-charleston/>

County North Carolina by said Colonel Long, but he received no written discharge, neither did any person else in said department to his knowledge. That he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension except the present, that his name is not on the roll of any State except on the roll of the North Carolina line on Continental establishment; & that the following are the reasons for not making earlier application. That until lately he felt himself able to support himself & family and hoped to be able to do so during his life without asking the charity of his Country; but within the last two years in consequence of old age and bodily infirmity he feels it a duty he owes to himself & aged companion to frankly acknowledge that he feels himself unable to support himself & family by labor.

And in pursuance of the Act of the 1st May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provisions of An Act of Congress entitled “An Act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval Service of the United States in the Revolutionary War,” passed on the 18th day of March 1818; and that I have not, nor has any person in trust for me, any property or securities, contracts or debts due to me, nor have I any income other than what is contained in the Schedule & by me personally signed (Viz)

50 acres of poor land worth	\$50
& no more, 4 head of horses little	
& big, one about 25 years of age	<u>60</u>
	\$110

new page

Brought forward	\$110
8 head of Cattle little & big	25
14 head of sheep & three lambs	12
About 40 head of hogs little & big	25
Owing to him about	<u>25</u>
Total	\$197

At the death of his wife he will be indebted to the heirs of his wife for a Negro willed to her & her heirs which he sold several years before the Act of Congress aforesaid of the 18th of March 1818. On the 18 of March 1818 aforesaid, he owned the land aforesaid but his stock was not as large or as valuable as it is set forth in the aforesaid Schedule & that no changes have taken place in his estate since that time except for losses and the consumption of his family – his family consists of himself & wife Polly about 78 years of age, unable to support herself, his daughter Margaret 30 years old, sickly & ill able to support herself.

S/ John Kelley³

Anthony Hall⁴ a creditable witness made oath in Court, that he knew John Kelley in the Army of the Revolutionary War in which he was a regular soldier himself, that he has for many years been well acquainted with said County, that from his good character his statement aforesaid is not to be doubted; that from his personal knowledge of the estate of said County, he believes the Schedule is correct, that the members of his family & this condition are truly Stated.

S/ Anthony Hall⁵

³ Not the actual signature of the veteran since the handwriting is identical to the body of the application

⁴ [Anthony Hall W1764](#)

⁵ again, this is not the actual signature of the veteran since the handwriting is identical to the body of the application

[p 16]

State of North Carolina, Secretary of State's Office

I William Hill Secretary of State in & for the State aforesaid, do hereby certify that it appears from the musterrolls of the Continental line of this State in the revolutionary war, that John Kelly a private in Captain Ely's Company of the first Regiment enlisted on the ___ day of ___ for the term of three years, that nothing more is said of him on said Rolls. That in the year 1784 a Warrant was issued for the services of said John Kelly for 640 acres of land, the quantity of allowed by this State to a private Soldier for & during the War, which warrant was issued (it is believed) on the Certificate of a Field Officer.

Given under my hand this fifth of September 1827.

S/ Wm Hill

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 11, 1827, for service as a private for 6 years in the North Carolina Continental line.]