

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Tedford S3776

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Tennessee Sct.

Jane Tedford widow and relict of Captain John Tedford deceased, late of Blount County Tennessee, prays the allowance to her of the pension due to her deceased husband, for services during the Revolutionary War, under the act of Congress of 7 June 1832 that accrued from the 4th day of March 1831 up to the 14th day of July 1832, when the said John Tedford departed this life She states that she is now a resident Citizen of Blount County Tennessee, that she has furnished the annexed Commission to her late husband and the statements of James McKamy [pension application S2811] and Robert Tedford [S3775], on oath, hereto annexed; that she knows of no other evidence in her power of the rank or services of her said husband; she asks this allowance because she is really aged and in much need, and prays that if she has mistaken the form of application that such instructions may be given as will enable her to apply in the proper manner, and according to the rules & regulations of the War department.

August 18, 1832

Jane Tedford

The Commonwealth of VIRGINIA

To John Tedford Gentleman, greeting:

KNOW YOU that our GOVERNOUR, on Recommendation from the Court of the County of Rockbridge hath constituted and appointed you Captain in a Company of Militia in the said County. In Testimony whereof, these our Letters are sealed, with the Seal of the Commonwealth, and made Patent.

Witness THOMAS JEFFERSON, Esquire, our said Governour, at Richmond, the Third Day of May in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty One Th Jefferson
[On back]

June Rockbridge Court 1781

The within Named Jno. Tedford produced this Commission in Court & Qualified According to Law
Test Andrew Read[?] Clk

State of Tennessee } Second Judicial Circuit
Blount County } Circuit Court July Term 1832.

Personally appeared in Open Court, before the honorable the Circuit Court of said County, in the Circuit and State aforesaid now sitting, James McKamy aged seventy nine years, a resident Citizen of said Blount County and being first duly sworn deposeth and saith, that he was well acquainted with Captain John Tedford deceased late of the County and State aforesaid, that said Capt. John Tedford died on or about the 14 day of July 1832, at his residence in said Blount County where he had lived about forty five years; that this deponent became acquainted with the deceased in their boyhood in Augusta County Virginia, lived verry near each other, in said County untill Rockbridge County was laid off and established from Augusta County, that said John Tedford was appointed an ensign [4 May 1779] in Capt. Cloyds [David Cloyd's] Company of Rockbridge County Virginia, as deponent understood and believes; that some time before the battle of Guilford C. H. in North Carolina a draft was made of militia of Rockbridge County, the date not recollected, that this deponent saw said John Tedford deceased then mustered into service and march with the troops toward North Carolina, under the command of Col. [Samuel] McDowell & Maj'r [Alexander] Stuart that he saw said John Tedford soon after his return home, and always understood from said John and many others that said John had served out his tour of duty, and was in the Battle of Guilford C. H. and behaved bravely and soldier like and never heard it questioned or doubted. And that it was also always understood & believed that Captain Alexander Tedford a brother of said John, and who commanded a Company of Rockbridge Militia at Guilford Battle was there killed. Deponent and said John Tedford lived near neighbours together in said Rockbridge County, untill they removed together to Blount County about 45 years ago and lived near neighbours untill said Johns death. Deponent is also well acquainted

with Jane Tedford the widow & relict of said John deceased, that they were Lawfully married and have lived together for about thirty years as he believes - and that he now resides in Blount County Tennessee -

Sworn to & subscribed this 8 day of August 1832

[signed] James McKamy

State of Tennessee Sct. Blount County, Second Judicial Circuit July Term 1832 -

On this 8th day of August 1832 personally appeared Robert Tedford a resident Citizen of said County and State, aged Seventy two years past, in Open Court before the Honorable the Circuit Court now sitting for the County and in the Circuit and State aforesaid, and the said Robert Tedford being first duly sworn according to Law, deposeth and saith that he is the brother of Captain John Tedford deceased, late of Blount County Tennessee where he died on the 14 day of July 1832 - and that the said John Tedford deceased was the same Identical John Tedford mentioned and Commissioned in the annexed Commission signed Th. Jefferson and dated third day of May 1781 - that said John performed the following services during the Revolutionary War as deponent believes towit that in 1779 the Indians had made an attack on Donleys fort near the Levels in or near Greenbrier in Virginia [Fort Donnally near present Frankford] and in July or August as deponent believes a draft or call of men was made, that said John Tedford was then an Ensign in Capt. Campbells [Charles Campbell's] Company of militia of Rockbridge County Virginia and was drafted or turned out, as the call was and went into Service under Captain Andrew Moore who Commanded the Company to aid the frontiers, this deponent was not along that Campaign but always understood and beleived that his brother did perform the tour as an ensign. In February 1781 say about the 20th a draft was ordered for troops to march to North Carolina, and said John Tedford was again drafted as an Ensign and was attached to Captain Cloyds Company of Rockbridge County militia, and marched about the 20th to 23 Feb'y. as deponent believes; Under the Command of Maj'r. Alex'r. Stuart and Colonel Samuel McDowell towards North Carolina deponent understood & believes those troop joined Gen'l. Greens [sic: Nathanael Greene's] Command near Haw River & were placed under Command of Gen'l. Stephens [sic: Edward Stevens], and were in the battle at Guilford C. H. on the 15th day of March 1781 where another brother of this deponent towit Captain Alexander Tedford was killed - said John Tedford soon after returned home, and this deponent always understood that he had faithfully served his tour, and bravely discharged his duty and never heard it doubted. In the month of June 1781 when tidings reached us that the British, perhaps Col. Tarletons troops of Cavalry, had come to Charlottesville [sic: Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton's Legion, Charlottesville, 4 June] and took some members of the assembly prisoners & were expected to visit Staunton, the whole militia force of Rockbridge County almost turned out, and this deponent beleives said John Tedford then Commanded a Company who marched to aid the drafted troops who had just before sett out and check the progress of the British, and remained in that service untill it was found the British troops had retired and no danger was to be apprehended in the interior. Perhaps in the month of August or September early 1781 precise time not remembered a draft of men was made in Rockbridge County Virginia to fill vacancies and releive troops whose term of service was expiring, and three Companies Commanded by Captain David Gray, Captain William Moore and Captain John Tedford, were mustered into service, and marched towards Little York, that near York the Companies were filled up and arranged when it was found that not more than two Captains were needed, and Captains Gray & Moore being Senior [i.e. older] officers, they took the Command of that body of Rockbridge County Militia and Captain John Tedford was discharged and some time about the time that Cornwallis was reported to have surrendered [19 Oct], said John Tedford reached home - Deponent always understood and beleived that said John Tedford had faithfully served and performed the several tours or terms for which he was called into service as aforesaid, and bravely and honorably discharged his duty, and deponent never heard the facts in any way questioned or doubted - Deponent beleives said John Tedford removed from Rockbridge County Va. 45 or 46 years ago and settled in Blount County Tennessee where he lived untill his death as aforesaid. Deponent is well acquainted with Jane Tedford the Widow and relict of said John Tedford deceased; beleives they were lawfully married about thirty years ago & have lived together ever since, that she now resides in said Blount County Tennessee where her husband died.

[signed] Robert Tedford

NOTE:

On 11 May 1833 James McKamy, 80, and Robert Tedford, 73, added the following: "That said Capt. John Tedford was born in Ireland in the year 1750 as they have always understood, and believe, and came with his parents to America in 1753, who settled in Rockbridge County Virginia and there lived until the year 1786 or 1787 when he removed to Blount County Tennessee, and there lived until his death as before mentioned - that said John Tedford deceased was drafted and served one of the tours of three months mentioned in the original declaration as an Ensign and another three months tour as a Captain."

Jane Tedford was awarded \$122.50.

On 17 May 1851 Joseph Tedford deposed that he was one of the heirs of John Tedford, and he appointed J. A. McKamy his attorney to obtain any benefits due him. William Tedford was a witness.