

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of David Kerr S38111

f15VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

11/19/13

[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 Georgia Wilkes County: In the Superior Court of said County, July Term 1819

On this 19th day of July 1819 before me the Subscriber one of the Judges of the Superior Courts of said State personally appeared David Kerr, aged sixty-nine years, resident in Oglethorpe County of said State, & being sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late act of Congress entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the Land & Naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary war," – That he the said David Kerr enlisted for the Term of eighteen months, sometime in July (as he believes) in the year 1780 in Bedford County in the State of Virginia with one Sergeant Porter from Prince Edward in the Company of [sic] commanded first by one __ Marshall & afterwards by one Captain Anderson. That from this Company he was detached by the Baron Steuben, under Lieutenant Samuel Selden to join General Green [Nathanael Greene] in the Carolinas, in a Regiment commanded by Colonel __ Greene [probably John Green] Virginia line on the Continental establishment, that he continued to serve in said Corps, or in the service of the United States until the 17th day of January 1782 when he was discharged from service at Salisbury in North Carolina. That he was in the battles of the siege of 96 [Ninety Six] (Cambridge) [May 21-June 19, 1781], Eutaw Springs [September 8, 1781], & several skirmishes & that he is in reduced circumstances & stands in need of the assistance of his country. That he has now no other evidence in his power of his said services except the affidavits of Charles McKiney & Claiborne Webb herewith exhibited to the Court. That last summer he placed his original discharge in the hands of Thomas W. Cobb¹ member to Congress, to be [indecipherable word]² with an affidavit made at the last July Court of this County but from a letter of Mr. Edwards here shown, it appears there was an irregularity in his papers then sent that they were sent back directed to this place & have never come to hand.

Sworn to before me this 19th of July 1819

¹ COBB, Thomas Willis, a Representative and a Senator from Georgia; born in Columbia County, Ga., in 1784; pursued preparatory studies; studied law; admitted to the bar and practiced in Lexington, Ga.; moved to Greensboro, Greene County; elected to the Fifteenth and Sixteenth Congresses (March 4, 1817-March 3, 1821); unsuccessful candidate for reelection to the Seventeenth Congress; elected to the Eighteenth Congress and served from March 4, 1823, to December 6, 1824, when he resigned, having been elected Senator; chairman, Committee on Public Expenditures (Eighteenth Congress); elected to the United States Senate to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Nicholas Ware and served from December 6, 1824, until his resignation in 1828; judge of the superior court of Georgia; died in Greensboro, Ga., February 1, 1830.

<http://bioguide.congress.gov/scripts/biodisplay.pl?index=C000553>



S/ Jno. M. Dooly, JIC

S/ David Kerr

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Kerr". The ink is dark and the background is light with some texture.

Georgia Wilkes County: In the Superior Court, July Term 1819

I John M Dooly Judge as aforesaid do certify that it appears to my satisfaction that the said David Kerr did serve in the revolutionary war as stated in the preceding declaration against the Common Enemy, for the term of nine months at one time, on the Continental establishment: That his original discharge signed by Lieutenant John Hackly [John Hackley] & Major S Snead [probably Smith Snead, possibly Samuel Snead] was during last summer sent to Washington City with an application then made, which application, and being a regular was sent back directed to Thomas W Cobb at this place, & has never come to hand & is probably lost. And I now transmit the proceedings & testimony taken & had before me, to the Secretary for the Department of War pursuant to the directions of the aforesaid act of Congress. I am also satisfied that he needs the assistance of the Country for support. This 19th of July 1819

S/ Jno M. Dooly

Georgia Jackson County: Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Inferior Court of the County & State aforesaid Claiborne Webb of the County of Franklin & State of Georgia and after being sworn according to law saith that he is acquainted with David Kerr and he Webb & said Kerr served an eighteen months tower [tour] of duty together in the Service of the United States in the revolutionary war in the year 1780 & 1781 under the command of General Green and the said web further saith that the said Kerr was honorably discharged from said service.

Sworn to before me this 30th June 1819

S/ Claiborne Webb, X his mark

S/ Joseph Hampton, JIC

Georgia Jackson County: Personally appeared before me a Justice of the Inferior Court of the County and State aforesaid said Charles McKinney [sic] of the same place and after being sworn according to law, saith that he was acquainted with David Kerr of Bedford County Virginia before the Revolutionary war and that the said David and himself did do one tour of three months duty together against the Indians and afterwards the said David dead engage to do an 18 months tower in the Army and left his family & did go and at the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781], he the said McKinney was there and went to the continentals to try to see or hear where the said Kerr was and he McKinney was told that said Kerr was wounded by the accidental firing of a gun and after the term of service for which he was engaged did expire he the said Kerr did return to his family as also did some of the other Soldiers that were engaged with him and he saw all the scar on his hand the [sic, that] he Kerr said was done by the firing of a gun and that after the war was over he and the said Kerr moved together to the State of Georgia and settled in Wilkes County.

Sworn to before made the 30th June 1819

S/ Charles McKinney, C his mark

S/ Joseph Hampton, JIC

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$8 per month commencing July 20, 1818, for service as a private for 18 months in the Virginia Continental line.]