

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements and Rosters

Pension Application of James Kirk S39817

PA

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris.

Received of James Kirk late a Corp'l. in Penna. Line a Military Land Warrant in his Name for one Hundred acres of land & Entered the same for Surveying [surveying?] Given Under my Hand this 11th day of Oct'r. 1790

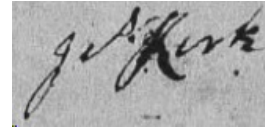
William Alexander Surv'r M Lands

The Secretary at War will please to destroy or take up this Rec't. when the Warrant is Delivered
W.A. May 10th 1808

[other side]

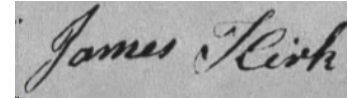
The within mentioned warrant I forwarded to the War Office with upwards of One hundred warrants some years since and has the Secretary at War's Receipt for them & to be at the Directions of the Owners Certified May 10th 1808

William Alexander



Know all men by these presents that I James Kirk of the township of Warrington in the county of Bucks in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, late a Corporal in the first Battalion of Infantry commanded by Coln. Harmer [sic: Josiah Harmar, pension application W3246] in Capt'n. Jacob Humphry's [sic: Jacob Humphrey W4999] Comp'y in the Pennsylvania line in the Army of the United States in the Revolutionary War, and honorably discharged from the same [power of attorney to Samuel D. Ingham to obtain bounty land follows]

[8 Aug 1816]



Bucks County ss: District of Pennsylvania

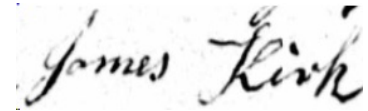
On this 23rd day of November 1819 before me one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of the said County personally appeared James Kirk aged sixty seven years resident in the said County who being by me first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the late Act of Congress, entitled "an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War" That he the said James Kirk enlisted the 9th day of February 1776 in the said County of Bucks in Company commanded by Cap'n John Beaty [sic: John Beatty W630] of the 5th Penna. Regiment commanded by Collonell McGaw [sic: Robert Magaw BLWt1412-500], on the continental establishment as he believes for one year – which he served. That he again enlisted in 1777 in the Company commanded by Cap'n John McCowen [possibly John McCowan BLWt1822-300] of the 6th Penna. Reg't. commanded by Coll. Baker and that he continued to serve in the said Corps untill the end of the war – when he was discharged from the service in Philadelphia. That he was in Battles at Iron hill near the head of Elk [Battle of Cooch's Bridge in DE near present Elkton MD] Brandywine [11 Sep 1777] Germantown [4 Oct 1777] Monmouth [28 Jun 1778] – at the Green springs in Virginia [Green Springs Plantation 6 Jul 1781] – and at the seige and takeing of Cornwallis at York Town [Yorktown, 19 Oct 1781] and that he has no other evidence now in his power of his said services.

District of Penna. }

Bucks County ss: }

On this 19th day of June AD 1820 Personally appeared James Kirk the person named in the annexed declaration and being sworn according to law doth say that

on or about the eighth or tenth day of May 1818 he made a declaration somewhat similar to the one hereto annexed & for the like purpose before Samuel Hart Esq then one of the Judges of the Court of Common Pleas of Bucks County, which was sent to the Sec'y of War at Washington and returned as he understands to the said S. Hart being informal and is now lost



District of Pennsylvania Ss:

On this thirtieth day of June one thousand eight hundred and twenty Personally appeared in open Court of Common Pleas held in Doylestown, for the County of Bucks being a Court of record Proceeding according to the Course of the Common Law with a jurisdiction unlimited in point of amount and keeping a record of its proceedings, James Kirk aged sixty seven years, resident in Bucks County in said District, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the act of congress of the Eighteenth of March one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and the first of May one thousand eight hundred and twenty

That he served in the revolutionary war first in the Company Commanded by Captain John Beaty in the regiment commanded by Colonel Robert McGaw in the line of the state of Pennsylvania and second in the company commanded by Captain John McCowen of the 6th Pennsylvania Regiment commanded by Col Baker as has been more fully stated in a declaration made before Judge Hart on or about the eighth or tenth day of May one thousand eight hundred and eighteen and before Judge Watts on the twenty fourth day of November one thousand eight hundred and nineteen,

And I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day 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 hereto annexed and by me subscribed. James Kirk

Schedule of Property

I have besides necessary clothing and bedding.

One hundred acres of land with a log house and a log barn

one old mare one candle stand, one old gun which was given me when discharged one old stove six chairs, quart bottles wine glass & Tumbler

The Following debts are due to me and recoverable

One debt due me of Dolls \$ 469.34

One D'o D'o Dolls \$ 50.00

One D'o D'o Dolls 32.00

One D'o D'o Dolls 266.67

I am indebted in the following sums

One debt of twelve hundred and eight dollars

One debt of eight hundred dollars

one debt of three hundred and fifty dollars

I am by trade and occupation a farmer but by reason of age and infirmities am not able to pursue that occupation. I have no family residing with me being a boarder with the tenant on the Place

James Kirk

[James Kirk lost his pension because he was deemed to own too much property. The file contains a document stating that on 8 March 1823 the Sheriff of Bucks County sold all the property of James Kirk, including about 120 acres of land, to satisfy debts.]

District of Pennsylvania

Bucks County ss:

On this [blank] day of May in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty three personally appeared in open Court – To Wit – The Court of Common Pleas held at Doylestown in and for the County of Bucks, being a Court of Record proceeding according to the course of the Common Law, with a jurisdiction unlimited in amount and keeping a Record of its proceedings – James Kirk Aged seventy years resident in the said County of Bucks and District of Pennsylvania who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his solemn oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provision made by the Acts of Congress of the eighteenth of March AD 1818 and the first day of May AD 1820. That he served in the revolutionary war – that he enlisted the 9th day of February 1776 in Bucks County in the Company commanded by Cap’n John Beaty of the fifth Regiment of the Pennsylvania line commanded by Coll’l. Robert McGaw untill after the taking of Fort Washington [16 Nov 1776] – that he again enlisted (his first enlistment being for one year having expired) in March 1777 in the Company of Cap’n John McCowen of the sixth regiment commanded by Coll’l Baker in which he served chiefly during the war he marched from Carrolina [probably South Carolina] in 1783 with the first Regiment Commanded by Coll’l Harmer to Philadelphia and was honourably discharged in August of that year That he was in the Battles of Brandewine – Germantown – Monmouth – The Green Springs in Virginia – at Yorktown and afterwards at a small affair on the border of Carolina or Georgia when Collonell Laurens was killed [John Laurens at Tar Bluff on Combahee River, 27 Aug 1782] – all which I have probably before stated – the first time on the ninth or tenth of May 1818 before Samuel Hart Esq’r and again on the 23 day of November 1819 before Wm Watts Esq’r as by a reference to those applications I trust will be seen [Oath similar to that in the preceding application follows.] – the rest [of his property besides what is shown below] having all been sold by the Sheriff for bona fide debts within the present year

Sworn in open Court May 29th 1823

James Kirk

List of my property – One Bed and Bedding
one stove
one saddle and Bridle
one musket which I was permitted to bring home
with when discharged from the revolutionary war

James Kirk

NOTE: The file contains a letter written on 1 July 1850 on behalf of the two daughters of James Kirk, who died on 16 June 1841. The letter stated that his wife had died about “thirty years since” (around 1820).