

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Kersey S5507

f21VA

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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

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State of Virginia Louisa County Sc.

On this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court before the County Court of Louisa now sitting, John Kersey, a resident of said County of Louisa & State of Virginia aged about seventy-five years, 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 7<sup>th</sup> 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated. He served his first tour of duty in the militia of two months at Williamsburg under Captain David Anderson; he served his second, third & fourth each of two months, at Albemarle barracks, in his own place and was substitute for Thomas Kersey & David Crenshaw Colonel Taylor Commanded. He served his fifth term of two months at Cabin Point, Smithfield & Petersburg as substitute for William Anderson – his Captain was Richard Phillips & his Colonel Thomas Matthews [Thomas Mathews]. He served his sixth tour of two months, at Richmond and Williamsburg the same year, his Captain was James Watson his Colonel Thomas Matthews: as substitute for Thomas Kersey – He served his seventh tour of one month at New Kent Courthouse, Hanover Courthouse and Bowling Green Caroline County under Captain John Sanders: He served his eighth tour of three months, at Richmond Malvern Hills, Hanover, Louisa, Spotsylvania, Orange, Culpeper, Albemarle, Goochland &c under Captain Turner Anderson, Major Magill & General Lafayette. He served his ninth tour, three months, as a substitute for William Anderson, at the Siege of York Town under Captain Henry Johnson, Colonel Mercer & General Weedon [George Weedon]. He served his tenth tour of two months at Yorktown and for Edmund Hawkins of Hanover under Lieutenant David Davenport & Colonel Charles Dabney. That from the best information he can obtain he was born November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1758 in the County of Louisa where [he] resided when he went into service and has resided there ever since. He has no register of his age & never received any written discharge. He never was in any engagement. He can prove his services in part by John Ward & Thomas Badget. That in reference to his character & as a reputed soldier of the Revolution he refers to the evidence & Certificate – Timothy T Swift & William Nelson his neighbors. He hereby relinquishes all Claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and he declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency in any State. Sworn to and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

S/ John Kersey, X his mark

[Timothy T Swift, a clergyman, and William Nelson gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

State of Virginia Louisa County: SS

On this 9<sup>th</sup> day of March 1833 personally appeared before me, David Richardson one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County, John Kersey a resident of the same County, who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following amendment to his Declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7<sup>th</sup> of June 1832 –

That in his first tour he was drafted from the Militia of Louisa, and marched to Williamsburg under Captain Anderson, does not recollect the date, but remembers that it was at the time Lord Dunmore left Virginia – guarded the place, and was in no battle – does not recollect the other officers of his Regiment, or any other officers – saw some regular troops but does not recollect particulars – was prevented by the bad treatment they received from enlisting – served two months and was discharged – that he served another tour, being drafted in the company of Captain Hughes, from the same County, at the Albemarle Barracks, in the fall of the year the date not recollected – guarded the British prisoners – served two months and was discharged – soon after his return, and directly after Christmas, he substituted himself for his father Thomas Kersey; and marched under Lieutenant Street to the same place and served a tour of two months, and was discharged that in the following summer he again substituted himself for David Crenshaw, and marched in the militia of the same County under Dick Pollack to the same place – served two months and was discharged – during each of these three tours was engaged in the same duty; guarding the British prisoners – there were regular troops at the Barracks under Colonel Taylor who also commanded the militia – recollects no event of note. That he again substituted himself when a note came to Richmond from William Anderson, and marched in the company from the same County, under Captain Philips – marched to Richmond thence to City Point where he crossed the River – thence to Cabin Point thence to Isle of Wight Church – thence to Smithfield, thence back again to the neighborhood of Petersburg where he was discharged, after two months service – was in no battle – Colonel Matthews commanded the Regiment and General Nelson [Thomas Nelson] commanded the party – there were regular troops but he does not recollect who or who were the officers – That he again substituted himself for his father the same year, and served a tour of two months under Captain Watson in the militia from the same County – marched to Richmond and was employed the whole tour in marching backwards and forwards in that country, along the James River – Colonel Matthews and General Nelson commanded – there were regular troops and General Wayne [Anthony Wayne] commanded – was in no battle and recollects no event of interest. That he was next drafted from the same County, and served one month under Captain John Saunders – marched to New Kent Court house where hearing that the enemy had gone to Fredericksburg, they turned about, and marched as far as the Bowling Green; at which place learning their mistake, they returned to Hanover Courthouse and he was there discharged – does not recollect any officers other than captains, of whom there were four from Louisa – was in no battle and recollects no event of note. That he was again drafted very soon after his return, and served a tour of three months, under Captain Turner Anderson – marched to Richmond to the Mobbing Hills [Malvern Hills] and 4 mile Creek; then returned to the neighborhood of Richmond, and from thence marched to the Wild Goose Chase as it was called, through the counties mentioned in his former statement; and was discharged at Boswell's old Tavern in Louisa – Colonel Mathews again commanded the Regiment – the other officers recollected were Generals Nelson, Wayne and Lafayette – there were regular troops and many militia, and he recollects no event of particular interest. – His next service was as substitute for William Anderson when he marched from the same County, under Captain Henry Johnson in the militia to the Siege of York – Was stationed on the Gloucester sure

under Colonel and General Weedon – there were regular troops there, and he laid near the French troops – he was in no battle but on several occasions heard the firing of skirmishing – recollects no event of note, and was discharged after having served three months (and after the capitulation of the enemy) – that he again substituted himself soon after the surrender of Cornwallis for Edmund Hawkins of Hanover and marched in the militia of the latter County under Lieutenant Davenport to York to guard the captured property and served two months. Colonel Dabney commanded – carried the cannon on board the ship of the French Admiral – there were no regular troops there and he remembers no further particulars. That he thinks he served many other tours, but cannot directly recall them to his recollection, and that he may have stated some of the above services in the wrong orders from the confusion of his recollection, but he is very certain that he served those tours under the officers named, and for the time mentioned. That as stated he never had a discharge in writing nor has he any documentary evidence. And that in all his service he was a private.

He answers to Question 1<sup>st</sup> I was born in the lower end of Louisa County the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November 1756 as I have heard.

To Question 2<sup>nd</sup>. I have none.

To Question 3<sup>rd</sup> I have always lived in the same neighborhood in which I was born.

To Question 4<sup>th</sup> I was sometimes drafted and at other times was a substitute as above stated.

To Question 5 I have above stated to the best of my recollection:

To Question 6<sup>th</sup> No.

To Question 7<sup>th</sup> Timothy T Swift, William Nelson Esquire and Elisha Jackson  
S/ John Kersey, X his mark

Louisa County State of Virginia Sct.

This day personally appeared before me, Charles Dabney, a justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid, John Ward<sup>1</sup> and Thomas Badget,<sup>2</sup> both of whom I certify to be credible witnesses, and revolutionary Soldiers as is reported and believed by me for the purpose of proving the services rendered by John Kersey an applicant for a pension under the late pension Law. John Ward swears he was with the said Kersey on a tour of duty in the militia date not recollected on the South side of James River that they crossed the River at Cabin Point and marched down the County of Nansemond into the Isle of Wight, then back to Cabin point and to Petersburg, and that they remained at least three months in the Service on that tour and that afterwards he and said kersey were together in another tour of duty when they marched to Charles City Courthouse, to 4 mile Creek and up and down James River, to prevent the British from getting to Richmond, and that on this tour they served at least two months. He also states that said Kersey and himself served in the militia at the barracks in Albemarle guarding the prisoners taken at the surrender of Burgoyne and that they served two months on this tour and that he was with said Kersey on another tour of service in the militia when they marched to New Kent Courthouse back by Hanover Courthouse to the Bowling Green in Caroline County, they served six weeks on this tour. He also states that he was with said Kersey in another tour of duty at the Siege of York where he served on the Gloucester side of the River and that this tour was three months.

Thomas Badget swears he was with said Kersey in the militia service at the Siege of York and that they served on the Gloucester side of the said River, this tour was three months.

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<sup>1</sup> [John Ward W1960](#)

<sup>2</sup> [Thomas Badget S6593](#)

I do hereby certify that John Ward and Thomas Badget made oath to the above this 18<sup>th</sup> day of September 1832

S/ Charles Dabney

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$70 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1831, for service as a private for 21 months in the Virginia service.]