

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

South Carolina Audited Accounts¹ relating to Joseph Kerr SC23

AA65SC

AA 4252-A

Transcribed by Will Graves

12/21/17

[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 'indcipherable' 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.]

[p 2]

Petition of Joseph Kerr

Genl. Marion [Francis Marion]

Major Thomason

Capt. Arthur

P No. 96 1783

[p 3]

To the Honorable John Lloyd Esquire President and the rest of the Honorable Senators of the State of South Carolina

The Petition of Joseph Kerr

Humbly Sheweth

That your Petitioner was formally a Soldier duly enlisted in the first Continental Regiment of this State and served the time for which he was enlisted in the said Regiment with the Approbation of his Officers and fidelity to his Country, and has ready to produce to this Honorable House Certificates of his good Behavior from the Officers under whom he served –

And your Petitioner further Sheweth That after the Expiration of his Term of Service his Attachment to the Welfare of this Country induced him to go as a Volunteer in the Army into Florida and served with it all the Fatigues and Dangers arising from the Inclemency of the Climate during that Expedition –

That after he had retired to the Place of his abode in North Carolina finding this State was invaded by a British Army under the command of General Prevost [Augustine Prevost] his Affection for his Country again brought him as a Volunteer to her Assistance where he served the Campaign and risked [sic, risked] his Life in her Service at the Action at Stono [Stono Ferry, June 20, 1779].

That when the last cruel Invasion of this Country came with so formidable a force as for a time to have effected their barbarous Purposes of desolate in this then unhappy Country your

¹ The South Carolina Audited Accounts are available on microfilm at the South Carolina Department of Archives & History in Columbia, SC. They will eventually be available online at <http://www.archivesindex.sc.gov/>. The file number has been assigned by the administrator of this website for indexing purposes only and is not an officially recognized file number.

Petitioner again Voluntarily stepped forth to her Assistance with the same Zeal and Alacrity which had before actuated him.

That being with the Detachment of the Army under the command of the Honorable Brigadier General Huger [Isaac Huger] he was by him ordered upon a dangerous Service, in the Course of which he had the Misfortune to fall in with a Body of the British Cavalry which so shockingly cut and mangled your Petitioner that for many Months his Life was totally despaired of, and although by the Blessing of Providence his Life has been preserved, yet so totally is your Petitioner maimed and disabled by the Wounds he then received that it can only be a Burthen [burden] to him unless this Honorable House will extend to him the means of supporting it –

Your Petitioner therefore humbly hopes this Honorable House will take his unfortunate Case into their Consideration and as he has shared in the Calamities of this Country be pleased to permit him likewise to be a Partaker of her better fortune, and provide for him the necessary means of Support which through the Disability of his mangled Limbs he is unable to procure for himself.

And your Petitioner as in Duty bound will ever Pray &c

A handwritten signature in cursive script, likely reading 'Isaac Huger', written in dark ink on a light-colored, textured paper.

[p7: identical petition addressed to the SC House of Representatives by the veteran.]

[p 9]

The Committee to whom the petition of Joseph Kerr
Report

That they have examined the allegations set forth in said Petition and find them Just.

That your committee or therefore of opinion a prime Negro Man or Woman whichever your Petitioner shall prefer should be given to your Petitioner as a reward for his faithful and Zealous Services and to afford him the means of Subsistence. Your Committee are also of opinion the Petitioner should Receive a Suit of Cloathes every year during his Life.

In the House of Representatives March 17, [1783]

Resolved that this House do Agree with the foregoing Report

Ordered

[p 10]

Ordered that the within Report & Resolution be sent to the Honorable the Senate for their Concurrence

By order of the house

S/ John Dark, CHR

In the Senate 17 March 1783

Resolved that this House concur with the House of Representatives in the above report & resolution.

Ordered that the above Report & Resolution be sent to the House of Representatives.

By order of the Senate

S/ James Sharp, C. S.

[p 11: As of January 26, 1795, the grant to the veteran was converted to an annuity of £25.13.4]

[p 13: As of July 28, 1796 the annuity was converted to \$27.58]

[p 18: As of July 8, 1799, the annuity was payable as £6.8.4 sterling]

[p 30]

To the Honorable the President and members of the Senate of South Carolina

The petition of Joseph Kerr

Humbly Sheweth, that on the 22nd of May 1780 your petitioner was ordered by Brigadier General Huger of the South Carolina Continental troops to take with him one man, well mounted, on whom he could depend, and go down the east side of Santee River for the purpose of record in ordering the British Army under the command of Lord Cornwallis; and in obedience to this order on the morning of the 24th of the same month set out accompanied by a certain Robert Creswell and found the British Army encamped near Munays ferry [Murray's ferry], and then saw them relieve guard at 9 o'clock in the morning – having made such observations as we were able we set out on our return and were overtaken about eight miles from the enemy's camp by a party of about twenty Dragoons under the Command of Major Cochran, in our flight your petitioner's horse fell and he was taken prisoner and his horse Saddle, bridle, Gun, blanket, hat and a pair of Buckskin pantaloons were taken from him – for which your petitioner has not directly or indirectly received any compensation.

Your petitioner further sheweth that in consequence of the many wounds received in the defense of the liberty of his beloved country he has from time to time been unable to use the usual means to obtain a livelihood in consequence of which his circumstances are necessitous and therefore prays your Honorable body to take his case into consideration and grant such relief as in your wisdom you shall think him entitled to.

And your petitioner will pray

December 3rd, 1812

S/ Jos. Kerr

[p 32]

And Inventory of Goods lost by Major Joseph Carr in the Revolutionary War

One Horse 5 years old 15 hands hi appraised in the last of March 1780 at \$3100

Hat \$3

Dressed Dear Skin Small Clothes \$5

South Carolina York District } Personally came Joseph Kerr before me the subscribing Justice and being sworn sayeth on his oath that he lost in the Revolutionary war while in service in the State of South Carolina on the Santee River one horse as above described his Saddle, Bridle, Blanket & Gun which was appraised at \$3100 – which appraisement was left in the possession of Hugh Torrance & his house being afterwards burned – this deponent's house it was also burned. And this deponent further saith that he also lost one hat of the value of \$3 in Specie – And also one pair of Buckskin Small clothes for which he paid \$5 in Specie. And this deponent also further saith that he has never made application to be recompensed for the same nor has [he] ever been paid anything directly or indirectly for the aforesaid Horse and furniture or for any other Article he lost at that time.

Sworn to and Subscribed the 9th day of November 1811

Before me
S/ J. A. Whyte, Q. U.

S/ Jos. Kerr

[p 33]

South Carolina York District} Personally came Mr. Robert Creswell of the Town of Augusta in the State of Georgia and being sworn saith upon oath that he went with Joseph Kerr at the time and to perform the service as set forth in the petition of the said Joseph that they were both wounded by the Enemy and all they had with them were taken from them. And this deponent saith That the Horse which the said Joseph Kerr lost was a good Horse and will able to do the services of horses incident to War but does not remember the Amount to which he was appraised.

Sworn to and subscribed the 10th day of November 1811

Before me
S/ J. A. Whyte, Q. U.

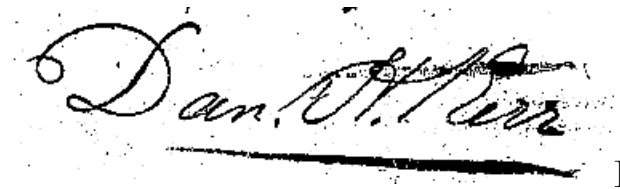
S/ Robert Creswell

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert Creswell". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 34: On December 9, 1816, the committee considering the claim of Joseph Kerr found that the facts stated in the petition filed by Kerr were true and recommending that he be awarded the sum of \$150 in settlement of his claim. The committee notes that General Huger was an officer in the North Carolina Continental line at the time ordered Kerr to reconnoiter the British forces along the Santee River.]

[p 41: By petition dated November 28, 1817, the veteran requested the South Carolina Legislature to reconsider the amount of his annuity. Pp 44-45: the Legislature increased the veteran's annuity to \$200 per annum.]

[p 52: On November 21, 1822, Donald H. Kerr petitioned the South Carolina Legislature noting that veteran died January 4, 1822; he states that he is the administrator of the estate of Joseph Kerr.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald H. Kerr". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.