

[Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters](#)

Pension Application of John Key W10163

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia

Lunenburg County

On this 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 1825 personally appeared in open Court, being a Court of record for the said County John Key resident in said County aged sixty five years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the provisions made by the acts of Congress of the 18<sup>th</sup> of March 1818, and the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820; That he the said John Key, entered the Company of Captain [Thomas] Bowyer as a soldier in place of Christopher Carlton in the Army of the Revolution, the said Carlton having enlisted or been drafted to join that Company and before joining it, having procured his assent to take his place, and he being received as a substitute that the said Company belonged to the 1<sup>st</sup> Regiment of the Virginia line, then commanded by Col. [Abraham] Buford and afterwards by Col [Richard] Campbell; that he served eighteen months in the south under Gen. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], was wounded severely at Eutow Springs [sic: Eutaw Springs SC, 8 Sep 1781]; that towards the close of the Revolution his time of service expiring he received a Regular discharge, that he has lost it and has not now a Copy of it, that Col Campbell commanded the Regiment at the time of his discharge [sic: killed at Eutaw Springs], that he cannot state accurately the time of his joining the army or the time of his discharge; he further states that he was in a battle at Fort ninety six [Siege of Ninety-Six SC, 22 May – 19 June 1781].

That he hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatever except the present; that his name is not on the pension roll of any state and that the reasons for his not making earlier application are, that he is an illiterate man and knew not how, nor in what manner, nor where to make application, that it was lately that he was informed that Congress had made such provision, & that it was not until now that he has been informed how to obtain the benefit of it — And in pursuance of the act of Congress of the 1<sup>st</sup> of May 1820, the said John Key doth take the following oath; I, John Key, do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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 person engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the Revolutionary War” passed on the 18<sup>th</sup> 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: to wit, my own clothing & that of my wife & three children

John hisXmark Key

The said John Key says he has a wife and three children and is from age & infirmity rendered incapable of supporting himself or them; that he had no property on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 1818 —

NOTE: On 29 Feb 1856 Fathy Key, 70, applied for a pension stating that as Fathy Lester she married John Key in Lunenburg County in 1808, and he died in that county on or about 20 Feb 1837. She stated that she still held dower rights to his real property. In an application for bounty land dated 20 May 1856 her age is given as 63, the year of marriage as 1809, and the year of John Key's death as 1833. A supporting deposition gives the date of his death as on or about 12 Feb 1833, and different dates are also given in other documents. She added that as husband and wife they raised 15 children, the youngest then about 22 years old.