

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of James Kever (Keever, McKeever), ¹ W10166 Jane Kever f46SC
Transcribed by Will Graves 3/17/08; rev'd 4/13/16

[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.]

[p 13]

State of Indiana, Franklin County: SS

On this 16th day of October 1833 personally appeared in open Court before the Honorable Judges of the Franklin Circuit Court now sitting James Kever a resident of Franklin County State of Indiana aged 74 years who first being 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, 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated: that he lived on Bush River in the then called Ninety Six District South Carolina – volunteered in Captain Hugh Sexton's [Hugh Saxon's] company, Lieutenant Lewis Sexton [Lewis Saxon], Ensign David Anderson – commenced said tour in December 1781 and served on continually for the period of six months as a Ranger in that section of the Country.

Before he volunteered as a Ranger as above mentioned he was taken prisoner by the British in the neighborhood and was kept by them from the first of April until June, when he escaped and got to the American Army under General Greene [Nathanael Greene] and served as a volunteer in that army two months from the first of July 1780 until the first of September of the same year – that he marched in General Greene's Army under Captain George Dockins [sic, Dickens?],² and Lieutenant George Collins through a part of North Carolina: but was chiefly in the East part of South Carolina – that he was in the battle of Camden [probably the Battle of Hobkirk Hill, April 25, 1781]³ – he served all of the above mentioned tours consisting in all of eight months as a private volunteer soldier.

He knows of no person that can testify to said service except William Logan that he has no documentary evidence of his service – and that [he] hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of any agency of any state. And that no clergyman and resides in his neighborhood.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert John, Clk

S/ James Kever, X his mark

Answers to the seven Interrogatories

¹ BLWt26977-160-55

² I have not been able to identify a likely candidate as the officer to whom the veteran is referring

³ I base this statement on the fact that the veteran claims to have been under Nathanael Greene. General Greene was not at the 1st Battle of Camden on August 15-16, 1780 [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html] where the American forces were commanded by General Horatio Gates. General Greene, however, was in command of the American forces at the Battle of Hobkirk Hill [http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hobkirks_hill.html.]

1st I was born in Ireland in the year 1759.

2nd I have no record of my age.

3rd I was living in what was then called Ninety Six District South Carolina when called into service, resided in said place ever since the revolutionary war except the last 13 years which last mentioned time I have resided in Franklin County Indiana where I still resides.

4th I was a volunteer.

5th I knew General Greene

6th I did not receive a written discharge – I served two tours one of six months and the other of two months – was in the battles of Camden – was taken prisoner by the British before the first tour of service.

7th I am known in my present neighborhood by Absalom Heastey and ___.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert John , Clk

S/ James Keever, X his mark

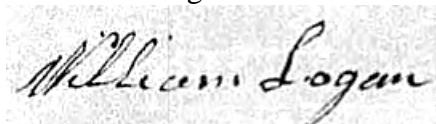
[p 14]

On the day and year above stated personally in open court William Logan⁴ who first being duly sworn according to law deposes and says that he knew James Keever and lived within 6 or 7 miles of said Keever in the time of the revolutionary war – that he knows he served in said war under Captain Sexton six months – he knows he was taken by the British and also that he served in General Greene's Army – that this James Keever is the same that has sworn to and subscribed to the above declaration and further says not.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid.

S/ Robert John, Clk

S/ William Logan



[Absalom Heastey and Robert Templeton gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 8: On May 4, 1840, Jane Keever, 67, filed in Franklin County, Indiana for a widow's pension stating that she married James Keever on March 24, 1791 in Laurens District SC; that James died October 15, 1835; she presents a Bible record showing that Mary Keever was born November 9, 1791

“Mary McKeever was born the 29 of November 1791

Elinor McKeever was born Aprile the 19th 1795

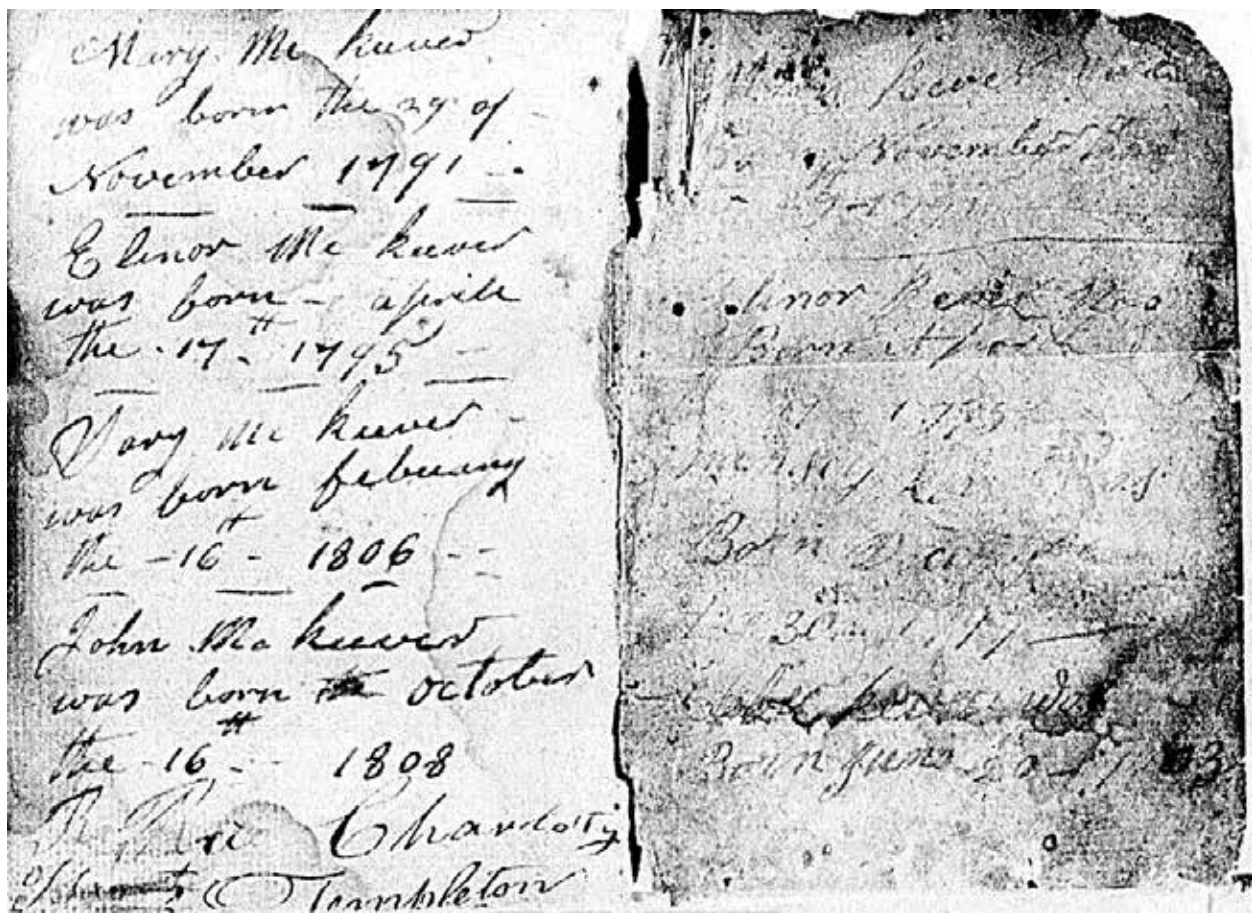
Sary McKeever was born february the 16th 1806

John McKeever was born the October the 16th 1808”

She states that her husband was sometimes known as James McKeever and that they were married prior to the birth of Mary, their first child. She signed her application with her mark as "Jane Keever."].

[p 11: Family Bible record:

⁴ [William Logan S32385](#)



[Letter from the War Department also says that the veteran served under Capt. James Dillard at the Battle of the Cowpens, but I didn't see this in any of the papers I found in the file other than this letter and in a petition [p 18] dated April 30, 1855 filed by the widow in which she says she is the widow of James Kever "who was a private soldier now deceased in the company commanded by Captain James Dillard in a Regiment whose number and Colonel is not remembered in the Revolutionary War." In this petition, for bounty land, she says her maiden name was Jane Craig.]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$26.66 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 8 months in the South Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]