

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

Pension Application of James Kirk W10171

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Kentucky } SS.

Marion County }

On this day the 4th day of November 1834 personally appeared in open Court before the Circuit Court of Marion now setting James Kirk a resident of the County and State aforesaid aged 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 7th 1832. That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers and served as herein stated.

In the year 1781 in the month of September he was drafted for the Seige of York Town [28 Sep - 19 Oct 1781] under Capt. William Hardin and remained under him he thinks about four months and in the meanwhile was in the engagement and the ultimate capture of Lord Cornwallis.

In the year 1782 in the month of August he enlisted under Col Thomas Montjoy [Capt. Thomas Mountjoy, often called Colonel] and returned to Capt Thomas (he thinks Capt Lewis Thomas) of the Virginia line and remained under him, (he thinks at least two weeks) who was succeeded by Capt. Booker, (and he thinks his given name was Samuel [Samuel Booker]) he thinks that he was under Booker at least one year and he believes more. And again Booker was succeeded by Capt. Johnson (but his given name is not recollected), under whom he remained at least one year and he believes more.

He enlisted for three years but a termination of the war brought his actual service to a close in something better than two years.

When he entered the service he lived in Stafford County Virginia. When he first entered the service he marched from Stafford County to Winchester Barracks under Col. Thomas Montjoy where he entered the regiment in which place he remained some time where the small Pox prevailed to a considerable extent, from whence he was sent by order of General Muhlenburg [sic: Peter Muhlenberg] to fort Pitt with the correspondence to announce to the corps that peace was concluded and returned to Winchester Barracks, where he was furloughed for the remainder of his time. He left service in the year 1785 [sic: all troops were dismissed by proclamation in Nov 1783]. He states that including his whole service he was from his best recollection in [the rest missing]

[One Daniel Kirk certified that since the Revolutionary War he had repeatedly heard James Kirk state that he had served as a soldier.]

State of Kentucky } SS.

Marion County }

I John Simms of the County of Washington and State of Kentucky do certify that I have been well acquainted with James Kirk ever since the year 1774 and that I believe him to be seventy five years old. That he is reputed and believed in the neighbourhood where he resides to have been a soldier of the revolution and that I was with him and his messmate in the siege of York Town in the year 1781 under the same officers set forth in his declaration. That I saw him receive the bounty of forty dollars in the year 1782 and was promised a quantity of land which he has never received And that he enlisted for three years or during the war and know of my own knowledge that he was at least two years and a half in actual service, when he was furloughed for the remainder of the time, (a termination of hostilities having taken place before the three years expired. And that he has always been found to be a man of the strictest truth and veracity. Moreover since the war I have repeatedly conversed with Mr James Kirk about the dangers as well as the festivities in which we were mutually engaged. I have also heard him state that he served as he has stated in his declaration from time to time ever since the year 1785 when he returned

home. And he has always made the same statement to me as well as to others and I have no doubt in the truth of his every statement.

Given under my hand this 4th day of Nov'r. 1834 [signed] John Simms

[On 11 Sep 1835 Vincent Bussle (pension application W5963) certified that Kirk had served as claimed.]

State of Kentucky Marion County, towit,

This day James Kirk came personally before the undersigned a justice of the peace for said county and state and made oath that in the spring of 1782 he enlisted as a soldier under Col. Thomas Montjoy who was appointed to enlist soldiers, and said Montjoy marched him said Kirk together with others that he had enlisted to Winchester Barracks about the fall of 1782, where he joined the Ridgement under General Mullenburgh. [Samuel] Hawes was the Colonel Thomas was first his Captain & then Booker he enlisted in Stafford County Virginia and served in the United States army of the Revolution, he staid with the army at Winchester Barracks from the fall of 1782 to some time in summer 1783 when he was marched with the army to the Point of Forks of James River, where he remained with the army some time in the fall of 1783 when he was furloughed, tho not regularly discharged; making the whole time that he was in actual service 18 or 19 months. that at the time he enlisted, he enlisted for 3 years the number of the Ridgement he does not now recollect, that he was never called into service afterwards.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4th day of October 1837 James hisXmark Kirk

NOTES:

A size roll of noncommissioned officers and privates taken at Cumberland Old Courthouse lists James Kirk/ age 17/ height 5' 6¼"/ brown hair/ dark eyes/ dark complexion/ farmer/ born and residing in Stafford County where he enlisted on 1 Oct 1782 for three years. Sized 9 June 1783.

On 16 April 1855 James Kirk, 96, applied for bounty land, with William L. Kirk and Paul J. McElroy witnessing.

On 28 March 1857 Mahala Kirk, 39, applied for a pension stating that she was married to James Kirk in Marion County by S. B. Robertson, a Presbyterian minister, on 30 July 1840, and her husband died 21 Jan 1857. The application includes a copy of the record of the marriage of James Kirk to Mahala Chamberlain.