

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Moses Knight,¹ a/k/a Moses Sharper, Moses McIntosh² W10182

Marian H. Knight

f116SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

10/23/09: rev'd 4/25/16

[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 53]

State of Indiana Knox County: Sct.

Be it remembered that on this third day of August A.D. 1830, Before me the undersigned one of the Justices of the peace in & for said County, personally came Henry Lamont alias John Henry Lamont and Philip Jones (both known to me as man of respectability in point of veracity) who being duly sworn according to law, Depose and declare that they are personally acquainted with Moses Knight, alias Moses Sharper alias Moses McIntosh (who now applies for a pension). That he was regularly enlisted in and belonged to Captain James Fontleroy's [James Fauntleroy's] Company of South Carolina light horse in the regular troops commanded by Colonel Jack alias John McIntosh under General Green, in the Revolutionary War; that he served in the said company as a private, from the time of his enlistment which was some time in the year 1779, until he was discharged at Windsor in South Carolina sometime in the year 1782. And further the deponent saith not.

Taken & signed before me at my office in Vincennes, the day & year above written

S/ John Collins, JP

S/ John Hy Lamont, X his mark

S/ Philip Jones, X his mark

[p 6]

Original Claim

Declaration in order to be placed on the pension List under the Act of the 18th March 1818
County of Daviess, [state of Indiana]: SS

On this 26th day of March 1831, personally appeared in open court being a court of record for the County of Daviess and State of Indiana, Moses Knight resident in said County, aged seventy-six 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 18th March, 1818, and the 1st of May, 1820; that he the said Moses Knight enlisted for the term of five years on the ___ day of ___ in the year 1779, in the State of South Carolina, in the company commanded by Captain James Fontelroy [James Fauntleroy], in the Regiment commanded by Colonel Jack McIntosh [John McIntosh] in the line of the State of South Carolina, on the Continental establishment; that he continued to serve in said Corps until the year 1782, when he was discharged from the service in Windsor in the State of South Carolina; that he hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension, except the present; that his name is not on the roll of any State except the one aforesaid; and that the following all the reasons for

¹ Bobby Gilmer Moss in his *Roster of South Patriots in the American Revolution* lists this veteran as a free man of color. Note also that the veteran's son, Aaron H. Knight refers to his father as being of African and either Cherokee or Creek (it is difficult to decipher which in the memo transcribed below) blood.

² BLWt24988-160-55

not making earlier application for a pension: That it was but lately he found the witnesses to prove his services, having heretofore resided in Maryland.

And in pursuance of the act of the first of May 1820, I do solemnly swear that I was a resident Citizen of the United States on the 18th day of March 1818 and that I have not since that time by gift, sale or in any manner whatever disposed of my property or any part thereof with intent thereby so to diminish it as to bring myself within the provision of an act of Congress entitled “an act to provide for certain persons engaged in the land and naval service of the United States in the revolutionary war” passed on the 18th 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. That, since the 18th of March 1818, the following changes have been made in my property.

Description of Property	Debts owing by Applicant	Property on the 18 th day of March 1818
80 acres of thin land \$80.00 66 do of good do 82.00 1 mare <u>45</u> \$207.00 2 small Shoats 1 little wheel 1 big do 1 smooth boarded gun 1 plough 1 pot 1 kettle 1 axe & 1 hoe	\$313.31 ¼ Joseph Miller of Maryland & others	A few cattle & hogs of small value say from
Occupation Farmer	Number in Family Six in the Family 1 wife 54 years 1 son 17 ditto 1 ditto 10 1 daughter 8 or 9 1 grandson 9 or 10	Names Maryann Abraham Isaac Aualina Elijah

I have no dues or debts coming to me of any consequence nor has anyone any property of mine in trust. There are some doubtful claims in my favor, in the hands of Mr. Webb in Maryland. I do not expect to receive \$50 on the same, but upon the contrary the probability is that all are lost. My wife is afflicted with the Rheumatism. I am occasionally afflicted with the same complaint also.

[signed] Moses Knight³

Sworn to and declared on the 26th day of March 1831 before the Honorable the Judges of the Daviess Circuit Court.

[p 9]

Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the Act of Congress of the 7th of June 1832
 State of Indiana County of Daviess: SS

On this thirteenth day of May A.D. 1833, personally appeared before the Honorable the Judge of the Probate Court of the County aforesaid, Moses Knight, a resident of the State and County aforesaid aged Seventy Seven years who being first duly sworn according to law, doth, on his oath

³ Not the actual signature of the veteran since the handwriting is identical to the body of the document.

make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed June 7th, 1832.

That he enlisted in the Army of the United States in the year 1779, with Colonel Jack McIntosh [John McIntosh] and served in the ___ Regiment of the South Carolina line under the following named officers:

Colonel Jack McIntosh other field Officers not recollected. Captain James Fontleroy [James Fauntleroy] Lieutenant ___ Maryweathers [sic, Meriwether?]; that at the time of his enlistment he resided at General Alexander McIntosh's on big Pedee River, about three miles below the long bluff and four miles below Culp's Ferry in ___ County, South Carolina; that Colonel McIntosh was the commandant of Troop of Light horse, and was called a Regular Officer, and that at the time he (the said Moses Knight) enlisted, 2 other individuals by the name of John O'Neal and James O'Neal, brothers and one other by the name of ___ McClary enlisted, under said McIntosh: that they were marched to Camden where they were placed under Captain Fontleroy and Lieutenant Maryweathers, and there they joined the Army. That he continued to serve in said troop of horse and the officers aforesaid until the year 1782, when he was discharged from the service at Windsor in South Carolina.

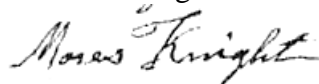
That during his service, he was marched into North Carolina; was at the Shallow Ford on Yadkin River: was guarding horses in hearing of the guns at the time of the battle of Guilford Courthouse [March 15, 1781], that he was at Princess Ann Court-house Virginia, and that he was near Savannah in Georgia. That his service was principally against the Tories; and that he was engaged against the Tories and rode by the side of one George Storms, at the time the Tories killed Colonel Culp and burned his house, at Culp's Ferry on Pedee [River].

That sometime in the year 1782, he was appointed and commissioned a press-master to take a boat load of corn from Culp's Ferry to Windsor; and that he did press hands, and take 800 bushels of corn, from said Ferry to Windsor, for the support of General Green's [Nathanael Greene's] Light Horse, where he received his discharge, as aforesaid. And the said Moses Knight, further states, that in March 1831, he filed a declaration, in order to be placed on the Pension List, under the Act of the 18th March 1818, and the subsequent acts in relation thereto, Stating in substance, the same facts (so far, as he was advised was necessary) that are contained in this declaration; and that sometime in May, following, he was informed by the War Department that "No officer of that name" (alluding to Colonel McIntosh) "commanded a South Carolina Regiment on the Continental establishment." "There was a Colonel of that name in the Continental Army but it does not appear that the claimant belonged to his Regiment." "As the terms providing for Revolutionary soldiers extend to none but those who served on the Continental establishment, and as the Regiment to which the claimant was attached, did not belong to that establishment, a pension cannot be granted." He states positively, that Colonel Jack McIntosh, was called a regular Officer, and that he understood from Colonel McIntosh himself, that he was a regular officer, with full power to enlist men, and as such that he (the said Moses) did, as he was informed and verily believes, enlist under. That he does not know, whether Colonel McIntosh was a resident of South Carolina or not but believes he was a resident of Georgia.

He also states, that he was sometimes called Moses Sharper, and sometimes Moses McIntosh, (he having been raised by General Alexander McIntosh,) and sometimes Moses Knight; and that if Colonel McIntosh, was not a regular officer, he was deceived by him and others; but that he did serve as above stated, which services he proved by living witnesses on the filing of his former declaration.

He hereby relinquishes every 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 of any State.

S/ Moses Knight



Sworn to, and Subscribed, the day and year aforesaid.

S/ John Van Trees, Clerk

[p 11]

The said Moses Knight states further for the satisfaction of the War Department That during the whole period of his service, he served as a private soldier, except the period of his service in the capacity of Press Master as aforesaid, which he believes could not have been more than 30 or 35 days. That Colonel McIntosh was generally called "Jack McIntosh" but that his proper name was John McIntosh. That he cannot recollect with more certainty than he has above and herein related, the particulars and precise length of his service, but he knows that he served not less than three years under the officers aforesaid during the whole period of his service as aforesaid.

S/ Moses Knight

Sworn to and subscribed in open court, of the Davis Probate Court aforesaid this 13th day of May, 1833

S/ John Vantrees, Clerk

[p 49: On July 31st, 1833 in Knox County Indiana, Luther C Cochran gave testimony that he was acquainted with John H Lamount late of said County who is now dead and died some time in the fall of 1832.]

[p 50: On July 31, 1833 in Knox County Indiana, Philip Jones gave testimony that he was acquainted with Moses Knight during the revolutionary war; that night lived on the Big Pedee River in South Carolina; that the affiant's all night in the service with a large company of troops under the command of General Alexander McIntosh & Colonel John McIntosh who were called regular officers; that after the fall of Charleston Moses Knight was called a Press Master and from his uniform dress the affiant has no doubt he was a press master.]

[p 11]

State of Indiana County of Daviess:

On this third day of August A.D. 1833 personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid the above named Moses Knight who being duly sworn, deposes and saith, That when he filed his declaration (in March 1831 as stated in the foregoing declaration) he proved his service by the only living witnesses he then knew of, or now knows of, who could testify to his service -- Joseph Warner Esquire who attended to his business kept the affidavits of John H. Laymount and Philip Jones (the witnesses above stated) proving his service, with the intention of forwarding the same with his declaration, to the Secretary of War; that he does not know whether Mr. Warner did send said affidavits or not, but supposes he did -- That since the summer of 1832, the said John H. Laymount, the most material witness to this affiant in the investigation of this claim, has died, which will appear by the accompanying affidavit of Luther C. Cochran marked (A.) leaving no living witness except Philip Jones (whose affidavit herewith enclosed marked (B.) whose testimony he can procure who can testify to his service, that this affiant knows of; That he believes the affidavit of said Laymount was forwarded with his former declaration in 1831, to the Secretary of War, and may now be found on the examination of the proper office. The said Moses Knight further states that he knows of no other living witnesses who can testify to his service, but would respectfully refer the department to the following affidavit of the Reverend Abner Davis and John Van Trees, Esquire as to their belief of his service in the Army of Revolution, and as to his character as a man of good moral character, and as to their belief of his character for truth and veracity.

S/ Moses Knight

[Abner Davis, a clergyman, and John Van Trees gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 13: On December 4, 1850 in Knox County Indiana, Marian H. Knight, 75, made application for a widows pension under the 1848 act stating that she is the widow of Moses Knight, a pensioner for his services in the revolution; that she married him December 25th, 1796 or 1795 (but she cannot say because of her failing memory which); that she has a family Bible showing that her oldest child was born September 15th 1798; that her husband died in April 1848; that they were married at Pleasant Valley, Washington County Maryland; that she has no family record of her marriage. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 15: On December 4, 1850 in Knox County Indiana, Catherine McGill gave a supporting affidavit stating that she is the daughter of Marian H. Knight and Moses Knight; that she is "rising" 50 years of age. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 17: On June 7, 1855 in Knox County Indiana, Marian H Knight, 78, made application for her bounty land entitlement as the widow of Moses Knight. She signed this application with her mark.

[p 5: On September 8, 1880 in Knox County Illinois, Aaron H. Knight filed an affidavit seeking the bounty land entitlement of his father, Moses Knight, deceased, a pensioner of the United States for his services in the revolution. Aaron H. Knight states that he is the son and heir at law of his father Moses Knight.]

[p 28: On June 28, 1880 in Knox County Illinois, Aaron H. Knight gave testimony that his father Moses Knight, a pensioner, died in been since Knox County State of Indiana in 1848 at age 102 according to his best information. At the bottom of this same page is a writing which I strongly believe to be in the handwriting of Aaron H. Knight which reads as follows:

"I A. H. Knight mak this Complant BeCase we be Leve we have Bin Robe Chetd Defrade out of fathers Land warent and out of the pension and out of the precinbl and in trust of mone do to my father Ever [illegible] 1776 and 1780 my father war and offson in the Revluton wer he was a African and Cheech By blood as I am in formed the way this [illegible] be done is e By DiGnassis from My mothers name my mothers nam war Mariam H. wif of Moses Knight on pension at \$100 per year iff it is wanting I will send a copy of his will pleas ansor sune.

[in the margin, in the same handwriting]

"this name is given and is not to Be miss used by one de fraud [illegible] wishe it this examanation and satsfactive ansor to this we never have Jestone thing and we have maid in [illegible] But have faled to up tane as yet."

this name is given and is not to be missed used by one de fraud solas wish to this
 I A. H. Knight make this complaint because we have been robbed, cheated, defrauded out of father's land warrant and out of the pension and out of the principal and trust money due to my father ever since 1776 and 1780 my father was an officer in the Revolution war he was an African and Creek by blood as I am informed. The way this can be done is by digressing from my mother's name my mother's name was Mariam H. widow of Moses Knight on pension at \$100 per year if it is necessary I will send a copy of his will please answer soon
 we never have got one thing and we have made inquiry [?] But have failed to obtain as yet

[Here is my attempt to decipher the above]

I A. H. Knight make this complaint because I believe we have been robbed, cheated, defrauded out of father's land warrant and out of the pension and out of the principal and trust money due to my father ever since 1776 and 1780. My father was an officer in the Revolutionary War, he was an African and Creek [could be "Cherokee"] by blood as I am informed. The way this was done is by digressing from my mother's name. My mother's name was Mariam H. widow of Moses Knight. [She received] a pension at \$100 per year. If it is necessary, I will send a copy of his will. Please answer soon.

This name is given and is not to be misused by one to defraud? I wish at this examination and satisfactory answer to this we never have got one thing and we have made inquiry [?] But have failed to obtain as yet.

[Facts in file: Veteran married Marian or Maryann Hopewell (born January 1, 1775) in Pleasant Valley, Washington County, Maryland; the widow died May 22, 1863]

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$100 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 for service as a private in the South Carolina cavalry for 2 years. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]

[another version]

Pension Application of Moses Knight, Natl Archives Microseries M804, Roll 1503, Application #W10182 (an African by birth)

Transcribed and annotated by Nancy Poquette

Daviess County, Indiana, March 26, 1831, Moses Knight, aged 76:

“That he, the said Moses Knight enlisted for the term of five years...in the year 1779 in the state of South Carolina in the company commanded by Captain James Fontleroy in the regiment commanded by Colonel Jack McIntosh in the line of the state of South Carolina on the continental establishment. That he continued in the service until the year 1782 when he was discharged from the service in Windsor in the state of South Carolina...”

May 13th, 1833:

“That he enlisted in the army of the United States in the year 1779 with Colonel Jack McIntosh, served in the __ regiment of the South Carolina line under the following named officers:

“Colonel Jack McIntosh, other field officers not recollected. Captain James Fontleroy, Lt. Maryweathers. That at the time of his enlistment, he resided at General Alexander McIntosh’s on Big Peedee River, about three miles below the Long Bluffs and four miles below Kolb’s Ferry in _____ County, South Carolina. That Colonel McIntosh was the commandant of a troop of Light Horse and was called a regular officer, and that at the time he (the said Moses Knight) enlisted, two other individuals by the names of John O’Neal and James O’Neal, brothers, and one other by the name of ____ McClary, enlisted under said McIntosh. That they were marched to Camden, where they were placed under Captain Fontleroy and Lt. Maryweathers and where they joined the army. That he continued to serve in said troop of horse under the officers aforesaid until the year 1782, when he was discharged from the service at Windsor in South Carolina.”

“That during his service he was marched into North Carolina; was at the Shallow Ford on Yadkin River; was guarding horses in hearing of the guns at the time of the Battle at Guilford Courthouse; that he was at Princess Ann Courthouse, Virginia; and that he was near Savannah, in Georgia. That his service was principally against the Tories; and that he was engaged against the Tories and rode by the side of one George Storms at the time the Tories killed Colonel Kolb and burned his house at Kolb’s Ferry on Peedee.”

“That sometime in the year **1782**, he was appointed and commissioned a press-master to take a boatload of corn from Kolb’s Ferry to Windsor, and that he did press hands and take 800 bushels of corn from said ferry to Windsor for the support of General Greene’s Light Horse, where he received his discharge as aforesaid...”

“That the said Moses Knight further states that in March 1831, he filed a declaration in order to be placed on the Pension list...and that sometime in May following, he was informed by the War Department that ‘No officer of that name (alluding to Colonel McIntosh) commanded a South Carolina regiment on the continental establishment. There was a colonel of that name in the continental army, but it does not appear that the claimant belonged to his regiment. As the terms providing for Revolutionary soldiers extend to none but those who served on the continental establishment and as the regiment to which the claimant was attached did not belong that that establishment, a pension cannot be granted.’”

“He states positively that Colonel Jack McIntosh was called a regular officer, and that he understood from Colonel McIntosh himself that he was a regular officer with full powers to enlist men and as such he (the said Moses) did as he was informed and verily believes, enlist under. That he does not know whether Colonel McIntosh was a resident of South Carolina or not, but believes he was a resident of Georgia.”

“He also states that he was sometimes called Moses Sharper and sometimes called Moses McIntosh (he having been raised by General Alexander McIntosh) and sometimes Moses Knight, and that if Colonel McIntosh was not a regular officer, he was deceived by him and others; but that he did serve as above stated, which services he proved by living witnesses in the filing of his former declaration.”

“...The said Moses Knight further states for the satisfaction of the War Department that during the whole period of his service, he served as a private soldier except the period of his service as a press master as aforesaid, which he believes could not have been more than thirty or thirty-five days. That Colonel McIntosh was generally called ‘Jack McIntosh’, but that his proper name was John McIntosh...”

August 3rd, 1833, personally appeared, Moses Knight...That when he filed his declaration in March 1831 as stated in the foregoing declaration) he proved his service by the only living witnesses he then knew of, or now knows of, who could testify to his services. That Joseph Warner, Esq. who attended to his business kept the affidavits of John H. ?Saymount? and Philip Jones (the witnesses above stated) proving his service, with the intention of forwarding the same with his declaration to the Secretary of War. That he does not know whether Mr. Warner did send said affidavits or not, but supposes he did. That since the summer of 1832, the said John H. Saymount, the most material witness to this affiant in the investigation of this claim, has died, which will appear by the accompanying affidavit of Luther C. Cochran, leaving no living witness except Philip Jones.”
