

## Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Kingston (Kington) W1513      Eleanor Kingston      f80VA  
Transcribed by Will Graves      12/2/13

[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 8<sup>th</sup> of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

[p 10]

State of Tennessee Morgan County

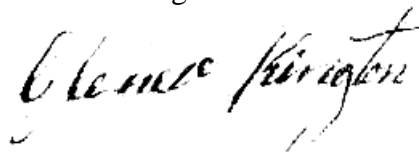
On this the 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 1838 Personally appeared before me Thomas Jack a Justice of the peace in and for the County of Morgan State of Tennessee Elinor Kington a Resident citizen of the County of Morgan State of Tennessee aged seventy-two years being born on the tenth day of March 1766, she having no record of her age but distinctly recollects the same ever since she was old enough to have any recollection of hearing the same talked of by he [her] Parents to wit John Caffrey and \_\_ Caffrey and after being duly sworn for the purpose on her oath makes the following Declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision of the act of Congress passed July the 7<sup>th</sup> 1838, that she is the widow of John Kington who was a private in the war of the Revolution and who to her best knowledge and belief served nine months in the Revolutionary war entering service in Henry County in the State of Virginia as a Private militia soldier according to her knowledge and belief as derived from him and his old acquaintances, that he first substituted in the place of a man named Edmunson and went against the Indians to the West of Virginia under General Christy or Colonel Christy[William Christian], or was finally put under him and served out three months on the frontiers of Virginia and North Carolina and at the long Islands of the Holston River, Chucky [Nolichucky River] and she thinks at a place called the Greasy Cove she is not positive as to what officers he served under but she thinks his Captain or Lieutenant was named Martin. She thinks it was probably in the fall of \_\_ that he performed said three months Tour but has not any means of arriving at certainty as to the precise day or month but thinks it was in the fall agreeable to the impression things connected with the matter leaves on her mind.

That she further believes, that her said husband served another three months tour being called out as a private numbered militia was marched to the State of North Carolina and to the great swamps about the Divide between Virginia and Carolina and was in the service said tour in the first part of the year in the months of January and February in the year 1780 and was in the time in an engagement in North Carolina. She believes at Guilford [the battle at Guilford County Courthouse was fought on March 15, 1781] or the Cowpens [the battle at the Cowpens in South Carolina was fought on January 17, 1781], perhaps both as to the officers he was under this tour she is inclined to think some of the officers names was Calloway and perhaps Bunch but as to their grade she is unable to state certain she recollects that he often spoke of being under Bunch at some period of said Tours and at some Period of being under General Washington and General Lawson [probably Robert Lawson] she believes he was discharged from said three months tour

in the spring of 1781, but is not certain she cannot state with further Certainty who was his Captain or officers. She thinks he was in the time of said Tour under a Major or Colonel named Calloway.

She further states that the history of her said husband serving a three months tour under Captain Pertete [probably Captain James Poteet] and under Waller as an officer she thinks Waller was Major is very familiar with her having often heard her said husband speak of them (Pertete in particular), she states her said husband had in his lifetime a particular appetite for talking of the Revolutionary War and of his serving and would uniformly tell of serving three, three-months tours amounting to nine months service as a Private, he often talked of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis [October 19, 1781] and of witnessing the same, that her said husband was about four years older than herself from their calculations that he was an illiterate man that she has no record or Documentary evidence of his service nor does she know that there is any person certain that she can get the evidence of to prove his service. She is convinced that all his intimate acquaintances that knew him Respected him as a Revolutionary soldier that she has often heard Thomas Butler<sup>1</sup> deceased who was a Revolutionary Pensioner and died in Anderson County Tennessee say that he served with her said husband in the Revolutionary War and that they were then acquainted with each other. She states she has no doubt but she can prove by some of her acquaintances in Morgan and Anderson Counties in Tennessee to wit the Rectors and Butlers things so much connected with the facts of her said husband's service, that it will tend to the proof of the same very strongly, she further declares that she was married to the said John Kington on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 1792 in Campbell County Virginia by a Baptist minister named Flowes [sic Flowers?] who solemnized the marriage she understood the license to be signed by Esquire Paser and she understood the same to have been in some way under the superintendents of the Clerk of the court; she not having knowledge of to what extent, she has no record of her said marriage nor Documentary evidence but she can prove her said marriage by Sally Rector whose maiden name was Sally Masten [Sally Martin?] who was at the same marriage. She further states that her said husband the said John Kington died in Morgan County State of Tennessee on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March 1831, that she was not married to the said John Kington prior to his leaving the service, but the marriage took place previous to the first day of January 1794, to wit on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 1792, as before stated.

S/ Eleanor Kington



[Polly Dabney, Robert A. Dabney and N. J. Kington gave a supporting affidavit.]

[p 6: Copy of a marriage bond dated February 2, 1792 issued in Campbell County Virginia to John Kingston and William Campbell conditioned upon the marriage of John Kingston to Eleanor Caffrey.]

[p 3: On October 22, 1838 in Overton County Tennessee, William Caffrey Kington, 45, gave testimony that his father John Kington died in Morgan County Tennessee March 21, 1831; that he was reputed by his acquaintances to have been a Revolutionary Soldier; that affiant has heard

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<sup>1</sup> [Thomas Butler S3098](#)

Thomas Butler of Anderson County Tennessee, a revolutionary Pensioner, talk about the services rendered by the affiant's father; affiant recalls his father talking about having been at either the battle of Guilford or Cowpens and at the siege of York when Cornwallis surrendered; that he remembers his father speaking of officers Lawson, Morgan, Pertete and perhaps Martin and having served some time under a Captain Halkcum.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John Kington". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

[p 31]

State of Tennessee Overton County: SS

On this the 5<sup>th</sup> day of October A.D. 1839 before the subscriber a Justice of the peace for said County personally appeared Henry Dillen<sup>2</sup> with whom I am personally acquainted a man of good character and undoubted veracity now a Revolutionary Pensioner and after being duly sworn according to law made the following affidavit viz. – That John Kington with whom he was well acquainted oath before and after the War of the Revolution did serve with affiant in his first tour of duty under Colonel Christian in that campaign and was a substitute for one Edmonston and served that whole tour and he affiant well recollects that John Kington was in the service and went a tour to the North Carolina Country as he was then informed and believes as to what officers he cannot say more than he heard Kington speaking of Morgan after his return then he affiant and John Kington again entered the service together under Captain Parteet [probably James Poteet] and was together at the Siege of York and returned home to Henry County State of Virginia together where they were acquainted as neighbors for some years till Kington removed as he then understood to Campbell County State of Virginia but affiant never had any personal more personal acquaintance with him but afterwards heard that he was located in Morgan County State of Tennessee affiant further states that his son Jacob Dillen who was an attorney at law used to attend court in that County by whom he learned that it was the same John Kington with whom he was well acquainted and had served with him two tours of duty in the war of the Revolution after which they used to send their complements by their other friends and passengers. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year above written.

S/ Henry Dillen, X his mark

[p 40: Thomas S Lea, JP and physician gave testimony in Morgan County Tennessee that he attended the veteran as his physician and often conversed with him about the Revolutionary war and based on those conversations and his knowledge of the character of the veteran, affiant has no hesitation in saying that the veteran was a soldier of the revolution and was married to Eleanor Kington.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Thomas S. Lea". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background.

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<sup>2</sup> [Henry Dillen S45891](#)

[p 42: On October 31, 1838 in Anderson County Tennessee Elizabeth Rector gave testimony that she was well acquainted with John and Eleanor Kington; that Eleanor's maiden name was Caffrey; that the affiant was the first cousin of Eleanor Caffrey; that she, affiant, was not present at the marriage of John and Eleanor but affiant's sister Sally Rector was present at their wedding. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 51: On December 24, 1838 in Morgan County Tennessee, Sally Rector gave testimony that she was born January 17 1772; that she was at the wedding of her cousin Eleanor Caffrey to John Kington in Campbell County Virginia which ceremony was celebrated by a preacher by the name of Flowers in the month of February 1792; that she went to the house of John Caffrey on the day preceding the marriage and actually saw and heard the marriage ceremony celebrated. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1836]