

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Henry Kelly W20290

Mary Kelly

f17NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/31/16

[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.]

State of North Carolina, Chatham County

On this nineteenth day of January 1842 – personally appeared before the Subscriber an acting Justice of the Court of pleas and quarter Sessions for the County of Chatham Mary Kelly a Resident of North Carolina in the County of Chatham aged ninety years old she being so aged and infirm that she is unable to travel from home being first duly Sworn according to Law doth on her oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the provision made by the act of Congress passed July 4th, 1836 and the act Explanatory of said act passed March 3rd, 1837.

That she [was married] to Henry Kelly who was a private in the Army of the revolution. That she has no Documentary Evidence to offer and must rely upon other evidence as she may be able to collect. She further states that as well as he [sic, she] can now recollect that he was Drafted for a three months Tour in 1778 and marched to what was then called Cross Creek now Fayetteville from there to Moore's Bridge [Moore's Creek Bridge, February 27, 1776]¹ where he was in the Battle with the Tories. She further States that after his return he was again Drafted for a three months tour and marched to Camden in South Carolina where he was in another Battle which she thinks was in the year 1780 [possibly a reference to the Battle of Camden, August 15-16, 1780]² and he was again drafted as she believes for a three months Tour in 1781 and marched to South Carolina and was marched back to North Carolina and was at the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781]³ there his brother-in-law and Brother to the present applicant (George Barber [could be Barbee]) got killed, after his return he was again drafted but from Bad health he had to hire a substitute but from the Great Lapse of time she cannot now recollect what company or field officers he served under she can further state that her husband served a great deal of the time while out of the Army against the Tories which she is informed is not necessary here to detail. She further Declares that she was Married to the said Henry Kelly on the 25th day of December in the year 1770. That her husband the aforesaid Henry Kelly Died on the 28th day of December in the year 1794. And that she has remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereunto annexed.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before me.

S/ Geo. Luther, JP

S/ Mary Kelly, X her mark

¹ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_moores_creek.html

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_camden.html

³ http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_guilford_courthouse.html

[Bias Rodgers,⁴ 91, of Chatham gave an affidavit in support of Mary's claim stating that he mustered in the same company as Henry Kelly although he never served in the same engagements as Kelly. He signed his affidavit with his mark.]

[p 7: Elizabeth Curtis, 86, sister of Mary Kelly also gave a supporting affidavit. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 10: Delpha Williams, 68, daughter of Mary Kelly, also gave a supporting affidavit. She states that she was the second child of her parents; that she had a brother who she understood was one year and eleven months older than affiant. "That she has a very distinct recollection of some circumstances that transpired in the time of the Revolution. That she recollects distinctly on one occasion that she with her brother and some smaller children were out at play and they saw their uncle George Barber with several others who had been absent for a considerable time on a term of service when they returned and she saw said company. She mistook them for Tories and ran and gave the alarm and they hid themselves. That they sent and gave her father notice who was then at her grandmother's. But when they found at [out] the right of it, it was their friends coming out of the service. And she further saith that she distinctly recollects that when her mother Mary Kelly was on the lookout for the birth of her fifth child that her father Henry Kelly was out in the Army on a Tower [tour] of service. But that his Term expired and he returned home a short time before the fifth child was born. And she further saith that she well recollects that when her father was at home that they were constantly on the lookout to guard against being surprised by the Tories." She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

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State of North Carolina, Chatham County

This day Henry Shaddox aged 77 years old personally appeared before the Subscriber an acting Justice of the peace in and for said County who being first duly sworn according to law deposed and saith that he was personally acquainted with Henry Kelly during the Revolutionary War – and this Deponent further saith that he himself was at that time too young to go into service. That he resided near Ramsey's Mills on Deep River. That that was a place where supplies and provisions were collected for the Troops when on their march to the South or the lower country. That the first time he recollects seeing Henry Kelly in the service was at Ramsey's Mills where this deponent went to help to draw some beef Cattle and as well as he now recollects Kelly then belonged to Captain Joseph Johnson's Company and was on their march towards Wilmington not long before the Battle at Moore's Creek Bridge. And this deponent further saith that sometime afterwards he again saw Henry Kelly in the Army at the same place how long he cannot say but thinks it was about a year afterward and as he understood they were on their march to Charleston South Carolina how long he served he cannot say nor does he now recollect under what Captain he was then under and further he saith not. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18th day of April 1842.

S/ Henry Shaddox, X his mark

I certify that Henry Shaddox is a credible witness.

S/ Geo. Luther, JP

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State of North Carolina, Chatham County

⁴ [Bias Rogers R8960](#)

This day Jesse Ausley⁵ aged eighty-four years old personally appeared before the subscriber an acting Justice of peace in and for the said County who after being sworn according to law deposeth and saith – that he was acquainted with Henry Kelly and his family connections during the revolutionary war and that they were highly respectable but as to his services he knows but little this deponent further saith that all he does know is that some time in the winter before Gates Defeat this Deponent was stationed at Hillsboro as a Guard for the General Assembly then in Session That Troops were collected at Hillsborough during that time to march to South Carolina and that Henry Kelly was there as one and that as well as he now recollects Kelly was in Captain Dred Joneses [Etheldred Jones'] Company and further this deponent saith not. Sworn to and subscribed before me the 24th day of April 1842.

S/ Jesse Ausley, X his mark

I certify that Jesse Ausley is a credible witness.

S/ Jno Luther, JP

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State of North Carolina, Chatham County

This day Thomas Dickens⁶ aged eighty-two years old personally appeared before the subscriber an acting Justice of peace in and for the County aforesaid who being first duly Sworn according to law deposeth and saith – That he was Drafted in Halifax County and went into the Service in the Militia a short time before the Battle at Guilford – that when he Joined General Greene's Army near Dan River he got acquainted with Henry Kelly from Chatham who was then in the service. That Henry Kelly remained in the service until after the Battle at Guilford And this Deponent further saith that after the battle at Guilford that he himself Enlisted and went into the regular service and knew no more of Kelly until after the war was over and this Deponent removed to Chatham and further this Deponent saith not. Sworn to and subscribed before me this 27th day of April 1842.

S/ Thomas Dickens, X his mark

I certify that Thomas Dickens is a credible witness.

S/ Jno Luther, JP

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$30 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband's service as a private for 9 months in the North Carolina militia.]

⁵ [Jesse Ausley W27520](#)

⁶ [Thomas Dickens S41509](#)