

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Francis Kitner (Ketner) W20322 Elizabeth Ketner f24NC
Transcribed by Will Graves 11/2/09: rev'd 4/24/16

[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.]

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State of North Carolina County of Stokes: SS

On this first day of September 1840 personally appeared before me Charles Banner a Magistrate of the County Court of Stokes aforesaid Elizabeth Ketner at her own place of Residence in Salem district in the County of Stokes aforesaid in North Carolina aged eighty-six years who 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, that she is the widow of Francis Ketner who was born in Berks County January the first 1748, who was a private Soldier in the Militia Army of the United States during the Revolutionary War and served the following expeditions since they were married together as man & wife (to wit) the first he was gone three months against the Tories Marched from Surry County North Carolina to Fayetteville she believes he was drafted & went under the command of Captain Henry Smith¹ & Lieutenant Binkley [Frederick Binkley]² who was her neighbors with whom she was well acquainted; and Colonel Joseph Williams was Colonel Commandant -- it was in the spring of the year 1776 when her son Frederick was two years old, & she had another child born & it died while her husband was gone in that Tour = the next fall in the same year he went under the same officers an expedition to the Cherokee Nation of Indians³ and was gone four months & a upwards first he went from Surry County & drove a wagon with provisions for the Army to Wilkes County then the Army returned in two or three weeks & her husband came home & remained at home a week or 10 days, then he was called on to start & went on foot & was gone till about Christmas & returned, with the Captain Smith & Company & said he had a discharge for four months as a footman; = the next he served as a Minute Man & went a number of short scouts after Tories under heard neighbor Captain John Crouse; she cannot remember half, therefore cannot claim anything for those short tours only one of two weeks he was out when said Captain Crouse [John Crouse] & his Company had a fight (she calls it) with the Tories at Surry Court house when said Captain was wounded by a bullet from the Tories, our Whig Company was compelled to retreat as the Tories was too many in number for them: Colonel Jo Williams commanded our men. She cannot recollect the date that this affair happened, But it was previous to his going a long time under Captain Smith to South Carolina at least six months

¹ [Henry Smith S32525](#)

² [Fridrik Binkey \(Binkley\) W4898](#)

³ probably the expedition described in

http://www.carolana.com/NC/Revolution/revolution_cherokee_expedition_1776_TN.html

she do not recollect any of the route only he told her he went to Salisbury & joined the Main Army commanded by a General Rutherford [Griffith Rutherford] and marched from there to South Carolina, she remembers that her daughter Elizabeth was her youngest child at that time who was born in October 1777 -- the next he went a tour of two months with a wagon load of ammunition from Salem to Henry Courthouse in Virginia & from there to some place where the Main Army was & carried the powder to them, and while he was gone the British Army passed by her house coming from the Shallow Ford on the Yadkin River to Houser [?]⁴ Town & robbed her of all her corn, & small grain, meat and everything almost that her & family had to live on, even her ducks & chickens some of them asked her if she had a husband she said yes: where is he they asked, she told them he was gone with a wagon to haul a load of ammunition to the American Army to shoot you red coats that have robbed me & my living, this happened shortly before the Battle of Guilford [March 15, 1781] and on the very night of said Battle her husband said Francis Ketner returned home, as she heard the Cannons firing in the morning of the Battle; the foregoing are all the Services that she remembers of her husband being employed in -- She further declares that she was married to the said Francis Ketner in a Lutheran church in Berks County State of Pennsylvania on the 10th day of July 1771 and removed to Surry County North Carolina in the fall of the same year with her father Joseph Miller & his family; that her husband the aforesaid Francis Ketner died in Stokes County North Carolina on the fifth of February 1831, and that she remained a widow ever since that period as will more fully appear by reference to the proof which is to be hereunto annexed; and further she declares that she had seven children born of her Body whilst she and her husband the aforesaid Francis Ketner lived together as man and wife, namely Henry Ketner was born the 20th of May 1772, but no record of his age it being lost -- the next was Frederick Ketner was born the 10th of May 1774 the church Record hereunto annexed, the next was born the 12th of May 1776 & died at five days old, the next was Elizabeth born the 20th of October 1777, the fifth child Matthew Ketner was born the 28th of November 1780 and Catherine born the 13th of December 1783 the church record of both hereunto annexed will show, the last was Francis born the 14 of January 1790 -- the children whose ages of was recorded as above stated was baptized in the Moravian church; the others were baptized by a preacher at our place of Residence & no record kept of them; From bodily infirmities she is unable to travel or to be carried to Court, without endangering her health very much; therefore have sent for the Subscribing Magistrate to draw of this writing at my place of Residence (the troops of which statements I am fully satisfied).

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above mentioned before me
S/ C. Banner, JP

S/ Elizabeth Ketner, X her mark

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North Carolina Stokes County: SS

Be it known that on this the 28 day of December 1840 before me Charles Banner a Justice of the peace for said County personally appeared Jacob Holsbeck⁵ a respectable resident of said County of probity & truth & pensioner of the United States who being first duly sworn, declares on his oath that he served a Tour of service in the United States Army during the War of the Revolution with Francis Ketner the husband of Elizabeth Ketner under a Captain Henry

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⁵ Sic, [Jacob Hilsabeck S7013](#)

Smith & in the same mess with Ketner we entered the service in Surry County in October or November 1778 & went to Salisbury & then joined the General Rutherford's Army, then at headquarters then marched to Charlotte & from thence through various parts of South Carolina to Savannah River when a part of our troops under a ___ Ashe [North Carolina General John Ashe] crossed the River had a Battle at Briar Creek [March 3, 1779]⁶ and was defeated by the enemy. Shortly after the term for which we entered the service ended, which was for five months, but we were detained until new recruits came in, when said Ketner & our Company received discharges for our for five months, although we were gone fully six months & returned home to Surry County North Carolina.

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above mentioned before me
S/ C. Banner, JP

S/ Jacob Hulsepeck, X his mark

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North Carolina Stokes County: SS

On this 3rd day of September 1840 before me Charles Banner a Justice of the peace for said County personally appeared Joseph Houser aged Seventy Eight years a resident of Bethania in Stokes County aforesaid & a person of good character for probity & truth who being duly sworn according to law declares on his oath that he was well acquainted with Francis Ketner the husband of Elizabeth Ketner ever since they came & settled near Bethania in the then Surry County North Carolina that was nearly 70 years past and that they lived together as man and wife until the date of his death which happened about ten years ago that they had children baptized in the Moravian church in Bethania to which this Deponent belonged and was recognized and certified to be lawfully married by Joseph Miller the Father of said Elizabeth Ketner a short time before they removed from Pennsylvania to this neighborhood whereupon they were admitted to have their children baptized in the church -- this deponent further declares that he drove a wagon in company with the said Francis Ketner both loaded with ammunition for the Army of the United States from Salem North Carolina to Henry court house in Virginia in February 1781 with a guard of about 300 men & he left said Ketner there & understood he proceeded to convey his load to General Greene's head quarters shortly before Guilford Battle, and he always understood from Captain Henry Smith & George Houser that said Ketner had served as a faithful soldier against the Scotch Tories & to the Cherokee Nation of Indians also a Tour of five months to South Carolina under said Captain Smith -- that the said Elizabeth has remained a widow ever since her husband said Francis Ketner's death and is unable to go about but very little. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above mentioned before me

S/ C. Banner JP

S/ Joseph Houser, H his mark

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North Carolina Stokes County: SS

On this 3rd day of September 1840 before me the Subscribing Justice of the peace in and for the County aforesaid personally appeared Lewis Wolff⁷ a resident of the Vicinity of Bethania in the County aforesaid a person of good veracity for probity & truth who being duly sworn declares on his oath that Francis Ketner served a three month Tour of duty as a militia soldier of

⁶ <http://www.myrevolutionarywar.com/battles/790304-briar-creek/>

⁷ [Lewis Wolf \(Wolff\)\[a/k/a Johann Ludwig Wolff\] W4403](#)

the United States with him under Captain Henry Smith in his own mess & marched from Surry County North Carolina in the spring of the year 1776 to Dobson's Cross roads then to Fayetteville North Carolina against the Scotch Tories & returned home, & was discharged at the old town in Surry and in the summer & fall of the same year said Ketner first drove a Waggoner with provisions for the Army, to the Mulberry Fields in Wilkes County North Carolina & returned to Surry Court house & after remaining there some time said Ketner went on in Captain Smith's Company to the Cherokee Nation of Indians & returned in the winter with the said Army after being gone at least four months, and after that he saw said Francis Ketner in the Service as a Minute horse man in Captain John Crouse's Company near old Richmond Surry courthouse that this told him they had been to the Brushy Mountains & to Colonel Cleveland's [Benjamin Cleveland's] & had apprehended a parcel of Tories & delivered them to said Cleveland who hung some of them & whipped others; that they had been gone two weeks at least or perhaps three weeks on this Scout, but believes that said Ketner was often out as minute man though he cannot tell how long in all only that Ketner stated that he had served at least three months at different times whenever he was called on at a minute's warning which this Deponent has just reason to believe was the case and it was necessary to keep a continual Watts against the Tories to prevent them from collecting into Companies and committing depredations &c as they were often accustomed to do = the next Service he remembers that said Francis Ketner entered the service under the same Captain Smith & went to Salisbury & thence to South Carolina & was gone in this expedition nearly or quite six months he does not recollect the dates but it was when the Battle of Briar Creek happened, he further declares that said Francis Ketner and his wife Elizabeth came to this neighborhood before the Revolutionary War with the late Joseph Miller Deceased who was the father of said Elizabeth who settled neighbor to this Deponent that said Jo Miller told him they came from Pennsylvania & that said Francis Ketner and his daughter of the said Elizabeth was married in Lutheran Church about two months before they started for North Carolina -- and that he said Ketner died nine or ten years ago in this County and that his wife the said Elizabeth has remained a widow ever since his death and he believes she is the 86 years of age as she declares: and is unable to travel but very little only goes in a carriage a small distance to church very seldom. Sworn to and subscribed the day and year first above mentioned before me

S/ C. Banner, JP

S/ Lewis Wolff, X his mark

[p 3]

Fredrack son of Franz and Elisabeth Kittner born 10th May 1774, baptized 8th July 1774 he was baptized by the Reverend Nirtor Bage[?] at Bethabara as recorded in the Church Book
Jany 8th 1840

S/ John R. Smith, Pastor of Bethabara

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Matthew son of Francis & Elisabeth Kettner was born November 28th 1780
Catharine daughter of the same parents was born December 13th 1783

I certify the above to be a true & correct copy of the Register of the Church at Bethania
Jany 8th 1840

Witness my hand & seal

S/ Julius ? Becklor, L.S.

Pastor Mor. Ch. Bethania Stokes County NC

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$40 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband service as a private for one year in the North Carolina militia.]