

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Miles King W20342

Martha King

f47VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

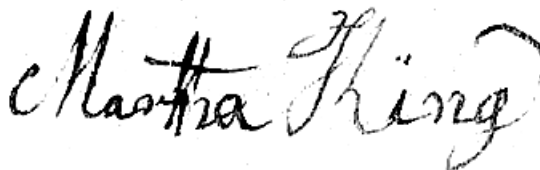
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[Methodology: Spelling, punctuation and/or grammar have been corrected in some instances for ease of reading and to facilitate searches of the database. Where the meaning is not compromised by adhering to the spelling, punctuation or grammar, no change 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 8th of June 1786." Please call material errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Virginia Borough of Norfolk to wit:

On this __ day of January in the year 1838 personally appeared before the Hastings Court of Norfolk Borough, Mrs. Martha King, a resident of said Borough, in the State aforesaid, aged seventy-one 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 Miles King, who was a Captain in the Army, or militia of the revolutionary war, and was generally engaged in the service of his Country in the town of Hampton and County of Elizabeth City, during the said war. She declares it is not in her power to specify the particular character of the service performed. She further declares that she was married to the said Miles King in the County of Elizabeth City, in the State of Virginia aforesaid, on the 27th day of April in the year 1782: That her husband the aforesaid Miles King, died on the __ day of August in the year 1814;¹ and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

S/ Martha King



[p 25]

The affidavit of Com. [Commodore] James Baron² of the Navy of the United States taken and certified before a Justice of the peace in the Borough of Norfolk State of Virginia on the 30th day of December in the year 1837.

The affiant being first duly sworn deposes as follows. I was intimately acquainted with Captain Miles King of the town of Hampton in the County of Elizabeth City during the revolutionary war: and remember distinctly that he was a Captain of a minute company at the commencement of the war, but how long he held the rank and commission of a Captain of minute men I cannot now say, but am perfectly satisfied it was until other descriptions of soldiers or militia were substituted. I suppose the records of the state will show when the minute men were disbanded. I remember distinctly that Captain King was engaged during the whole war in

¹ Other records indicate that he died June 14, 1814 in Norfolk, Virginia

² [James Barron W12264](#)

rendering most important services to his country. First as a Captain of minute men, subsequently in the militia and until the end of the war by every patriotic means aiding his struggling Country, when Lord Cornwallis invested York a number of the inhabitants below that town were made prisoners, and amongst the number was Captain King who had the adores [adroitness?]³ to obtain a parole which was extended to his house in Hampton and with him my Father kept up a constant intercourse during the siege of York, and from him obtain the most valuable information. Thus was Captain King patriotically engaged in the service of his country at the close of the war; and as a proof of his standing in his County, he was one of the first gentleman elected to the state Legislature after it assembled at Richmond.

During the period of which this affiant is speaking to wit – the war of the revolution, he distinctly recollects the ability and disposition of Captain King to afford supplies to the officers of the Army and Navy of the State, and his hospitality was proverbial and in all occasions spoken of with great commendation. Captain King was wealthy during the whole period of the Revolution and I am confident that nothing which he possessed was withheld when requested for the public service.

This affiant further states, that Mrs. Martha King was legally married to the said Miles King. That he was intimately acquainted with her at the time of her marriage and has been ever since. That she has remained a widow since the death of Captain King and is now a resident of Norfolk. That Mrs. King is a lady of great respectability and entitled to all consideration and further this affiant saith not.

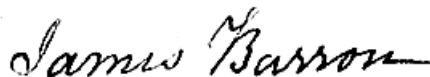
S/ James Barron

[p 5]

In addition to the Statements contained in my former affidavit, made for the benefit of Mrs. Miles King, I now declare, I was on terms of great intimacy with Captain Miles King, the husband of the said Mrs. King, during the whole war of the revolution. The scenes of that period are fresh in my recollection, and none more so, than that Captain King at the commencement of the war commanded a company of minute men and afterwards was ordered into actual service, and was a Captain of Militia. I know he was a Captain of Militia in the early stages of the war, and as I have said before, was a most a Zealous and patriotic officer. I know he rendered more than six months service as an officer of Militia, I could say years service. He was on duty in the Town of Hampton, and the adjacent Counties of Elizabeth City, York and Warwick and guarding the neighboring shores, which were much exposed to the invasion of the enemy, and were the same of some severe conflicts.

I remember well when Captain King was married to the lady for whose benefit I make these statements and I know the marriage took place before the expiration of the last period of his service. I would have been thus specific in my former certificate, if I had known the regulations required it.

S/ James Barron



[Attested February 28, 1838 in Norfolk Borough Virginia]

³ adores
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[p 27]

I John S Westwood, of the town of Hampton in the County of Elizabeth City and State of Virginia, was born in in the said town on the 5th day of March in the year 1768, and have resided in the said town and County until this time. I was well acquainted with Captain Miles King of the said town who commanded a company, which was called the "Minute Company," during the Revolutionary War, and rendered important services, being frequently called out when the enemy approached our shores, and always obeyed with alacrity – and was spoken of as a very efficient Officer. Since the war, I have frequently heard many persons speak of his pouile [?] and of the hardships that he often endured. It was a matter of notoriety that Captain King in consequence of important services rendered to the American Army during the period of the war, by collecting in furnishing provisions and provender, was taken prisoner of the enemy and conveyed to Yorktown and there kept in custody for some time. I have heard Captain King say that he had expended a large sum of his own money in procuring and furnishing the said provisions for which he had never been reimbursed. I am also well acquainted with Mrs. Martha King, the present applicant, and know her to be the widow of the said Captain Miles King.

S/John S Westwood

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John S. Westwood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, decorative flourish at the end.

[p 20]

The affidavit of John S. Westwood, taken and certified in the town of Hampton, the County of Elizabeth City, on the 30th day of April 1838

In my former affidavit, taken in the case of Mrs. Miles King, I stated I had resided in and near the Town of Hampton during and since the Revolutionary War. That I was permitted regularly acquainted with Captain Miles King; and distinct in my remembrance that he was a Captain during the war and a most patriotic officer. I now state that Captain King in the year 1776 commanded a company of minute men: that in that year I think: he was ordered into actual service by the Executive of the State and continued in the service during the war. I know he rendered 4 or 5 years actual service, commanding a regular body of men: At the siege of York he was taken prisoner, as I stated in my former certificate, and from the time of his being ordered into actual service till then, which was 1781, the whole neighborhood knew the fact of his being a diligent and patriotic officer. It is impossible for me to remember the particular positions and movements of the men under Captain King. I was well acquainted with several men, not long dead, who were in Captain King's Company. John Bushel who died three years ago was the orderly of Captain King's Company and I have heard him often relate skirmishes with the enemy & marches of the Company, and other circumstances of the times: but I suppose hearsay testimony would not be competent. I suppose it must be sufficient, if I state distinctly, that Captain King was a most patriotic and diligent officer, and did rendered much more than two years actual service under the order and authority of the state.

S/ John L Westwood

[p 22]

The affidavit of Henry Buchanan⁴ taken in the County of York, State of Virginia: to be used as evidence in the application of Mrs. Miles King for a pension

The affiant being duly sworn declares as follows:

I Henry Buchanan was born in 1761 and in 1778 I entered the service of my Country, and was attached to the first Regiment of Virginia Cavalry, first commanded by Colonel Theodorick Bland, and subsequently by Colonel William Washington. I was perfectly well acquainted with Captain Miles King, during the Revolutionary War, and no he commanded a company of minute men in the beginning of the war, and when those troops were superseded by militia, Captain King was ordered into regular service, and I know served at least three years. I cannot say distinctly how much longer.

I was well acquainted with Mrs. Miles King, the wife of Captain King, before she was married to Captain King. I remember when she was married, and know it was long before the war ceased, and I am confident from the best of my recollection, before the last period of the service of Captain King.

S/ Henry Buchanan



[Acknowledged May 1, 1838 in York County Virginia]

[p 10: Copy of a marriage bond dated April 26, 1782 issued in Elizabeth City County, Virginia 2 Miles King and William Wages conditioned upon the marriage of Miles King to Martha Kerby [?]⁵

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$480 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for her husband service as a Captain for 2 years in the Virginia service.]

[From [rejected pension records in the Library of Virginia](#)] 13-page file

Memorial

of the undersigned, Maria C Bell, Servis [?] Warrington [?], and Margaret C. his wife, William Crane and Eliza his wife, Martha King, Miles King and Robert Thorboune [?], only heirs of Captain Miles King

The Executive of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Your memorialists respectfully show that the said Captain Miles King now along time deceased was the Father of the said Maria C Bell, Martha see the wife of Servis Warrington, Eliza the wife of William Crane and Miles King: the husband of the said Martha King and the grandfather of the said Robert Thorbourne: [indecipherable word] hereto annex the Certificate of the Court of Norfolk borough that they are the [indecipherable word] heirs of the said Captain Miles King.

⁴ [Henry Buchanan S37807](#)

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⁵ Kirly ? or Kirby? or Kerly? [War Department interpreted this as Martha Kirby, but I believe his wife's name was Martha Kerby. She was his second wife.]

Your Memorialists represent that their ancestor the said Captain Miles King was a most Patriotic and diligent officer during the Revolutionary War: That on the 20th of August 1776 he received from the Executive of Virginia a Commission as a Captain and on the 2nd of October 1776 was ordered into actual service. That is hereto annexed a certified extract from the Journal of the Executive of Virginia in proof of this statement.

Your memorialists further shows that the said Captain Miles King continued in service during the war and rendered much important service: That he was munificent as well as patriotic in his services to his Country dispersing his fortune with a liberal hand to sustain and support his suffering Countrymen. The annexed certificate of the Reverend John S Westwood,, door James Baron and others sustain this statement.

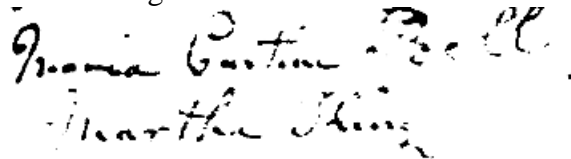
Your memorialists represent that no application has been made to the State of Virginia or [indecipherable word or words] for the bounties for the services [indecipherable word] said Captain Miles King and they now respectfully ask that their petition in this [one or more indecipherable words] be entertained and what is due them as the only heirs of the said Captain Miles King may be [one or more indecipherable words] them, and they will ever pray &c.

S/ MariaCurtin [?] Bell

S Martha King

S/ M. King

S/ S. S. Warrington



Handwritten signatures of Maria Curtin Bell and Martha King.



Handwritten signature of S. S. Warrington.

Extract from the Journal of the Executive of Virginia
August 20th 1776

A certificate from the Committee for Elizabeth City County of the review of Captain Miles King's Company of minute men, on the 30th of March last was returned and ordered to be recorded. Captain King attended and received Commission for himself and Subalterns dated this day.

October 2nd, 1776

Ordered that Captain Miles King's Company of minute men beaten immediately taken into service and that they forth with report to Hampton and continued on duty there till further orders.

[Certified November 14, 1838 as true copies from the records in the executive Department in

Richmond Virginia]

The affidavit of Commodore James Barron taken and certified in the City of Washington, this 4th day of December in the year 1838 to be used in the application of the heirs of Captain Miles King to the Executive of Virginia, for compensation for his Revolutionary Services.

I was well acquainted with Captain Miles King the husband and ancestor of the above named heirs. I remember distinctly he was a most zealous and patriotic officer during the Revolutionary war. He commanded a company of minute men in the commencement of the war and rendered much important service in this capacity: Being a resident of the town of Hampton, his services were in constant requisition, guarding the neighborhood, much exposed shores. When this kind of troops were discontinued, Captain King was ordered into actual service and continued during the war a most important and efficient officer. Captain King's family resided in the town of Hampton, and his house was the scene of the most unbounded hospitality to the suffering troops of our Country. Captain King was a very wealthy man at that period, and to him the country was indebted for more than his martial services. He expended large sums in purchasing and furnishing provisions and provender for the American troops out of his own pocket: and I am sure during the whole period of the war, his fortune and his services were dedicated to the welfare of his struggling country. I remember Captain Thomas Herbert and my brother Samuel Barron were entertained by Mrs. King at her house in Hampton, and were at supper when the late Colonel Hambleton rode up to the house with a company of Tarleton's Cavalry and those officers just had time to make their escape to their boat lying at the back of Mrs. King's Garden. As proof of Captain King standing in his County, he was one of the first gentleman elected to the State legislature after the war at Richmond. [Image of the document cuts off at the bottom thereof at this point]