

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John McIlvain (McElvene) W21786 Elizabeth

f50SC

Transcribed by Will Graves

3/22/09: rev'd 10/20/16

[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 '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.]

[p 4]

State of South Carolina Sumter District:

On this 11th day of September personally appeared before the subscriber one of the Magistrates of the said State and District Elizabeth McElvene a resident of the above State and District aged 86 years, who after 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 4 1836: That she is the widow of John McElvene, who was a private in the Revolutionary War, as far as my recollection serves me, in a company under Capt. John Nelson [John Neilson] & Col. William Richardson [sic, Richard Richardson] General Francis Marion Brigade, does not know whether he acted in the capacity of an officer, but thinks he served in or about 9 or 10 months in the service. She further declares that she was married to the said John McElvene in the year 1777 that her husband the aforesaid John McElvene died 21st November 1815 and that she has remained a widow ever since that period, as will be more fully appear by reference to the proof hereto annexed.

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

S/ WH Smith, magistrate

S/ Elizabeth McElvene, X her mark

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State of South Carolina Sumter District:

I Elizabeth McElvene hereby declare that at the death of my husband John McElvene he left me with 10 children two of whom [are] Adam McElvene aged 15 and that Janet S. McElvene aged fourteen, under sixteen years at the death of her said husband and that there is still living 6 children, that she was 55 years old at the death of her husband, and had been married to him 38 years.

Sworn to before made this the 11th of September 1846

S/ WH Smith, Magistrate

S/ Elizabeth McElvene, X her mark

[Stephen Floyd and Henry Goodman named the children of John and Elizabeth McElvene as follows: John, Polly, William, Susan, Anna, Janet.]

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State of North Carolina Burke County:

I William Fullwood¹ a resident of the said County aged 80 years, do hereby certify upon oath, that I am well acquainted with Elizabeth MacKelven of Sumpter [Sumter] District South Carolina, the widow of John McKelven, late deceased of said District who is now applying for a Pension on the record of the revolutionary services of her said husband the aforesaid John McKelven deceased. I do further certify that I was in the service with said John McKelven in the year 1780 and do know of my own person [sic, personal] knowledge that said John McKelven was a living with his wife Elizabeth at the time of his Service in the Revolution, and were considered as lawful man and wife by all that knew them, the legality of their marriage never having been disputed. I also certify that at the time said John McKelven & myself were in the Revolution, service John McKelven & wife Elizabeth had a family of two or more children, which I have the most distinctly recollect from the circumstance in particular, that we had been in the Army together or at least we met together at the time I was to be discharged, and to leave said John McKelven in the Army, when he McKelven came to me, with these words, saying "remember me to my wife and children at home," in a most impressive manner, so much so that I have ever most distinctly remembered his request, and the feelings he expressed on that occasion,

Sworn to and subscribed the day and year aforesaid before me
S/ Geo. Copenig, JP

S/ Wm Fullwood Senior



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South Carolina Sumter District:

This is to certify that I was personally acquainted with John McElveen who was a revolutionary Soldier as well as myself with General Marion and his Regiment that he done duty in that brigade, Capt. Nelson Thomas McFaddin [Thomas McFadden] & William Bennett were our officers, and that John China² Senior was also one of the Soldiers who served with us in said Brigade and further that the statements of John China Senior is correct in every particular.

S/ Samuel Chandler,³ X his mark

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State of South Carolina Sumter District:

Be it known that before me W H Smith one of the Magistrates for said district personally appeared Samuel Chandler a resident of said district a revolutionary Pensioner and made oath in due form of law, saith that he is 80 years of age, that he is personally acquainted with Mrs. Elizabeth McElveen, that she was the lawful married wife of John McElveen, known and believed in all the neighborhood, that the said John McElveen was a soldier in the revolutionary war, that he saw him doing duty under Capt. John Nelson & Col. William Richardson in General Francis Marion's Brigade, that he is unable to say the exact length of time he served in the Army and that the said Elizabeth McElveen still continues to be the widow of the said John McElveen.

¹ [William Fullwood S18829](#)

² [John China S46593](#)

³ [Samuel Chandler W8599](#)

Sworn to before made this 18th of June 1843
S/ WH Smith, Magistrate

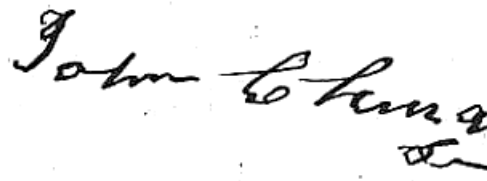
S/ Samuel Chandler, X his mark

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State of South Carolina Sumter District:

This is to Certify that I John China Senior a Revolutionary Soldier do hereby certify that I was personally acquainted with John McElveen of Sumter District South Carolina that in the Revolutionary War I found him in the Camp of General Marion, Capt. Nelson's Company. I found him there in the month of September 1781. I was a member of William Duke's Company in Richardson's Regiment as was also John McElveen, that I left the said Company of Dukes and Richardson Regiment sometime in the month of August 1782, and enlisted as regular Soldier under Col. Hezekiah Maham Corps of Horse in Marion's Brigade that when I left ~~the~~ Richardson Regiment in August 1782 I left John McElveen still in the company and Regiment above named, that I was well acquainted with him personally and saw him very often during the time named from September 1781 to August 1782. I left him then and no doubt served after I left him in the Revolution.

S/ John China Sr

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John China Sr". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "S/ John China Sr".

[Facts in file: Elizabeth died June 11, 1851; daughters, Mary Harrington, Susan Wilson and Anna Odom and son, William McIlvain survived their mother; John McElveen was born March 11, 1755]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$33.33 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831 and ending June 11, 1851 when she died. Her pension was based on her husband service for 10 months as a private in the South Carolina militia.]