

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of John Reid W26946

Keziah

f98VA

Transcribed by Will Graves

6/16/12

[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. 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 fails 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 errors or omissions to my attention.]

State of Tennessee Fayette County: On this 8th day of May 1844 personally appeared before me Charles Watson one of the Justices of the County Court above named Keziah Reid a resident of said County aged seventy-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 7th of July 1838 entitled "An Act granting half pay and pensions to certain widows:" That she is the widow of Major John Reid late of Caswell County State of North Carolina who was an officer in the war of the Revolution: That the said John Reid resided in the County of Washington Virginia on the waters of the Holston River in the time of said War; That he enlisted in a Regiment commanded by Colonel John Montgomery known as the Illinois Regiment in the early part of the year 1779, as she now believes. That he served in said Regiment from the 9th day of January 1779 to the 1st day of January 1781 making two years or nearly so. She further states that from information derived from his original papers as well as from what she has heard him say that he had to act as adjutant to the said Regiment from the 9th day of April to the 1st day of June following he was then appointed Quarter Master from the said 1st day of June and acted as such until the 2nd day of December following. She further states that he joined the volunteer Regiment under Colonel Campbell and was at the battle of Kings Mountain [October 7, 1780] and acted as aid to Colonel Campbell during this campaign or during the battle (as may be ascertained by reference to some of the accompanying documents.) She further states that her husband the said John Reid was examined and a deposition taken in reference to the right of Colonel Campbell to the sword presented to him by Congress, which deposition she supposes is now in possession of the War Department from which proof of his service both in the Illinois Regiment may be obtained. She further states upon her oath that from what she has heard him say as well as from information derived from his old papers that he was in the battle at Guilford court House [March 15, 1781] in the State of North Carolina and served as Order Master for 35 days in one of the regiments belonging to that portion of the Army. She further states that she is of opinion that he entered into the last mentioned service about the beginning of the year 1781 and probably continued until the close of the War. Upon this point she hopes she will be able to adduce some positive proof.

She further states that the reasons why her husband's name is not upon the rolls of the War office are (as she has heard him say) That he thought as it was a volunteer Regiment that his superior officers would it as a matter of course and from this believe did not concern himself about it.

She further states that she was married to the said John Reid on the 22nd day of March 1784 and that he died on the 23rd day of June 1826: That she was not married to him prior to his leaving the service but that the marriage took place previous to the 1st day of January 1794 viz.

on the day above stated.

Sworn to and subscribed on the day and year above written before
S/ C. Watson, JP S/ Keziah Reid, X her mark

[f p. 12]

The Honorable the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia

The Petition of John Reid **Sheweth** that he was appointed Ensign in the Illinois Regiment commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Montgomery when he immediately raised his Quota of men and joined that Corps at the long Islands of Holston, which will appear by referring to his recruiting Orders & certificate of Muster. Document No. 1 and continued to serve in office from the 9th of January 1779 to the 5th of January 1781, and from his knowledge of Discipline was obliged to also act in the Laborious Office of Adjutant to said Regiment from the 9th of April 1779 to the 1st day of June following – and the good of the Service requiring was appointed Quarter Master from the said 1st of June to the 2nd day of December following – as will more fully appear by Documents No. 2 & No. 3 and also by his Payroll No. 4

And your Petitioner further saith that being most of his time employed in Distant Services, Expeditions, & Commands as his manifold Duties before mentioned required of him and paying more attention to the service to his Country, than [sic, than] to his Pecuniary Concerns and being impelled by some degree of Military Order unal [sic?] to Young man, Neglected to see that his name was Enrolled on the Muster Roll of said Regiment – always Concluding that it was done as Matter of Course and Right it ought to have been – but has since found very much to his wrong that it was neglected.

Your Petitioner also says that some time before and at the time the said Illinois Regiment was disbanded he had obtained leave of absence on account of his Bad State of Health Brought on him by hard service in a Strange Climate & the Severity and badness of Provisions and Your Petitioner was left in a Strange Country in want of Everything.

As soon as your Petitioner could he made Application by a Captain Nathan Reid in year 1785 to the office at Richmond for a Settlement of Pay &c and was then Informed that no such name was to be found on the Muster Roll of the Illinois Regiment –

And Your Petitioner again applied by his Agent at the office in the year 1791 or 1792 and the same Answer made as before that there was no person of his name on the Books – as will appear by Document No. 5 – annual Petitioner made another Application to Congress in the year 1794 & did receive for Answer he must Apply unto the State of Virginia may be Observed endorsed on Back of Document No. 4 & signed (J Howell)

And therefore your Petitioner relying on the Justice of his Claims, Earnestly Prays that you may Extend under him Your Justice by Granting under him his Lands agreeable to his Grade in the Regiment and also his Pay & Rations of which he never received one Penny of – and Your Petitioner is in Duty Bound Well Ever [indecipherable word]¹

S/ John Reid

[WG's Note: I did not see the exhibits referred to this file.]

[f p. 42]



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Dr. The Commonwealth of Virginia in Account with John Reid	
To my pay as Ensign in the Illinois Redgt	Dollars
from the Ninth of Jany 1779 to the 25 th	230 ½
of December following at 20 dollars pr month	
To my acting as Ajutant from the 1 st of April	
1779 to the First of June following at 15 1/3 per month	40
To Retained ration pr day form the 1 st April 1779	
to the 1 st June following at 5 dollars pr month	15
To my acting as Quartermaster from the 1 st June	
1779 to the 25 th December following at 18 1/3 dollars pr month	90 2/3
To 1 Retained ration form the 1 st June 1779 to the 25 th	
of December following at 5 dollars pr month	34 1/6
	\$10 1/3

Falls of Ohio 17th Augt. 1785

I do certify that Ensign Jno. Reid's Account as above stated is Just and True and that he received no pay on account from the 9th of January 1779 to the 25th of December following and that he acted as a Good & Brave officer

Given under my hand

S/ John Montgomery
Lieutenant Colonel Illinois Regiment

[Facts in file: After the revolutionary war, the veteran lived in Caswell County North Carolina where he married Keziah or Kesiah Buchanan March 22, 1784 and where he died June 23, 1826. In 1852 the widow was living in Dallas County Arkansas with her daughter Mrs. Clarissa H. Smith and her grandchildren, not named.]

[Veteran's widow was pensioned at the rate of \$219.21 per annum commencing March 4th, 1844, for her husband's service as an Ensign, Adjutant & quarter master in the Virginia Continental line.]