

Southern Campaign American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension Application of John Kincaid W3428

Transcribed and annotated by C. Leon Harris

State of Virginia. Alleghany County Towit:

On the 19th day of November 1833 personally appeared before the Justices of the County Court of Alleghany, in Open Court (being a Court of Record) John Kincaid a Resident in said County of Alleghany and State of Virginia aforesaid, aged seventy five years, on the 11th January, 1833. Who being first duely sworn according to law, doth on his Oath make the following Declaration, in order to obtain the Benefit of the provisions made by the Act of Congress passed 7th June 1832. That he was Born in the County of Augusta in the State of Virginia, on the Eleventh day of January 1758. That he was Drafted in the fall of the year 1778 to serve a six months tour against the Indians, in the Company Commanded by Alexander Handly of Botetourt County, to guard Point Pleasant, that he marched under the said Captain to the big Savannah (now called Lewisburg in Greenbrier County, where he remained until the winter set in verry hard, and so grate was the freeze and inclemency of the weather, they were all discharged, and this applicant returned to his home, on Jackson River, in Botetourt County, now Alleghany County. during this first tour of duty this applicant served the full period of two months; After this applicant was discharged, from this his first tour of duty, he remained at his home, until the month of January 1781 when he volenteered in the Company Commanded by Capt. John Bollar, and marched across the mountains into the Valley of Verjinia, where he joined the Regiment comanded by Colonel Thomas Preston [sic: William Preston; see endnote] & Major Thomas Rowland and from thence marched into the State of North Carolina where they joined the main Army, under the command of Gen'l. Green [sic: Nathanael Greene], on the same day, that they crossed the Dan River [22 Feb]; This applicant remained with the Army and under the above named Officers until about the first of March, when he was engaged in a skirmish with the Brittish, at the Battle of Allamanh [sic: Skirmish at Clapp's Mill on Alamance Creek], where Colonel Preston commanded [sic: Lt. Col. Henry Lee commanded], in which skrimish the Botetourt Troops and the light Horse [of Lee] were engaged. General Green was not present at this skrimish; about one week after this skrimish this applicant was at an other engagement at the Reedy Fork of Haw River [Skirmish at Wetzel's Mill, 6 Mar], at which engagement Gen'l [Otho Holland] Williams Comanded; this applicant was discharged shortly after this engagement [see endnote], and returned to his home in the said County of Botetourt during this his second tour of Duty, this applicant served the full term of two months [sic], and after his discharge, again returned to his home in the said County of Botetourt, now Alleghany as aforesaid; This Applicant remained at his home but a short time when he was again Drafted, Towit in the year 1781 on the last of April or the first of May, to serve a three month tour, he marched in the Company commanded by Captain Joseph Looney of Botetourt, and joined the Augusta Troops in Augusta County, under the command of Colonel John McCreary [sic: JOhn McCreery] and Major John Wilson, and marched in said Regiment, to where they joined the troops under the command of Gen'l. William Campbell, between Charlottesville & Richmond, and marched across James River, to head Lord Cornwallace [sic: Cornwallis] at Petersburg, and marched from thence to Richmond Va, and from thence to Williamsburg. in the neighbourhood of Williamsburg they remained for some time where they were kept almost constantly on the loocout[?], and were engaged in several skrimishes, and was at the memorable Battle of Jamestown [Green Springs Plantation, 6 Jul], where General [Anthony] Wayne, General Morgan [sic: see endnote], Genl. Campbell and Gen'l. Lafayette was in the command. During this applicants third tour of duty, he served the full period of three months and eight days, when he was again discharged and returned to his home in the County of Botetourt where he has ever since resided until the division of the said County of Botetourt and now resided in the County of Alleghany. This Applicant has no documentary evidence of the services herein specified, having lost his discharges, and long since given up all hopes of ever being remembered by his Country. This Applicant would beg leave to refer the Department to the following named persons, as to their knowledge of his Character, and their belief of his having been a Soldier of the Revolution.

to wit: Conrod Tudge, John Holloway, Capt. Sam'l Brown, Col. Jno Persinger Jacob Persinger, Capt. Moses Mann, Robert Skeen, Esq'r and Andrew Tudge. This Applicant hereby relinquishes every claim whatever to a pension or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension Roll of the agency of any state. Sworn and subscribed the day & year aforesaid.

John Kincaid

[The following report by District Attorney Washington G. Singleton is misfiled with the papers of a different John Kincaid, pension application S19367, as explained in the letter that follows the report. Singleton investigated many pensioners mainly from present West Virginia, as detailed in an appendix to the pension application of David W. Sleeth (S6111). Singleton wrote "Fraudulent" on the cover of the report, and the wrong John Kincaid was consequently dropped from the pension roll on 24 Aug 1835.]

John Kincaid. Pensioner, Allegany county.

Whilst in Lewisburg, the undersigned was called on by Wm. H Terrill, a Lawyer of standing & character, and informed by him that shortly after the passage of the P[ension] Law of June 7, 1832, Kincaid called on him to know whether the one who had hired a substitute was not Entitled to the Benefits of the Pension Law. upon being informed that it was he who actually served and not the man hiring a substitute Kincaid seemed to doubt his correctness[?] of the construction of the Law, that Kincaid made the [illegible word] with a view of [illegible word] his application for a Pension - Some twelve months after the forgoing conversation Kincaid called again to make a Declaration for a Pension. he was particularly examined by Terrill. found not to be entitled and [one or two illegible words] - That Kincaid applied to some other agent & finally succeeded in being placed on the Pension Roll.

W. G. Singleton Febry, 13, 1835

A Copy - W. G. S.

The Rev. War pensioner John Kincaid, Va. troops, S. file 19367 - a resident of Fayette Co. Va. was erroneously dropped from the pension roll on account of the report from Singleton the U.S. District Attorney dated Feb. 13, 1835 being filed by mistake in his claim. Said report is headed, "John Kincaid, Pensioner Allegany Co."

I have left all these papers in this claim [file S19367] because all of the correspondence is endorsed on the jacket, also because a John Kincaid of Fayette Co. wrote a letter of inquiry in regard to the man of Fayette Co. [sic] and also because there were two Rev. War pensioners of that name, one in Allegany Co. Va. and the other in Allegany Co. Va. [sic] and as I did not know how far the district of the U. S. Attorney extended in 1835 and the borders of those states were disputed I do not wish to apply it to the wrong case again. The statement made in the report is so vague that no pensioner should have been dropped without further investigation anyhow.

A Wilson July 6, 1915

NOTES:

Kincaid appears to have been one of the Botetourt Riflemen recruited in January 1781 to guard prisoners captured at the Battle of Cowpens. All but a few of the Botetourt Riflemen deserted soon after the skirmish at Wetzel's Mill. Kincaid was probably among them, since he claimed to have served only two months on that tour. A normal militia tour was for three months. For further discussion see <http://southerncampaign.org/newsletter/v4n123.pdf> p. 60.

Gen. Daniel Morgan was not at the Battle of Green Springs Plantation, having resigned the previous February to recover his health.

On 6 June 1842 Alice Kincaid, "aged seventy two years and upwards," applied for a pension stating that she married John Kincaid in 1787, and he died 11 Aug 1835. The file contains a copy of the record of the marriage of John Kincaid and Aley Elliott by Rev. Edward Crawford in Botetourt County on 25 July 1787. In an application for bounty land dated 15 Oct 1855, Alice Kincaid was said to be 89 and a resident of Jackson River in Alleghany County. The application also stated that she was married by a Presbyterian minister named Alderson, and that her name before marriage was Dean. Her applications were successful in spite of the contradictory information.