

Southern Campaigns American Revolution Pension Statements & Rosters

Pension application of Christopher Kehela W3693

Polly Kehela

f47NC

Transcribed by Will Graves

rev'd 3/27/16

[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.]

[p 9]

State of Georgia, Gwinnett County: Superior Court September Term 1832

On this 25th day of September 1832 personally appeared in open Court (it being a Court of Record) now sitting Christopher Kehela a resident of said County of Gwinnett & State aforesaid aged Seventy-four years who being first duly sworn according to law doth on his oath make the following declaration in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832.

That he entered the service of the United States under the following named officers & served as herein stated (to wit) that he entered the service in Roan [sic, Rowan] County & State of North Carolina where he then resided as a Volunteer under the command of Captain Thomas Johnston [Thomas Johnson] as a substitute for Thomas Willson & served a tour of three months, afterwards Volunteered for nine months under Captain John Ramsey attached to the command of Major John Armstrong & belonged to the Regiment commanded by Jesse Nighton [?] who was Colonel in Command. That he was in the Battles at Stono [June 20, 1779]¹ and at the Hanging Rock [August 6, 1780].² After this term of service he volunteered again for three months under Captain Williams attached to Colonel Armstrong & General Davidson's [William Lee Davidson's] Brigade and all said three several tours amounting to fifteen months & was regularly Discharged from each of said several Services Messmates John Fry, John Fitz, Christian Razor, Michael Miller & Walter Adair³ in the [illegible word] marched from North Carolina into South Carolina from Charleston returned to North Carolina the whole service performed in North & South Carolina [illegible word]. Cannot recollect the names of any of the regular officers, and entered the service at 17 years of age about 1780 or 1781 all of the above Services rendered in North Carolina, that said discharges are lost or mislaid so that he cannot find them. That he recollects of no person living who can prove the said services and that he has no documentary evidence by which he can prove his services nor does he know of any person now living by whom he can Establish the Santee. That since the revolutionary war he has resided first in Rowan County & State of North Carolina thence to South Carolina & from there to the State of Georgia & County of Gwinnett where he now resides: he 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 to & subscribed the day & year aforesaid in open Court.

Attest: S/ Wm. Maltbie, C. J. C.

¹ http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_stono_ferry.html

² http://www.carolana.com/SC/Revolution/revolution_battle_of_hanging_rock.html

³ No one with these names filed for a pension claiming service in the Revolution while living in NC.

S/ Christopher Kehela, X his mark

[Jeremiah Reeves, a clergyman, and Charles Walls gave the standard supporting affidavit.]

[p 37]

Georgia, Gwinnett County

Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the peace of said County Christopher Kehela who being duly sworn Deposeth & saith that by reason of old age & consequent loss of memory he cannot recollect the precise dates or the precise length of his various services but from the best of his recollection he served in the years & for the term following to wit in the year 1778 he volunteered & entered the service as a private in Rowan County North Carolina in Captain Thomas Johnson's Company in Major Dickson's Battalion & General Davidson's Command – marched through Guilford County & into the State of Virginia near Dickson's ferry on Dan River there stationed till his term expired & was then discharged on his return to Rowan in Guilford by his Major Dickson-- in 1779 – volunteered & served as a private soldier for nine months under the officers named in the annexed declaration and which was attached to the command of General Lincoln [Benjamin Lincoln]. This service was entered in Rowan North Carolina marched into South Carolina within 10 miles of Charleston then towards Savannah River & were stationed near that River for a short time then marched to Stono after the battle we were stationed a few days at Bacon's bridge & then marched to Hanging Rock & shortly afterwards was discharged by Major John Armstrong. In 1780 he again volunteered in Captain Williams' Company & served as a private for three months under the officers as stated in his annexed declaration – marched to Camden South Carolina at or near Santee River on the Charleston Road his term expired & was regularly discharged by Major John Armstrong. This service was entered in Rowan County North Carolina.

That he was born in said County of Rowan & State of North Carolina in the month of July 1758 that he has no record of his age the same being lost & he only knows the time from recollection. That he has resided at no other place than those named in his declaration & while he resided in South Carolina is residence was in Edgefield District.

That the Reverend Mr. Jeremiah Reeves & Charles [Walls] who have testified, Wiley Brown, Jesse Osborne, Reverend Anslem Anthony & many others of his neighborhood & who have long known him can testify to his character for veracity & of their belief of his services as a soldier of the revolution-- that since making out in his annexed declaration he has found a witness Mrs. Rebecca Young who can testify to a portion of his Services and whose affidavit is herewith annexed – and for such services he claims a pension.

Sworn to & subscribed for made the first of July 1833.

S/ John Mills, JP

S/ Christopher Kehela, a his mark

[p 39: On May 20, 1833 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Rebecca Young gave testimony that she saw Christopher Kehela entered the service of the United States as a volunteer in 1779 and that he was absent from home about 12 months; that when he returned he had a discharge but does not recollect who signed it. The affiant as well as Christopher Kehela lived in Rowan County North Carolina at the time. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

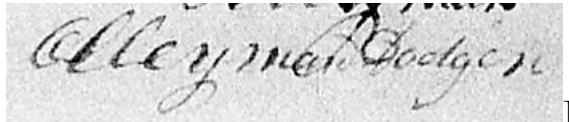
[p 6: On September 5, 1842 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Polly Kehela, 75, filed for a widow's pension under the 1838 act stating that she is the widow of Christopher Kehela, a revolutionary war pensioner; that she married him sometime in the month of September 1793 in Edgefield District South Carolina; that they were married by Samuel Mays a magistrate; that her husband died March 25, 1837 and that she remains his widow. She signed her application with her mark.]

[p 35: On September 30, 1842 in Gwinnett County Georgia, the widow gave testimony that she has no family record showing her marriage; that both she and her husband were illiterate and unable to write and consequently made no record of their marriage or the births of their children.]

[p 5: Mary Osborn gave testimony on August 31, 1842 in Gwinnett County Georgia that she was well acquainted with Polly Brown who then lived in Edgefield District South Carolina; that Polly Brown married in September 1793 Christopher Kehela; that they were married by Samuel Mays, a magistrate; that they lived together as man and wife until Christopher died March 25, 1837. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 12: On November 16, 1842 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Jane Ward gave testimony that according to her best recollection Christopher Kehela and the affiant's sister Polly Brown were married September 15, 1793; that affiant married William Ward April 23rd 1792 and was on a visit to her Father when Christopher Kehela and Polly Kehela left her Father's house in company with Joseph Brown and his wife, James Dodgen & Oliman Dodgen and others in Edgefield District South Carolina for the house of Samuel Mays a justice of the peace who performed the marriage between Christopher and Polly; that the affiant has a record of the ages of her children and it shows that her son John was born May 12, 1793. She signed her affidavit with her mark.]

[p 19: On August 16, 1843 in Gwinnett County Georgia, Olleyman Dodgen gave testimony that at the request of Christopher Kehela and Polly Brown he was present at their wedding in Edgefield District South Carolina in September 1793; Samuel Mays, a magistrate, performed the service at the house of the affiant's father.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Olleyman Dodgen". The signature is written in dark ink on a light-colored background. The name is written in a fluid, connected style typical of the early 19th century. The signature is enclosed in a small rectangular box with a closing bracket on the right side.

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$50 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for 15 months in the North Carolina militia. His widow was pensioned in a like amount.]